Urban Forest Construction and Sustainable Tourism Development

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Message from the Guest Editors

Urban tourism is often perceived as "gray tourism" because of its urban settings featured by built environments. However, such "gray tourism" usually involves urban forests as green elements. While urban forests are developed to promote multiple benefits, they are always under pressure from commercial development as land uses in urban areas are highly competitive. Thus, more studies need to be conducted to justify the value of urban forests. This is particularly true in a time when urban forests are seen as critical for health due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite this, studies on urban forests are limited to locals, while visitors are largely ignored. Values of green elements from tourism can help decision makers to better understand the trade-offs between different choices. Knowledge about urban forests' role in shaping visitors' images of a city is lacking, and so is knowledge about the extent to which urban forests contribute to the total experiences of visitors and economic development in a city. Thus, this SI seeks to examine the benefits, roles, and functions associated with urban forests from the perspective of tourism.

Special Issue

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