



Ecotourism



Princy



Ecotourism???

A relatively new concept.

Still often misunderstood or misused.

- Some people have abused the term to attract conservation conscious travellers to what, in reality, are simply nature tourism programs which may cause negative environmental and social impacts.

- The term 'Ecotourism' was first heard in the 1980s.
- But the first **broadly accepted and a valid "nutshell" definition** was established by The (International) Ecotourism Society in 1990:

- ***RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL TO NATURAL AREAS
THAT CONSERVES THE ENVIRONMENT AND
IMPROVES THE WELL-BEING OF LOCAL
PEOPLE.***

- Most recently (1999), Martha Honey has proposed an excellent, more detailed version:
- Ecotourism is travel to fragile, pristine and usually protected areas that strives to be low impact and (usually) small scale. It helps educate the traveller; provides funds for conservation; directly benefits the economic development and political empowerment of local communities; and fosters respect for different cultures and for human rights.



"Lovely holiday, terrific wooden souvenirs, but not a tree to get any shade under!"

- **Ecotourism has become an important economic activity in natural areas around the world.**
- **It provides opportunities for visitors to experience powerful manifestations of nature and culture and to learn about the importance of biodiversity conservation and local cultures.**
- **At the same time, ecotourism generates income for conservation and economic benefits for communities living in rural and remote areas.**

- Ecotourism is **centred on nature**, has an **educational component**, is a form of development which contributes to the **well-being of local communities**, encourages the **participation of local communities**, and contributes to the **protection of nature**.



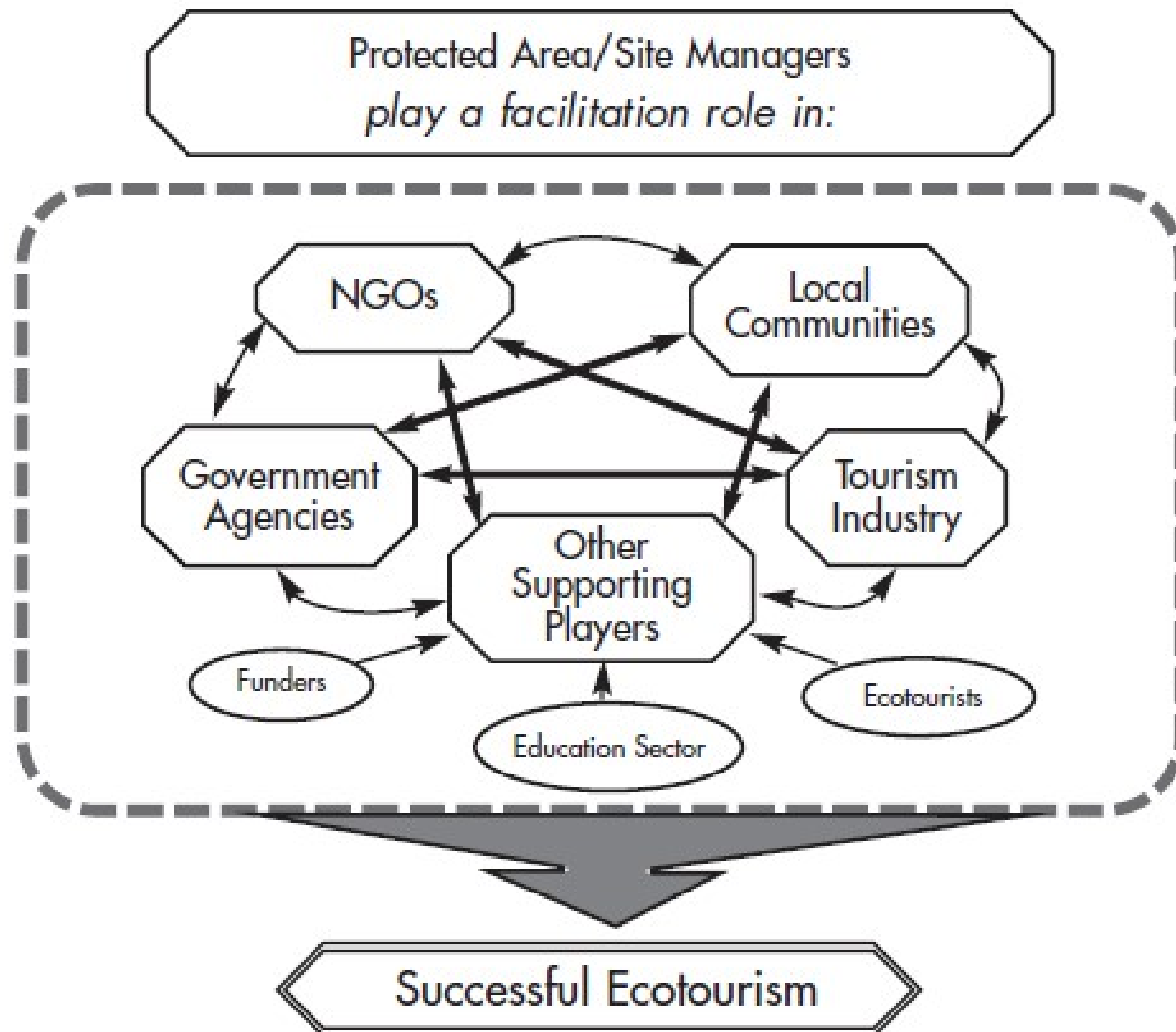
The attributes of ecotourism make it a valuable tool for conservation. Its implementation can:

- ❖ give **economic value to ecosystem services** that protected areas provide.
- ❖ generate **direct income for the conservation** of protected Areas.
- ❖ generate **direct and indirect income for local stakeholders**, creating incentives for conservation in local communities.
- ❖ build **constituencies for conservation**, locally, nationally and internationally.
- ❖ promote **sustainable use of natural resources**.
- ❖ **reduce threats to biodiversity** (like pollution, over exploitation etc.).

Ecotourism must have:

- ❖ Have a **low impact upon a protected area's natural resources**;
- ❖ Involve stakeholders (individuals, communities, ecotourists, tour operators and government institutions) in the planning, development, implementation and monitoring phases;
- ❖ **Respect local cultures and traditions**;
- ❖ **Generate sustainable and equitable income for local communities and for as many other stakeholders** as possible, including private tour operators;
- ❖ **Generate income for protected area conservation**; and
- ❖ **Educate all stakeholders about their role in conservation.**

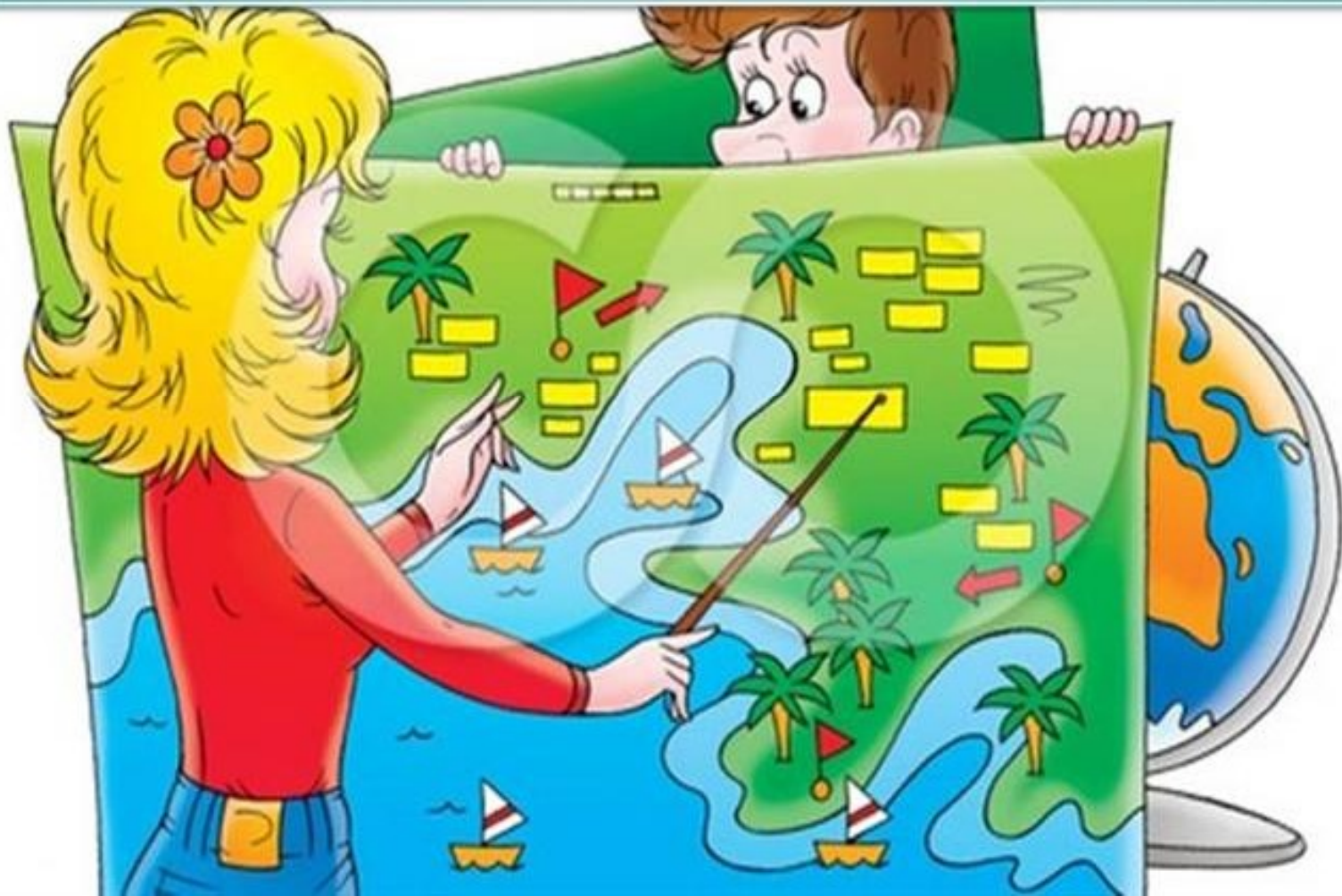
Ecotourism Partnerships Needed for Success





Ecotourists exploring the Amazon © Andy Drumm

Planning Ecotourism Programs



Key Ecotourism Management Strategies



Ecotourism
Management
Plan



Eco concepts in Ecotourism – scope and relevance

- Experience environmentally-friendly tourism
- Green building
- Locally-sourced products are used in the restaurant.
- The use of ecological and biodegradable cleaning products
- Support for the local economy
- The use of energy saving devices (light-bulbs, toilets, etc.)
- Eco friendly concept in the building itself (bricks, wood, stone and especially the kind of location).
- Use of renewable energy resources
- Proper waste disposal systems

COMPONENTS OF ECOTOURISM

- Natural areas
- Contains educational and interpretive features
- Generally for small groups
- Minimizes negative impacts
- Supports the protection of natural areas by generating economic benefits for host communities, organizations and authorities managing natural areas with conservation purposes

(World Tourism Organization)

Some Ecotourism centres in Kerala

1. **Thenmala** - India's first planned eco-tourism destination
2. **Konni**
3. **Parambikulam**
4. **RhodoValley – Munnar**
5. **Thommankuthu**
6. **Aralam (wildlife sanctuary)–Kannur**
7. **Eravikulam National Park**
8. **Peppara Sanctuary**
9. **Periyar**
10. **Gavi**
11. **Athirappilly, vazhachal**



Thenmala Ecotourism bridge

This range of “honey hills” so called due to the medicinal honey obtained from there, lies at an altitude of 1650 ft extending over acres of dense forests.



RhodoValley – Munnar







The walk way to the Rhodo Valley from the Base Camp is bedecked with pine trees.

Rhodo Valley and the Sky Cottage, Munnar



Aralam (wildlife sanctuary)–Kannur





Photo Courtesy : Deepu Cyriac



Thommankuthu











Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram





Golden Valley Park, Peppara







Eravikulam National Park





KERALA FOREST & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT ERAVIKULAM NATIONAL PARK									
ENTRY FEE DETAILS					ടിക്കറ്റ് നിരക്കുകൾ				
Particulars	Entry Fee	Busfare	Total		പ്രവേശന നിരക്ക്	ബസ് ഫാർ	ആകെ		
INDIANS	15	5	25	45	ഇന്ത്യൻ	15	5	25	45
FOREIGNERS	200	5	25	230	വിദേശീയർ	200	5	25	230
CHILDREN (5-12 yrs)	5	5	25	35	കുട്ടികൾ (5-12 വയസ്സ്)	5	5	25	35
ORDINARY CAMERA	25	-	-	25	ഓർഡിനറി ക്യാമറ	25	-	-	25
VIDEO/MOVIE	200	-	-	200	വീഡിയോ ക്യാമറ	200	-	-	200



Gavi



Periyar Tiger Reserve/Periyar National Park



Parambikulam







Konni – elephant training centre, Pathanamthitta



Konni Forest Reserve

കേരള വനം വകുപ്പ്
കോന്നി ഇക്കോ ടൂറിസം
കോന്നി എഫ്.ഡി.എ. രജി. നം. പി. 269/2002
കുട്ടവഞ്ചി സവാരിയിലേക്ക് സ്വാഗതം

കല്ലാരിൽ നടത്തപ്പെടുന്ന കുട്ടവഞ്ചി സവാരി കേരളത്തിലെ ആദ്യത്തേതും സഞ്ചാരികൾക്ക് ഉല്ലാസകരവും സാഹസികവുമായ അനുഭവം ഒരുക്കുന്നതുമാണ്.	സ്ഥലം : മൂണ്ടോമുഴി
	കോന്നിയിൽ നിന്നുള്ള ദൂരം : 13 കി. മീ.
	സവാരി സമയം : രാവിലെ 8.30 മുതൽ വൈകിട്ട് 5.30 വരെ
	ദീർഘദൂര സവാരി : 1 മണിക്കൂർ 800 രൂപ (Admit 4+1 persons)
	ഹ്രസ്വദൂര സവാരി : 30 മിനിറ്റ് 400 രൂപ (Admit 4+1 persons)

KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT
KONNI ECO TOURISM
KONNI FDA Reg. No. P. 269/2002
ENJOY THE BOWL BOAT RIDING

KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT INTRODUCING BOWL BOAT RIDING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN KERALA YOU CAN ENJOY AN ADVENTUROUS & UNIQUE RIDING EXPERIENCE IN RIVER KALLAR	PLACE : MUNDOMOOZHI DISTANCE FROM KONNI : 13 K.M RIDING TIME : 8.30 AM TO 5.30 PM LONG RIDE : 1 HOUR Rs. 800 (Admit 4+1 persons) SHORT RIDE : 30 MINUTE Rs. 400 (Admit 4+1 persons)
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Vazhachal





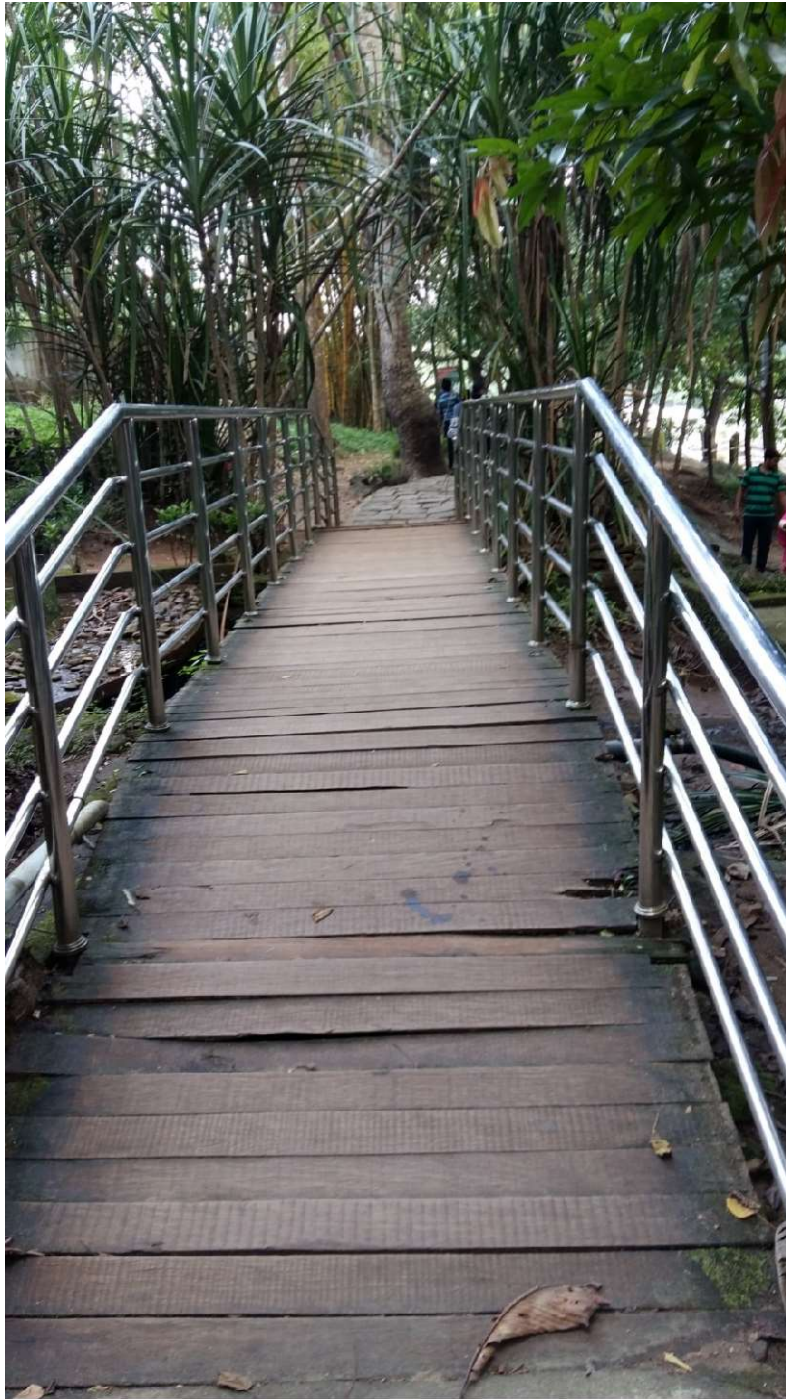


Field study trips...!



Athirappalli Waterfalls







Ecotourism involves...

- Environment efficiency
- Energy saving (solar energy)
- Waste sorting
- Green building
- Knowledge sharing
- Culture sharing
- Natural reserve conservation
- Landscape reading
- Heritage conservation



Ecotourism involves...

- Green building





- ***Wooden made Chalets.***

- Waste sorting



- Knowledge sharing



Types of Ecotourism

Medical Tourism

Island Tourism

Coastal Tourism

Adventure Tourism

Heritage Tourism

Disaster Tourism

Ayurveda Tourism

Space Tourism

Yoga Tourism

Sports Tourism

War Tourism

Dark Tourism

Geo-Tourism

Education Tourism

Agri Tourism

Shopping Tourism

Ecotourism resources

- Biological
- Historical
- Geographical
 - Cultural

- 1. Historical – Bakel Fort, Kasargod







Hill Palace





2. Cultural



Kerala Kalamandalam, Thrissur



kathakali



Boat race at Punnamada lagoon



Thrissur Pooram



- 3. Geographical – Kodaikkanal, Tamil Nadu



Hill station in Maharashtra

- Mahabaleshwar



Positive impacts....

1. Ecotourism generates money from natural environments by encouraging tourists to visit and, during their stay, pay for items like entrance fees, concessions and licenses.
2. Re-casting the environment as a way for local communities to look after themselves therefore encourages them to take care of it.
3. By involving local people in accommodating tourists and acting as guides, ecotourism aids development and empowerment of local community.
4. Financial benefits for conservation of natural resources and cultures, protection of fragile area.



5. Ecotourism can have a **cultural impact on local communities**.

Ecotourists are often partially motivated by the chance to experience local culture, which can have a positive and affirming effect on that culture.

6. **Involving local people in decision-making** not only tends to make them more positive about tourism, but also empowers them as a community.

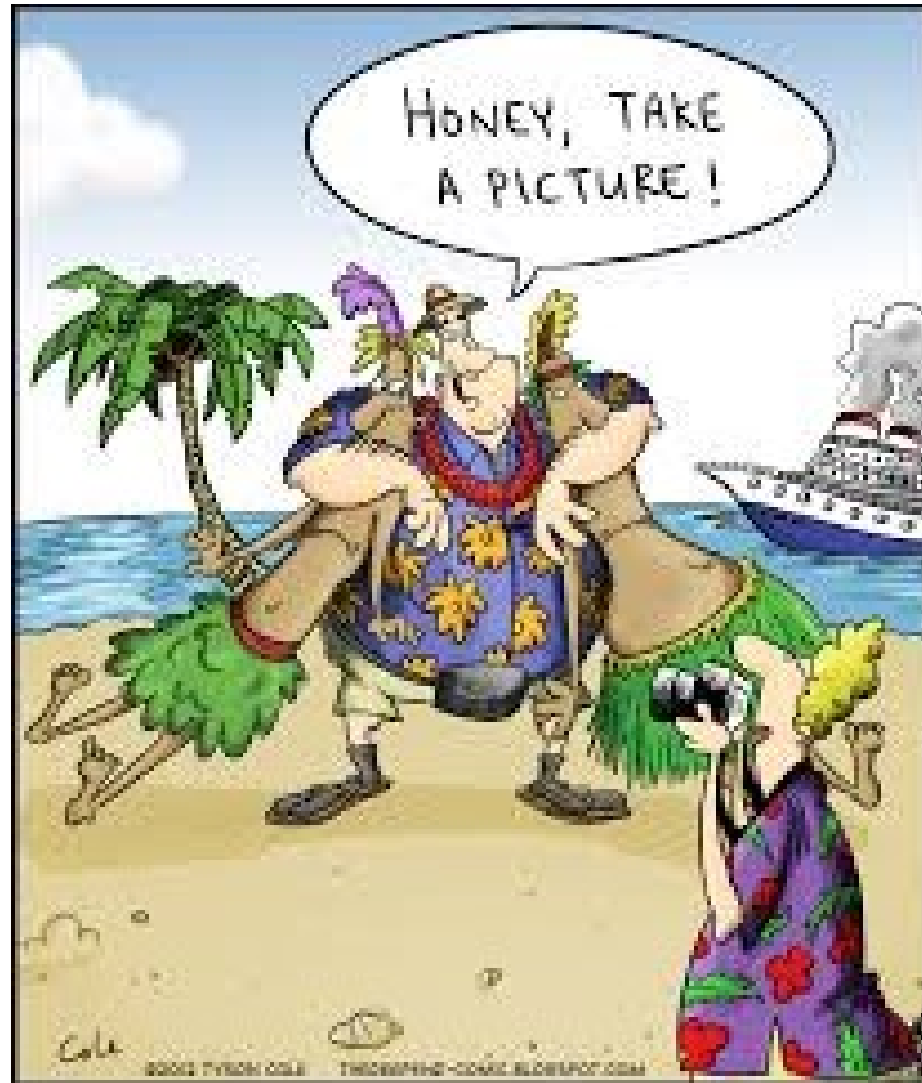
7. **Creates an interest and awareness among the people about indigenous flora and fauna.**

8. It acts as a forum to educate and encourage conservation efforts and boosts economic development in areas surrounding reserves through sustainable development increases the revenue derived from tourism.

9. Preservation of local culture and creation of employment opportunities for the locals

Negative impacts...

1. Transformation of traditional cultural symbols into commodities to sell to visitors.



Negative impacts...

2. Environmental pollution.

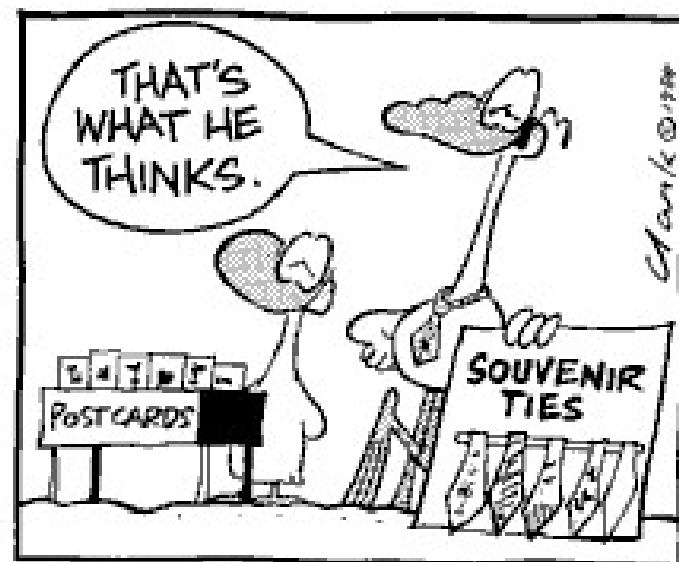
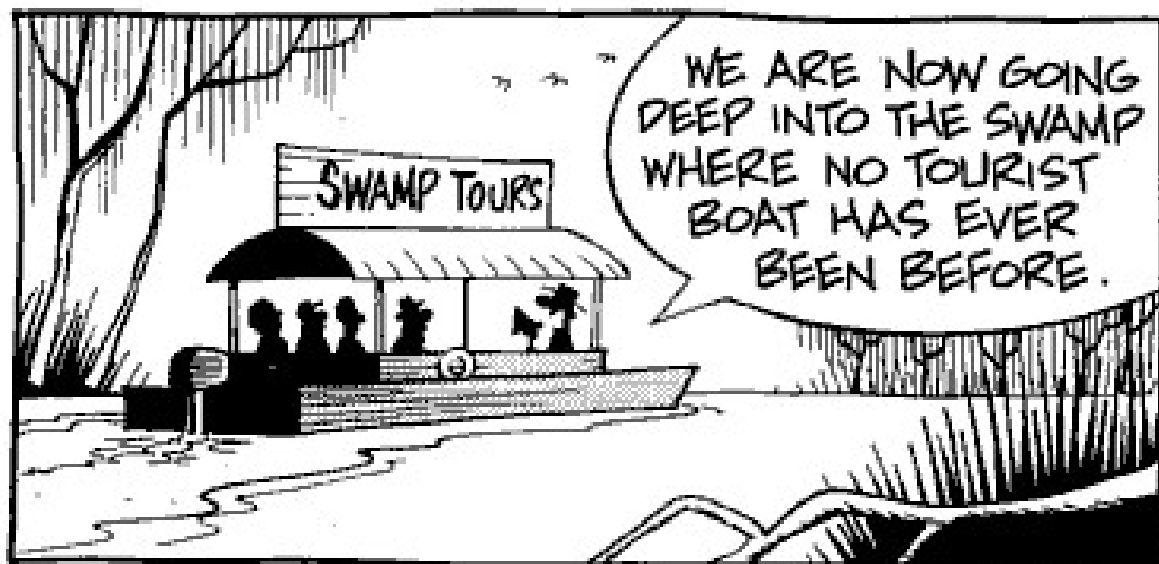


Negative impacts...

3. The **disruption of the pre-existing relationships between local people.**
4. Eco-tourism **propels only basic conservation of flora and fauna that is sufficient to attract tourists.** In reality, it does more harm than good. The tourists arrive in and ride around the parks in vehicles which **pollute the environment and scare the animals.** The incessant flow of tourist disturbs the animals.
5. Also, **tourists leave behind garbage such as plastic bottles** etc. which lead to environmental degradation



**So much for "Antarctica: The last wilderness":
It's full of so-called Eco-Tourists now...**



6. To cater to the increasing demand for eco-tourism, land around parks and sanctuaries is being cleared through deforestation, displacement of people etc. to accommodate hotels, resorts etc.



- 7. **Mismanagement of eco-tourism sites causes more harm** than any little good that eco-tourism brought about.



8. Eco-tourism **takes away livelihoods from the locals**, and in return provides them with **low-paying subordinate positions in the resorts** etc. that are established.



9. **No viable long-lasting employment opportunities** with scope for growth are provided to the locals.



SO... READY TO GO FOR AN
ECOTOURISM TRIP???

