

*Sommaire*

# Close-up of civilization

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## 1 *A small, small world*

IDENTITÉS  
INTERDÉPENDANCES  
CONTACTS DES CULTURES



# CLOSE-UP 1

## 1. Facts and figures

1. Guess the appropriate figure in each sentence.

- Tourism is the world's largest industry, with annual revenue approaching 100 – 500 – 2000 billion dollars.
- The World Tourism Organization estimated there were about 50 – 700 – 1000 million international tourist arrivals in 2000. They are expected to reach 1.6 – 5 – 10 billion in 2020.
- In 1995, over 200 – 500 – 1000 million people (predicted to rise to 250 – 340 – 500 million by 2005) were directly or indirectly employed in tourism.
- For 10 – 50 – 83 percent of countries in the world, tourism is one of the top five sources of foreign exchange.



2. Taking into account the information you have gathered from the figures above, comment on this sign intended for hikers venturing into the Himalayas.

## 2. Forms of tourism

1. Match these definitions of a few forms of tourism with the following nouns:

*mass tourism* – *heritage tourism* –  
*agri-tourism* – *sustainable tourism* –  
*green tourism*.

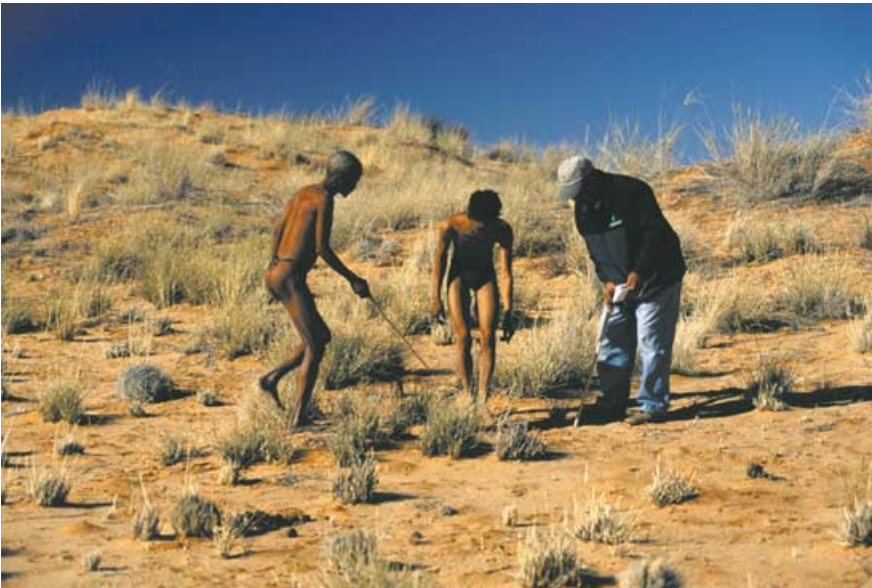
2. Which of the three pictures (a, b and c, p. 2-3) best illustrates *your* idea of tourism? If none does, say what form of tourism appeals to you and explain why.

- Operators make use of environmentally appropriate means to provide services.
- It involves an international operator. Locals do not have total ownership or control of large companies and there is only a small increase in local jobs. It increases demand for services such as water, sewer, solid waste, fuel, power, roads and medical services.
- Governments, tourism bodies and commercial operators work together to safeguard resources.
- The visitor's aim is the discovery of monuments and sites.
- The visitors stay on a working farm and help with the farm chores (*travaux*).

a. Paradise Harbour, Antarctica







b. San Bushmen in Kalahari Desert, South Africa



c. Puerto Maya Terminal on Cozumel Island, Mexico

## 3. Tourists and locals

1. Read these short paragraphs and summarize the content of each.
2. Say which underline the negative socio-cultural impact of tourism and which highlight the positive aspects.
3. Do you think tourism is a positive contribution to local development or can it lead to culture clashes? Justify.

a. The tourism industry has a vital role in environmental conservation, in the preservation of cultural heritage and in the creation of a culture of respect and peace that eradicates the problems caused by the concept of “the other”.

b. Little of the tourism money generated by Taman Negara (a national park) stays in Malaysia, and park employees spend almost 90% of their income outside the region or on imported goods. Thus, local inhabitants, whose culture has been marketed to attract tourists, benefit only to a very limited extent.

c. Tourism can add to the vitality of communities and reduce emigration from rural areas. In Namibia, the San have recently regained management of traditional national park lands, operate ecolodges and serve as guides while maintaining their heritage.

d. There are numerous examples where locals have lost access to their natural resources because of tourism. On Java, village beach land, traditionally used for grazing<sup>1</sup>, repairing boats

and nets, and festivals, was sold to entrepreneurs for construction of a five-star hotel.

25 e. The presence of visitors who continually praise<sup>2</sup> Balinese art and culture has given people a kind of confidence and pride, and made them truly believe that their culture is glorious and thus worthy of<sup>3</sup> praise and therefore justly admired.

30 This realization removed any suspicion that their art was inferior to that of advanced nations and plays an important role in conserving and developing art in general.

f. Child labour in tourism is common in both developing and developed countries. Many boys and girls below 12 years of age are engaged in small business activities related to hotels and restaurants, the entertainment<sup>4</sup> sector or the souvenir trade, often as street or beach vendors.

40 They are frequently subjected to harsh<sup>5</sup> working and employment conditions.

1. *pâturage* – 2. *faire l'éloge de* – 3. [ˈwɜːðɪ] *digne de* – 4. [ˌentəˈteɪnmənt] *loisirs* – 5. *dur, rude*

## 4. The future of travel



1. Read the text and use the context to match each of these ten words with its French translation:  
*far-flung* (l. 1) – *amazing* (l. 3) –  
*leisure* ['leɪʒə] (l. 9) – *wander* (l. 18) –  
*weightless* (l. 23) – *cruise* (l. 27) –  
*leisurely* (l. 29) – *sightseer* (l. 30) –  
*heights* [haɪts] (l. 32) – *seek* (l. 43).  
*parcourir* – *loisir* – *croisière* –  
*touriste* – *hauteur* – *éloigné* –  
*rechercher* – *tranquille* –  
*en apesanteur* – *étonnant*
2. Sum up the specialists' predictions concerning travel in twenty years' time.
3. Will traditional destinations be abandoned? Why?
4. Explain the advantages of space and airship hotels.
5. Make a brief description of Hydropolis. What kind of people will go there? What for?
6. Do any of these new forms of tourism appeal to you? Why?

Future travellers will be putting down their luggage in far-flung places, underwater, in the air and around the planet. They'll get amazing views from bizarre living quarters that build on "outrageously successful" billion-dollar projects on Earth, and they'll

5 take adventures that have long been the province of science fiction.

That's the vacationing landscape of the 21st century envisioned by various travel analysts.

Thomson Holidays, a leading travel and destination group based in the United Kingdom, just issued a report on the future of leisure travel.

10 [...] The conclusions are a sweeping preview<sup>1</sup> of the changing needs and expectations of globetrotting travelers two decades out. [...]

### Ride the Cosmoplane

Development by 2024 of the Cosmoplane – a successor to Concorde – will make it possible for adventurous travelers to go

15 farther and faster. More traditional types of destinations won't be crowded out of the picture. In fact they'll just get more crowded as an aging population swells<sup>2</sup> the ranks of folks with time and money to spare, looking for new places to wander.

### Beyond Earth

20 Space hotels may also be on the horizon, according to other analysts. WATG's<sup>3</sup> visionary space hotel concept includes portions that will have partial Earth gravity "for creature comforts<sup>4</sup> like being able to flush a toilet and take a shower" as well as weightless environments "for scientific experiments as well as the sheer thrill<sup>5</sup> of the experience."

25 For those among us who want to stick closer to Earth, the WATG futurists also envision a potentially revolutionary helium-filled airship hotel. The concept melds<sup>6</sup> elements of traveling by cruise ship, hot air balloon and airplane. [...] Unlike an airplane, the airship hotel would cruise at a leisurely pace and at low altitude, giving camera-snapping

30 sightseers picturesque viewing along the travel route.

### Deep six those anxieties

Afraid of the heights? Then deep six<sup>7</sup> those anxieties and check<sup>8</sup> into Hydropolis. Planning is already underway for this watery habitat to be built in Dubai, the second largest of the seven emirates that make

35 up the United Arab Emirates. It is slated<sup>9</sup> to open in December 2006. [...]

As the world's first underwater luxury hotel, the plan is to construct three distinct areas: one on land, a connecting tunnel, and the submarine complex. There will also be a ballroom, spa<sup>10</sup>, restaurants,

40 shops and separate underwater villas.

"Hydropolis is a splendid refuge far away from the stress factors of everyday business life and is ideally suited for guests from top management seeking to regenerate their inner strength," explains a project fact sheet<sup>11</sup>.

Leonard DAVID, *The Future of Travel: Aquatic to Cosmic Destinations*, in *Imaginova.com*, June 23, 2004

1. *large aperçu* – 2. *gonfler* – 3. WATG: an international architecture and design firm – 4. ['kri:tʃə 'kɑmfəts] *confort matériel* – 5. *pur frisson* – 6. *mélanger* – 7. (US) *se débarrasser de* – 8. *remplir une fiche (d'hôtel)* – 9. *prévoir* – 10. [spa:] *ici, centre de thalassothérapie* – 11. *fiche d'information*