

EDITORIAL

ASEAN Journal on Hospitality and Tourism (AJHT) volume 17.2 (2019) will present five papers in the range of tourism and hospitality, from national-scale policies to the city level. The papers selected for publication come from three different countries; India, Kenya and Indonesia, all five papers speak in their respective contexts.

The first article discusses the impact of growing disposable income in families on vacations in India. Indian families started focusing on the big picture and that is how they are becoming more open and adaptive to change. Vacation is one such thing in which all the members give their inputs on how and where to go. They do justify their reasons for selecting a destination based on their perspective, which can be a comforting one to them individually.

The second article discusses the effects of the “touristification” phenomenon. The explosion of tourism activities has driven city development initiatives. The phenomenon was examined in the city of Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to identify the characteristics of “touristification” and assess the impact of development in the city and its surroundings.

The third article is an analysis of the skills gap in tourism and hospitality industry. This paper aims to analyze the skills gap in the tourism and hospitality industry in Kenya. This paper investigates the skills gap between tourism and hospitality graduates and the expectations of industry players. The stakeholder’s opinion on performance university graduates as compared to graduates from technical and vocational education training institutes. In addition, it also examines the emerging trends in labor force in tourism and hospitality that educators should anticipate.

The fourth article discusses motivational characteristics of urban cyclists. The emergence of cycling groups in urban communities is a reflection of the need for exercise while recreation outdoors. There are various motivations for cyclists, ranging from just wanting to exercise, traveling, reducing the effects of air pollution, saving fuel and avoiding congestion, seeking new experiences and challenges, friendships, to just look for self-actualization.

And the last article discusses historical trajectories of halal tourism policies and initiatives. This paper traces the historical trajectories of the development of halal tourism in Indonesia. Qualitative method and document review allowed for detailed historical tracing of key halal tourism development plans, initiatives and policies.

Thus, a brief overview of the five papers published in this edition. Hopefully the next edition will be better.

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