



Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, Second Edition: Who Owns Paradise?

By Dr. Martha Honey PhD

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Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, Second Edition: Who Owns Paradise? By Dr. Martha Honey PhD

Around the world, ecotourism has been hailed as a panacea: a way to fund conservation and scientific research, protect fragile ecosystems, benefit communities, promote development in poor countries, instill environmental awareness and a social conscience in the travel industry, satisfy and educate discriminating tourists, and, some claim, foster world peace. Although “green” travel is being aggressively marketed as a “win-win” solution for the Third World, the environment, the tourist, and the travel industry, the reality is far more complex, as Martha Honey reports in this extraordinarily enlightening book.

Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, originally published in 1998, was among the first books on the subject. For years it has defined the debate on ecotourism: Is it possible for developing nations to benefit economically from tourism while simultaneously helping to preserve pristine environments? This long-awaited second edition provides new answers to this vital question.

Ecotourism and Sustainable Development is the most comprehensive overview of worldwide ecotourism available today, showing how both the concept and the reality have evolved over more than twenty-five years. Here Honey revisits six nations she profiled in the first edition—the Galapagos Islands, Costa Rica, Tanzania, Zanzibar, Kenya, and South Africa—and adds a fascinating new chapter on the United States. She examines the growth of ecotourism within each country’s tourism strategy, its political system, and its changing economic policies. Her useful case studies highlight the economic and cultural impacts of expanding tourism on indigenous populations as well as on ecosystems.

Honey is not a “travel writer.” She is an award-winning journalist and reporter who lived in East Africa and Central America for nearly twenty years. Since writing the first edition of this book, she has led the International Ecotourism Society and founded a new center to lead the way to responsible ecotourism. Her experience and her expertise resonate throughout this beautifully written and highly informative book.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Honey's definition of ecotourism is ambitious."
(*Planning*)

"Highly acclaimed as the most comprehensive study of both the theory and practice of ecotourism...The new edition...marks a major rewrite of the original book."
(*Responsible Travel and Tourism*)

About the Author

Martha Honey is codirector of the Center on Ecotourism and Sustainable Development and editor of *Ecotourism and Certification: Setting Standards in Practice* (Island Press, 2002). Previously she worked as a freelance journalist in Latin America and Africa for *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, the Associated Press, ABC-TV, and the BBC. She has received numerous awards for her investigative journalism.

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