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### Approaches to tourism history

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#### Abstract

This paper examines some of the methodological issues involved in the development of research in tourism history. An introduction is provided to the form and nature of the data involved including: statistical records, personal documents, items of mass communication, and archaeological remains. The main methodological approaches to tourism history are then considered. These stem from both history itself and the social sciences. The two fields have been influenced by a number of ideas, such as positivism, humanism, and structuralism and the paper argues that they now have a variety of methodologies in common. It is felt, therefore, that there is no methodological impediment to greater substantive links between historical and social science research in tourism history. The paper concludes with a review of some existing work in the field together with suggestions for future research.

RÃ©sumÃ©

FaÃ§ons d'aborder l'histoire du tourisme. Cet article examine quelques-unes des questions mÃ©thodologiques qui se posent au dÃ©veloppement de la recherche

questions méthodologiques qui a entraîné le développement de la recherche dans l'histoire du tourisme. On fournit une introduction dans la structure et l'origine des données dont il s'agit, à savoir: statistiques, dossiers personnels, information provenant des médias, vestiges archéologiques. Il s'ensuit une mise en considération des principales façons méthodologiques relatives à l'histoire du tourisme. Ces façons-là proviennent à la fois de l'histoire elle-même et des sciences sociales. Ces deux domaines sont influencés par maintes idéologies, telles le positivisme, l'humanisme et le structuralisme, et l'article considère que ces idéologies-là partagent tout un éventail de méthodologies. Par conséquent on est d'avis qu'il n'y ait pas d'obstacle méthodologique aux liens substantifs plus importants entre la recherche faite sous un optique historique et celle faite dans le cadre des sciences sociales. Pour conclure l'article fait la critique de la recherche actuelle dans ce domaine, et fait des propositions concernant des recherches futures.



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## Keywords

tourism history; methodology; history; social science

## Mots-clés

histoire du tourisme; méthodologie; histoire; sciences sociales

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