

Athens Journal of Tourism

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Front Pages

PAULETTE HEBERT & ADITYA JAYADAS

[Exploring Novelty as an Aspect of Tourism & Wine Preferences](#)

ANUSARA SAWANGCHAI

[From Vacation to Workation: Transforming Phuket into a Digital Nomad Hub](#)

AZWIFANELI NEMUSHUNGWA

[From Spiritual Practice to Economic Asset: Sacred Travel and Regional Development in Limpopo, South Africa](#)

RAHMATINA AWALIAH KASRI, FADLUL IMANSYAH,

M. ARIEF MUFRAINI, M. DAWUD ARIF KHAN,

AGUNG SRI HENDARSA & RISNA TRIANDHARI

[Towards an Integrated Pilgrimage Services: A Religious Tourism Framework for Optimising Quality and Value Capture](#)

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- **Dr. Peter Jones**, Professor of Management, University of Gloucestershire, UK.
- **Dr. Evangelia Kasimati**, Head, Tourism, Leisure & Recreation Unit, Athens Institute & Researcher, Department of Economic Analysis & Research, Central Bank of Greece, Greece.
- **Dr. Vincenzo Asero**, Academic Member, Athens Institute & Assistant Professor, University of Catania, Italy.
- **Dr. Peter Walther Baur**, Deputy Head, Arts & Culture Unit, Athens Institute & Associate Professor, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

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Athens Institute is an Athens-based World Association of Academics and Researchers based in Athens. Athens Institute is an independent and non-profit Association with a Mission to become a forum where Academics and Researchers from all over the world can meet in Athens, exchange ideas on their research and discuss future developments in their disciplines, as well as engage with professionals from other fields. Athens was chosen because of its long history of academic gatherings, which go back thousands of years to Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum. Both these historic places are within walking distance from Athens Institute's downtown offices. Since antiquity, Athens was an open city. In the words of Pericles, Athens "...is open to the world, we never expel a foreigner from learning or seeing". ("Pericles' Funeral Oration", in Thucydides, The History of the Peloponnesian War). It is Athens Institute's mission to revive the glory of Ancient Athens by inviting the World Academic Community to the city, to learn from each other in an environment of freedom and respect for other people's opinions and beliefs. After all, the free expression of one's opinion formed the basis for the development of democracy, and Athens was its cradle. As it turned out, the Golden Age of Athens was in fact, the Golden Age of the Western Civilization. Education and (Re)searching for the 'truth' are the pillars of any free (democratic) society. This is the reason why Education and Research are the two core words in Athens Institute's name.

The *Athens Journal of Tourism* (AJT) is an Open Access quarterly double-blind peer reviewed journal and considers papers from all areas of tourism and related disciplines such as culture, leisure, recreation, geography, urban planning, heritage, sports, historical cities, landscape, architecture etc. The AJT considers theoretical and empirical papers as well as case studies and policy papers. The journal's aim is to be useful to both academics of tourism research and the practitioners of the tourism industry. Many of the papers published in this journal have been presented at the various conferences sponsored by [the Tourism, Leisure & Recreation Unit](#) of the Athens Institute. All papers are subject to Athens Institute's Publication Ethical Policy and Statement. A journal publication might take from a minimum of six months up to one year to appear. All papers are subject to Athens Institute's [Publication Ethical Policy and Statement](#).

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Download the entire issue ([PDF](#))

Front Pages i-viii

[Exploring Novelty as an Aspect of Tourism & Wine Preferences](#) 161

Paulette Hebert & Aditya Jayadas

[From Vacation to Workation: Transforming Phuket into a Digital Nomad Hub](#) 181

Anusara Sawangchai

[From Spiritual Practice to Economic Asset: Sacred Travel and Regional Development in Limpopo, South Africa](#) 199

Azwifaneli Nemushungwa

[Towards an Integrated Pilgrimage Services: A Religious Tourism Framework for Optimising Quality and Value Capture](#) 223

*Rahmatina Awaliah Kasri, Fadlul Imansyah,
M. Arief Mufraini, M. Dawud Arif Khan,
Agung Sri Hendarsa & Risna Triandhari*

Athens Journal of Tourism

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President's Message

All Athens Institute's publications including its e-journals are open access without any costs (submission, processing, publishing, open access paid by authors, open access paid by readers etc.) and is independent of presentations at any of the many small events (conferences, symposiums, forums, colloquiums, courses, roundtable discussions) organized by Athens Institute throughout the year and entail significant costs of participating. The intellectual property rights of the submitting papers remain with the author. Before you submit, please make sure your paper meets the [basic academic standards](#), which includes proper English. Some articles will be selected from the numerous papers that have been presented at the various annual international academic conferences organized by the different divisions and units of the Athens Institute for Education and Research. The plethora of papers presented every year will enable the editorial board of each journal to select the best, and in so doing produce a top-quality academic journal. In addition to papers presented, Athens Institute will encourage the independent submission of papers to be evaluated for publication.

The current issue is the third of the thirteenth volume of the *Athens Journal of Tourism (AJT)*, published by the [Tourism, Leisure & Recreation Unit](#) of Athens Institute.

Gregory T. Papanikos
President
Athens Institute



Athens Institute for Education and Research

A World Association of Academics and Researchers

20th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies

22-26 March 2027, Athens, Greece

The [Center for European & Mediterranean Affairs](#) organizes the 20th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, 22-26 March 2027, Athens, Greece sponsored by the [Athens Journal of Mediterranean Studies](#). The aim of the conference is to bring together academics and researchers from all areas of Mediterranean Studies, such as history, arts, archaeology, philosophy, culture, sociology, politics, international relations, economics, business, sports, environment and ecology, etc. You may participate as stream leader, presenter of one paper, chair a session or observer. Please submit a proposal using the form available (<https://www.atiner.gr/2027/FORM-MDT.doc>).

Academic Members Responsible for the Conference

- **Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos**, President, Athens Institute & Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, U.K.
- **Dr. Steven Oberhelman**, Professor of Classics, Holder of the George Sumey Jr Endowed Professorship of Liberal Arts, and Associate Dean, Texas A&M University, USA, Vice President of International Programs, ATINER and Editor of the Athens Journal of History.
- **Dr. Nicholas Pappas**, Vice President of Academic Membership, Athens Institute & Professor of History, Sam Houston University, USA.
- **Dr. David Philip Wick**, Director, Arts, Humanities and Education Division, Athens Institute & Professor of History, Gordon College, USA.
- **Dr. Yannis Stivachtis**, Director, Center for European & Mediterranean Affairs and Associate Professor, Jean Monnet Chair & Director of International Studies Program, Virginia Tech – Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, USA.

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission: **15 September 2026**
- Submission of Paper: **22 February 2027**

Social and Educational Program

The Social Program Emphasizes the Educational Aspect of the Academic Meetings of Athens Institute.

- Greek Night Entertainment (This is the official dinner of the conference)
- Athens Sightseeing: Old and New-An Educational Urban Walk
- Social Dinner
- Mycenae Visit
- Exploration of the Aegean Islands
- Delphi Visit

Conference Fees

Conference fees vary from 400€ to 2000€
Details can be found at: <https://www.atiner.gr/fees>



Athens Institute for Education and Research

A World Association of Academics and Researchers

23rd Annual International Conference on Tourism **7-12 June 2027, Athens, Greece**

The [Tourism, Leisure & Recreation Unit](#) of ATINER organizes its **23rd Annual International Conference on Tourism, 7-12 June 2027, Athens, Greece** sponsored by the [Athens Journal of Tourism](#). The aim of the conference is to bring together academics and researchers from all areas of Tourism. You may participate as stream leader, presenter of one paper, chair a session or observer. Please submit a proposal using the form available (<https://www.atiner.gr/2027/FORM-TOU.doc>).

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission: **10 November 2026**
- Acceptance of Abstract: 4 Weeks after Submission
- Submission of Paper: **10 May 2027**

Academic Member Responsible for the Conference

- **Dr. Valia Kasimati**, Head, [Tourism, Leisure & Recreation Unit](#), Athens Institute & Researcher, Department of Economic Analysis & Research, Central Bank of Greece, Greece.
- **Dr. Peter Jones**, Co-Editor, [Athens Journal of Tourism](#) & Professor of Management, University of Gloucestershire, UK.

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- Delphi Visit
- Ancient Corinth and Cape Sounion

More information can be found here: <https://www.atiner.gr/social-program>

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