

Tourism Enclaves: Geographies of Exclusive Spaces in Tourism

Tourism enclaves are exclusive spaces created for tourists that often exclude local communities. They can take many forms, from gated communities to all-inclusive resorts, and are often located in popular tourist destinations such as the Caribbean, Mexico, and Southeast Asia.



Tourism Enclaves: Geographies of Exclusive Spaces in

Tourism by Jarkko Saarinen

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Tourism enclaves have a number of negative impacts on local communities. They can lead to the displacement of local residents, the loss of traditional livelihoods, and the erosion of cultural identity. They can also contribute to environmental degradation, social inequality, and crime.

Despite their negative impacts, tourism enclaves are often seen as a necessary evil by local governments and tourism businesses. They can

generate significant revenue and create jobs, and they can help to attract tourists to a destination.

However, there are ways to develop tourism enclaves in a more sustainable way that benefits both tourists and local communities. These include involving local communities in the planning and development process, ensuring that they receive a fair share of the benefits, and minimizing the negative environmental and social impacts.

The Social Impacts of Tourism Enclaves

The social impacts of tourism enclaves can be significant. They can lead to the displacement of local residents, the loss of traditional livelihoods, and the erosion of cultural identity.

Displacement can occur when tourism enclaves are built on land that is traditionally owned or used by local communities. This can force people to move to new areas, where they may have difficulty finding housing and employment.

The loss of traditional livelihoods can also occur when tourism enclaves compete with local businesses for customers. This can lead to the closure of local businesses and the loss of jobs.

The erosion of cultural identity can occur when tourism enclaves promote a sanitized and commercialized version of local culture. This can lead to the loss of traditional values and customs.

The Economic Impacts of Tourism Enclaves

The economic impacts of tourism enclaves can be both positive and negative. They can generate significant revenue and create jobs, but they can also lead to economic inequality and the loss of local control over the economy.

Revenue generation is one of the main benefits of tourism enclaves. Tourists spend money on accommodation, food, drinks, and activities, which can generate significant revenue for local businesses and governments.

Job creation is another benefit of tourism enclaves. Tourism enclaves can create jobs in a variety of sectors, including hospitality, retail, and transportation.

However, tourism enclaves can also lead to economic inequality. This is because the benefits of tourism often flow disproportionately to foreign investors and large corporations, rather than to local communities.

The loss of local control over the economy can also occur when tourism enclaves are owned and operated by foreign companies. This can lead to a situation where local communities have little say in how their land is used and how the benefits of tourism are distributed.

The Environmental Impacts of Tourism Enclaves

The environmental impacts of tourism enclaves can be significant. They can lead to the degradation of natural resources, the pollution of water and air, and the loss of biodiversity.

The degradation of natural resources can occur when tourism enclaves are built in sensitive ecosystems, such as coastal areas and rainforests. This can lead to the loss of habitat for wildlife and the degradation of water quality.

The pollution of water and air can also occur when tourism enclaves are built in areas with poor infrastructure. This can lead to the contamination of water supplies and the release of harmful pollutants into the air.

The loss of biodiversity can occur when tourism enclaves are built in areas with unique and fragile ecosystems. This can lead to the extinction of species and the loss of genetic diversity.

Policy Recommendations for the Sustainable Development of Tourism Enclaves

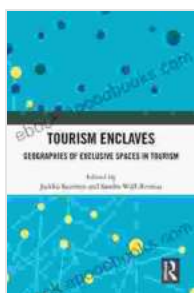
There are a number of policy recommendations that can be made to promote the sustainable development of tourism enclaves. These include:

- Involving local communities in the planning and development process
- Ensuring that local communities receive a fair share of the benefits
- Minimizing the negative environmental and social impacts
- Promoting responsible tourism practices
- Investing in sustainable infrastructure

By following these recommendations, it is possible to develop tourism enclaves that benefit both tourists and local communities.

Tourism enclaves are a complex and controversial issue. They can have a number of negative impacts on local communities, but they can also generate significant revenue and create jobs. It is important to develop tourism enclaves in a sustainable way that minimizes the negative impacts and maximizes the benefits.

The book *Tourism Enclaves: Geographies of Exclusive Spaces in Tourism* provides a comprehensive overview of the social, economic, and environmental impacts of tourism enclaves. It also provides policy recommendations for their sustainable development. This book is an essential resource for anyone interested in the development of sustainable tourism.



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