TOURISM AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Risks and Opportunities
Susanne Becken (Lincoln University) and John E. Hay (John E. Hay and Associates)

• A timely publication examining the relationship between tourism and climate change
• Detailed analysis and assessment offering both theoretical and practical approaches to the subject
• Aims to bring together research on the implications of climate change on the tourism industry

The book provides a comprehensive discussion of the latest knowledge in the field of tourism and climate change. It is aimed at tourism practitioners and those with an academic interest in the fields of tourism management and climate change mitigation, adaptation and policy.

Contents
1 Introduction
2 The Tourism-Climate System
3 Case-studies of the Tourism-Climate System
4 An Overview of Tourism
5 Global and Regional Climate Change
6 Methodologies for Greenhouse Gas Accounting
7 Climate Change Mitigation Measures
8 Climate Change-related Risks and Adaptation
9 Climate Change Policies and Practices for Tourism
10 Conclusion

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Prof. John Hay has nearly forty years work experience in academia, the private sector and governmental organisations, with a focus on bringing an interdisciplinary approach to the environmental sciences, to technical and policy-relevant assessments and to professional training in environmental science, engineering, technology, law, policy and management. John has extensive international experience as a climate scientist and currently works as a consultant and advisor to many national governments and regional and international organizations.

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Climate change and variability might also affect the availability of vital resources, like drinking water, and may impact the propagation of diseases like malaria, dengue fever. The situation is already forcing the tourist industry to develop and adapt. 1. Introduction. Tourism is important economically, but also in terms of human entertainment, relaxation and recreation, and without a doubt, climate is one of the essential factors influencing tourism. A development of a tourism climate index and climate derived tourism activity zones; attempts to determine suitable days for particular recreation or activity; and assessments of weather sensitivity for tourism activity.

Tourism can contribute to climate change by tourists’ consumption and production activities. Regular activities in terms of winter sport tourism, coastal tourism, and nature-based tourism emit the CO2 into the air, which is the main cause of global warming, and cause negative impacts on the environment. According to the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), tourism is responsible for about five percent of global CO2 emissions. Specifically, transport sector accounts for 75% of all CO2 emissions, which is the largest proportion. Other activities of tourists such as accommodation sector account for seven percent of all CO2 emissions. Travel companies are teaching both their agents and clients about their role in global warming and how to reduce it while traveling. And popular destinations from California to the Caribbean are investing in infrastructure and education efforts to reduce the carbon they emit.