

# Visions in Leisure and Business

---

Volume 24 | Number 1

Article 12

---

3-31-2022

## PS

Lucy Long

*Center for Food and Culture*, [lucymlong@gmail.com](mailto:lucymlong@gmail.com)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/visions>

**How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!**

---

### Recommended Citation

Long, Lucy (2022) "PS," *Visions in Leisure and Business*: Vol. 24: No. 1, Article 12.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25035/visions.24.01.12>

Available at: <https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/visions/vol24/iss1/12>

This Back Matter is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Visions in Leisure and Business* by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@BGSU.

## PS

**Dr. Lucy Long**

As I write this Postscript in March of 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be lessening due to a combination of vaccination, public health measures, the natural evolution of the virus itself to less dangerous strains, and fatigue of much of the world's populace in dealing with it. Tourism is rebounding, and travelers are flocking to places where they can escape from the reality of the last two years and also mark off items from "their bucket list," a concept that seems to have grown in proportion to the awareness of the fragility of life. At the same time, tourism providers, analysts, and scholars as well as many tourists want to ensure that tourism is ethical, meaningful, and beneficial for all involved.

The articles in this issue suggest some of the ways forward. Reflections on the nature of tourism have expanded the types of destinations that are perceived as touristic opportunities, museums, in particular. Physical travel is no longer crucial, so that virtual experiences can be different but satisfying. The closing of borders and curtailing of travel has also turned the tourist gaze inward to explore what might be "new" at home and at venues not thought of as tourist destinations.

These articles suggest optimism and point to the resilience of individuals and communities involved in tourism. For many, the pandemic has been a time for reflection, but we should remember that reflection is a privilege, and those of us who have that privilege need to be aware of the practical needs of the many who depend on the tourism industry for their livelihoods. Those individuals do not always have a long-term or holistic view because they have to focus on survival on a daily basis, but they do have a better sense of what their communities need in order to flourish. Again, there may be conflicting values at play as well as individual greed. Policies and programs need to benefit the entirety of the community, not just a select few.

Meanwhile, the pandemic is a reminder that forces greater than us can and will change our plans, so that we need flexibility, and perhaps humility, to address the unforeseen and an unknown future. As tourism scholar, Greg Richards, pointed out in the first year of the pandemic: "The new tourism landscape will not look like the old, and new tourists will not behave as they did in the past. This arguably requires not just resilience, but also creativity to find new ways of developing and managing tourism" (2020: 8). This special issue of *Visions* demonstrates that creativity.

## Reference

Richards, Greg. 2020. Tourism in Challenging Times: Resilience or Creativity? *Tourism Today*. 8-15.