

# Tourism Management, Sustainability and the Future of Tourism

The final chapter of the previous section indicated that an important tourism issue is the need to protect some areas in order to conserve them for future tourism use. Protecting environments involves the process of management. The section that follows discusses the nature of management. In Chapter 14, the processes of management are linked to planning and policy and the specific focus is on the nature of planning and management in tourism and leisure. Chapter 15 is concerned with sustainable development and in particular sustainable tourism. It considers the changing meanings of sustainability and sustainable tourism over the last 30 years or so and discusses how planning and management have been used in attempts to bring about sustainable tourism. The final chapter of the book discusses the future of tourism, considering factors that may lead to the continued increase in tourist numbers, as well as those that may inhibit or even stop this growth, and in addition presents a number of possible future tourism scenarios for analysis.



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# Tourism Planning and Management

## Introduction

The first chapter in the final section of the book considers planning and management issues in relation to the geography of tourism. This chapter initially discusses the nature of planning and management in general terms. It then focuses on tourism planning and management, and considers the relationship between tourism planning, policy and management. It ends with a discussion of destination planning and management.

## Urban planning

The physical planning of the layout of urban areas dates back over 2,000 years to the Greek era (Gunn, 1988), but modern Western-style planning is linked to town planning in the United Kingdom which originated about 200 years ago (Gunn, 1988; Williams, 1998) and emerged when the population became increasingly urbanized. Planning was to a great extent a response to the perceived 'evils' of urban living. These evils consisted of poor quality housing, which was overcrowded, poor drainage and sanitation, as well as inadequate roads. All of these factors contributed to appalling living conditions for many people. Those involved in planning for utopian cities to replace the rapidly built unplanned creations of 18th century Britain, however, were still concerned primarily with the physical appearance of cities.

In the early 20th century, almost all urban planning in Britain was linked to a number of central government planning acts, and from the 1930s onwards, there was additionally a focus on rural areas with a succession of Town and Country Planning Acts (Mason, 2013a). In federal countries such as the USA, Canada and Australia, it has been the governments of individual states which have usually created specific laws and regulations restricting the places where particular activities can take place, and in New Zealand the planning system which affects land use activities, including tourism, is set within the Resource Management Act of 1991 (Mason 2013a).