



# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## GEOGRAPHIES AND MOBILITIES OF HIKING IN THE POST-PANDEMIC ANTHROPOCENE

### Paper Session

The popularity of hiking, as proximity and nature-based recreation and tourism, boomed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Trail infrastructure, including trail towns and gateway communities, are important applied recreation and tourism products and are driving many communities' post-pandemic tourism recovery as recreationist and tourist continue to engage in hiking. Despite this, hiking and hiking trails remain under-theorised within the academic literature. This session therefore calls for proposals linked to the geographies and mobilities of hiking in the post-pandemic Anthropocene, including how we understand and conceptualize the geographies of hiking, including hiking places, spaces, cultures, impacts, and economies.

We invite abstracts that explore: hiking culture in transition following the explosion in interest during the COVID-19 pandemic; changes in the hiking market post-COVID; economic, environmental and cultural impacts of hiking and hiking tourism; trail user safety and risk management planning; the development and spread of online hiking communities; destination management of long-distance trails; innovative approaches to developing and financing accessible and inclusive hiking trail infrastructure; inter- and intra-user group conflicts on shared use trails; and, the economic geography of hiking trails, trail towns, trail economies, and visitor spending.

Abstracts may also examine: human-nature connections and hiking, connecting to the more-than-human world through hiking; embodied hiking experiences; hiking experiences and destination development and marketing; innovative technology in trail tourism and recreation product development and marketing, including AR and VR experiences; technology enhanced wayfinding systems; and, using technology to document visitor behaviour and crowding and support risk management and visitor safety.

### Submission Details

All papers must be written in English. The maximum length of a paper is 250 words. The maximum length of the title is 25 words; 5 keywords are required. Please ensure that your findings are described to a level sufficient for reviewers to make an informed decision on quality. Papers that fail to meet these criteria will be rejected. If adding references, please use Harvard referencing. Presenters cannot submit more than one first authored oral presentation abstract.

**Format:** Oral Papers

**Submissions:** <https://igc2024dublin.org/call-for-abstracts/>

All submissions need to be through the official conference abstract website.

**Congress Commission:** C.17: Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

**Congress Strand:** Human Geography

**Abstract Deadline:** January 12th, 2024

### Session Organizers

**Chair:** Dr. Kelsey Johansen (University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu, Finland)

Dr. phil Tim Harms (FH Westküste, German Institute for Tourism Research, Heide, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Markus Pillmayer (München University of Applied Sciences, München, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Marius Mayer (München University of Applied Sciences, München, Germany)

Mr. Christian Eilzer (FH Westküste, Heide, Germany)



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