“Special Concepts, methods and examples of sustainable tourism lodges”

Hitesh Mehta

UN SYMPOSIUM
Enhancing Sustainable Tourism, Biodiversity and Environmental Protection
 ➤ Indian Ancestry
 ➤ LA & EP & A
 ➤ TIES Board
 ➤ Author
 ➤ Hall of Fame
 ➤ Persian Connection
Types of Tourism

- Traditional Tourism (Sun, Sea and Sand, Casinos, Cruise)
- Adventure Tourism
- Nature Tourism
- Heritage Tourism
- Ecotourism
- Wellness Tourism
- Cultural Tourism
- Religious Tourism
- Agrotourism
- Sport Tourism
- Business Tourism
- Medical Tourism
- Community Based Tourism

Source: Google
"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities“

UNWTO
Sustainable Tourism

- Business tourism
- Nature Tourism
- Voluntourism
- Gaming tourism
- Recreational tourism
- Cruise tourism
- Community based Tourism
- Ecotourism
- Sports tourism
- Adventure Tourism
- Sun and sand tourism
- Recreational Hunting
ECOTOURISM

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Source: Google
ecoDestinations
Connecting travelers with inspiring ecotourism initiatives.

Join TIES as an Organization

Join TIES as a Professional

500 Organizations and Growing
TIES is a non-profit association committed to promoting responsible tourism practices that benefit conservation and communities. Its global network spans over 120 countries, with members who are leading the vital efforts to make travel and tourism more sustainable.

Become Part of TIES International Network
Learn, Network, and Grow with other professionals and stay ahead of today's fast-growing tourism industry. Join TIES and take advantage of our networking, knowledge-sharing and relationship-building platform for industry professionals from around the world working in ecotourism and sustainable tourism.

ESTC13 Call for Presenters
Showcase your story at the leading industry conference, attended by hundreds of tourism experts and business leaders! As a presenter, you will be able to play an active role in shaping the conversations on key global issues affecting ecotourism and sustainable tourism.

About the ESTC
The Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference (ESTC) is a unique annual conference providing practical solutions to advance sustainability goals for the tourism industry. In 2013, the ESTC will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from September 24-27, and will bring together 450+ professionals from around the world.

Feb 17, 2013
Top Ecotourism and Community Development Experts Offer Online Professional Learning Series
Feb 11, 2013
How Can Travelers Find Authentic Experiences That Are Culturally Respectful and Socially Sensitive?
Feb 10, 2013
Stay Responsibly, Sleep Locally
Feb 7, 2013
Professional Learning Series on Ecotourism and Community Development
Feb 6, 2013

Featured Members | See All Members

KENYA
Tourist Board
ECO
Ecoventura
ecoaventura
REI
PRINGECOTOURS
MALAYSIA
TIES Definition

“Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well being of the local people and involves education and interpretation”
ECOTOURISM

"Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people and involves education and interpretation."

CONSERVATION

AUTHENTIC ECOTOURISM

INTERPRETATION

LOCAL COMMUNITIES
ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES
TIES PRINCIPLES OF ECOTOURISM

• Minimize physical, social, behavioral and psychological impacts.
• Build environmental and cultural awareness, and respect.
• Provide positive experiences for both visitors and hosts.
• Produce direct financial benefits for conservation.
• Generate financial benefits for both local people and private industry.
• Deliver memorable interpretative experiences to visitors that help raise sensitivity to host countries' political, environmental, and social climate.
• Design, construct and operate low-impact facilities eg. ecolodges
• If there are Indigenous Peoples in your community or area, recognize their rights and spiritual beliefs, and work in partnership to create empowerment.
Three Main Principles

**Conservation**

Offering market-linked long-term solutions, ecotourism provides effective economic incentives for conserving and enhancing bio-cultural diversity and helps protect the natural and cultural heritage of our beautiful planet.

**Communities**

By increasing local capacity building and employment opportunities, ecotourism is an effective vehicle for empowering local communities around the world to fight against poverty and to achieve sustainable development.

**Interpretation**

With an emphasis on enriching personal experiences and environmental awareness through interpretation, ecotourism promotes greater understanding and appreciation for nature, local society, and culture.
The breeze at dawn has secrets to tell you. Don’t go back to sleep.
~Rumi
Bio-Vegetables
Experimental plot
Biologisch angebautes
Gemüse-Versuchsleite
TRADITIONAL FOODS
UN General Assembly Resolution 2012

The “ecotourism” resolution, facilitated by Morocco and sponsored by a record 105 delegations, draws on the recommendations contained in a report prepared by UNWTO on the basis of responses from 48 Member States.
UN General Assembly Resolution 2012

A landmark resolution recognizing ecotourism as key in the fight against poverty, the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (21 December 2012).
TIES PRINCIPLES OF ECOTOURISM

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ECOLODGE CONCEPTS
Ecolodge Criteria + Rating

All three below +

• Protection of nature
• Benefits to local people
• Provides interpretation

Any two from below

• Community planning
• Contextuality
• Environmentally friendly materials
• Waste management
• Sewage treatment
• Energy conservation
• Water saving
• Sustainable Construction
An ecolodge is a 2-75 room low-impact nature based financially sustainable accommodation facility that helps protect sensitive neighboring areas; involves and helps benefits local communities; offers tourists an interpretative and interactive participatory experience; provides a spiritual communion with nature and culture, and is planned, designed, constructed and operated in an environmentally and socially sensitive manner”.

HITESH MEHTA, 2005
Spiritual Communion
Gul-i surkh-i kawalrā chun sitāyam?
Chigūna bar sar-i ḍin ātash āyam?
Chigīyam? Kay zī man dārānd bāvar
ki mīyād birūn az āb akhgar?
Zī vajd-i sabza dar īn sabz besha
kawalrā khanda mīyād hamesha.
Dahān-i ghunchaash gāh-i tabassum
barad khwāhī nakhwāhī dil zī mardum.
Lab-i ma’shūq-i mast-i pānhkwarda
ba īn shokhī dil az mardum naburda.
Nigah rangīn shavad az didan-i ān
hanā bar dast bandad chidan-i ān.
Buvad ãmezish-i daryā u īn gul
ba sân-i āb-i dākhilkarda dar mul.
Dar āb u rang chun jām-i sharāb ast
chi hājat ĭnki ēyām āftāb ast.\(^{33}\)

How can I extol the red flower of the lotus? How can I surmount this fire?
What can I say? Who would believe me [if I say] that a glowing ember emerges
from water?

From an ecstasy of greenery in this green thicket, the lotus always bursts out
laughing (in bloom).
The mouth of its bud, when it smiles (blooms), willy-nilly enraptures people.
The betel-smearèd lips of the intoxicated beloved never captured anyone’s heart
with such impudence.
One’s gaze is colored from seeing it; from picking it one’s hand is dyed with
henna.

The relationship between the river and this flower is like water mixed into wine.
In “water” and color it is like a goblet of wine. What need is there for me to say
it is a sun?
46 COUNTRIES - 6 CONTINENTS
AUTHENTIC ECOLODGES

Hitesh Mehta
AUTHENTIC ECOLODGES EXAMPLES
Concordia Ecotents

October 2009

Atlantic Ocean

Turkshead Cactus

Concordia Eco. Cactus
When the wine sun fills the bowl of the East,
It brings to her cheeks a thousand anemones.
The wind breaks ringlets of hyacinth
Over the heads of the roses,
As among the meadows I inhale
The fragrance of her rich hair.

hafiz
METHODS
QUADRUPLE BOTTOM LINE

- Financial
- Social
- Environmental
- Spiritual
KONSEP

Penyusunan Konseptual Masterplan Pusat Konservasi Keanekaragaman Hayati Klaster Antam. (kiri ke kanan) Mr Nigel Tucker, Mr Hitesh Mehta dan Mr Dudi Permadi.
CASE STUDY 1:
CROSSWATERS ECOLODGE
Plan of fountain
North site
on an aquaculture
river
Wanpan

Concrete curb
sun-dried bamboo
crossed wood supports
carved stone basin

Bamboos
water diversion
50 meters long
w/cross supports
every 10m.
Sloped @ +/− 5°
Case Study 2: Minjerrribah Camping
ecoshacks - Amity Point
GIFTS OF THE DREAMTIME

Traditional tools include the boomerang, shield, spear and woomera (spear thrower). Said to be given by the ancestor spirits who left this land in the care of man.

One story tells of a very clever and magical old man who would light his fire by placing bark in a circle, then throw his boomerang to spin above the circle until the smoke rose up.
AMITY POINT ECO-SHACKS

Draft Planting Design Plan for a small area

- Flax Lily (Dianella caerulea)
- Midjim (Austromyrtus dulcis)
- Bracken Fern (Cleo och laena daub)
- Native Jasmine (Jasminum didymi)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shrub</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May Bush</td>
<td>Leptospermum polygaliflorum</td>
<td>Shrub, often 0.5 to 3 metres in height, or a slender to stout trunked tree to 7 metres or more, the bark usually being close and firm but soft, thick and flaky in some forms. Hardy and can be relied on to produce a good display of flowers each year. It is sometimes grown as a hedge plant but, in prefers light pruning as it sometimes does not respond well to heavy pruning. It is generally long-lived but can become a bit straggly with age as some of the lower branches are shed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Tongue</td>
<td>Melastoma affine</td>
<td>Rounded rainforest shrub, attractively veined foliage, long flowering mauve-purple flowers in summer and sweet edible fruit (which will stain your tongue blue, thus the common name). Note: The book &quot;Plants - Bush Tucker Medicinal and Other Uses of the Minyembila&quot; lists a plant as &quot;Native Fuchsia&quot;. There is a plant they call native fuchsia. Fuchsia alstonville was produced in Alstonville, on the New South Wales north coast by Ken Dunstan rather recently - making it impossible for it to have been a traditional bush food. What the authors would have meant is the Melastoma affine. This plant is native to Australia and bears edible fruit that will stain your tongue blue. Attracts Mistletoe butterfly, birds. Useful wetland plant. Honey bees compete with its natural pollinators, native bees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONCLUSIONS
Dogonland
NO to:

- Egotistical architecture
- Mass Tourism
- Leakage
Calls on UN Member States to adopt policies that promote ecotourism highlighting its “positive impact on income generation, job creation and education, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger”. It further recognizes that “ecotourism creates significant opportunities for the conservation, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity and of natural areas by encouraging local and indigenous communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage”.

Here with a Loaf of Bread beneath the Bough,  
A Flask of Wine, a Book of Verse — and  
Thou Beside me singing in the Wilderness –  
And Wilderness is Paradise now.

Omar Khayyam

Lake Gohar, Lorestan, Iran.
Boomgardi Inst.
Center for Sustainable Tourism
Iran Ecolodge Network
Yasmin Tehrani one of the youngest wildlife protector
A new paradigm

If TOURISM development is to be well respected, a new paradigm for Site Planning and Design is required. An approach that satisfies the quadruple bottom line.
Through feelings of reverence, awe, wonder, and love, we somehow come more closely into relation with the underlying ground-stuff of the universe, with the domain of pure unity. In order to create architecture that has life, that connects us to our wholeness, designers need to train their inner spiritual senses and to make the practice of architecture nothing less than a path to higher consciousness.
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