

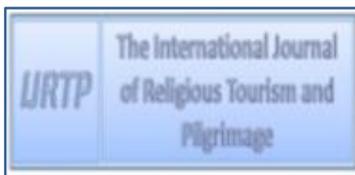
# Early Announcement

“Religion Spirituality Culture and Tourism”

*International Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage  
7th Annual Conference*



**10-13 June 2015,  
Girona, Spain**



***International Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage (IRTP)*** in conjunction with the ***International Journal of Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage (IJRTP)***, ATLAS Religious Tourism Special Interest Group and University of Girona, Spain invites abstracts for their **2015 conference** to be held from **10-13 June 2015** at Faculty of Tourism, University of Girona.

The aim of the conference is to provide both empirical and personal insights into the changing nature of religion in society and to further the debate for both policy-makers and academics to consider these evolving challenges within the future development of religious tourism and pilgrimage.

The emphasis for having a paper accepted at this event is based on adherence to the main conference theme (**Religion Spirituality Culture and Tourism**) in the first instance and / or the other thematic sessions which include:

- Motivation of Pilgrimage and Religious Tourism
- Pilgrimage Routes Modern and Ancient
- Media and Cultural Challenges for Pilgrimage
- Pilgrimage to Sacred Sites
- Pilgrimage in Non-Religious Traditions
- Pilgrim Identity - Visitors / Pilgrims
- Spirituality, Religion and Tourism
- Religious Tourism and Culture Tourism

**Deadlines:**

Because attendance is generously supported by local sponsors and the University of Girona, we need to manage the application process accurately. Expressions of interest including an Abstract of no more than 300 words should be submitted electronically to the management committee by 31 January 2015. If you are interested in being invited to attend, or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the management committee:

- Dr Kevin Griffin [kevin.griffin@dit.ie](mailto:kevin.griffin@dit.ie)
- Dr Razaq Raj [R.Raj@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:R.Raj@leedsmet.ac.uk)
- Dr Lluís Prats [lluis.prats@udg.edu](mailto:lluis.prats@udg.edu)
- Dr Silvia Aulet [silvia.aulet@udg.edu](mailto:silvia.aulet@udg.edu)

**Publication:** Because a selection of accepted papers will be published in the ***International Journal of Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage (IJRTP)***, the emphasis is on new research, suitably presented for publication.

**Further Details:** We are currently developing a website to act as the information portal for our conference. Please check it out for further information and guidelines for your abstract, [www.IRTP.CO.UK](http://www.IRTP.CO.UK). As you will see, the site is currently under construction. We welcome any suggestions regarding content / details which you feel need to be included.

**Important Dates:**

31.01.15	Abstract Submission Deadline
28.02.15	Notification of Acceptance to Authors
15.04.15	Submit full paper
30.04.15	Payment of full Fee

**Scientific Committee**

- Vitor Ambrósio, Estoril Higher Institute for Hotel and Tourism Studies
- Silvia Aulet, University of Girona, Spain
- Alan Clarke, University of Pannonia, Hungary
- Jonathan Edwards, Bournemouth University, UK
- Carlos Fernandes, Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo, Portugal
- Kevin Griffin, Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, Ireland
- Maureen Griffiths, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- Frances McGettigan, Athlone Institute of Technology, Ireland
- Lluís Prats, University of Girona, Spain
- Razaq Raj, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK
- Dolors Vidal, University of Girona, Spain
- Vincent Zammit, Institute of Tourism Studies , Malta

**Cost:** There is no conference/administration fee for this event. However, attendees must cover the cost of their attendance - this will be kept to an absolute minimum - circa €195 to cover accommodation (3 nights) and food.

**Suggested Participants:** To date, a broad spectrum of academics from a variety of disciplines have attended our events, in addition to individuals from applied / industry backgrounds. We are very welcoming of early stage researchers, whose new and exciting work is always welcome at our event.

**Background to Girona / location of Conference:**

Girona is a cultural city with Heritage and Gastronomy as the peak of their Iceberg. Girona still is an unknown treasure living under the shadow of Barcelona and the predominant Costa Brava Region.

The venue of the conference will be the Faculty of Tourism of the University of Girona, located in the heart of the Girona's old town, surrounded by the Roman and Medieval heritage adapted to the modern world. The faculty of Tourism is located in Saint Dominique's convent, an early gothic religious building founded in the 13th century. You will be able to enjoy the presentations in the old refectory or the plenary sessions at the praying room of Saint Michael.

Accommodation will be provided in some religious places, trying to bring to all the participants the perfect atmosphere of spirituality.