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This is an interesting book to evaluate, as the topic is both interesting and timely. While the book is part of a series that comes out annually, the theme of many of the chapters highlights COVID-19 and the suffering of the tourism industry in reaction to the pandemic. For those interested in the pandemic and alpine perceptions and impacts, this is a useful book. As such, it is thought-provoking and valuable for those who are interested in how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted upon tourism in the Alps but there are also chapters and topics that are covered that are not narrowly linked with tourism and the pandemic.

The book is composed of 13 chapters and it is divided into four different sections. The first section is a collection of five chapters that deal with the implications of COVID-19 on tourism. The second section consists of two chapters that delve into the forms of travel and travel behavior. The third section consists of three chapters that concentrate upon the development of the supply of opportunities for tourism. The final section consists of three chapters that are devoted to the topic of destinations and regions, highlighting issues in destination management. At the end of the book, there is a six-page section that is a directory with contact information for the authors who contributed to the book.

As with any edited book, the chapters are uneven and each one is stylistically a bit different from the others. But that is also an advantage of the book, since readers can choose to read more closely those chapters that seem to be more appropriate for their particular interests. What is very impressive about the book is the large number of tables and figures. If you are a visual reader such as I am, this is a very easy and pleasant book to read. While the book chapters only take up 218 pages, there are 48 figures, 27 tables, 3 text boxes, and 1 picture. The use of figures and tables makes it a much more pleasant read, allowing the prose to be interspersed with figures and tables that drive home the major concepts for the chapters. I also find the cover of the book quite attractive, indicating the Swiss nature of the content (there is a Swiss flag on the cover), so the designer of the series did a good job communicating the Swiss nature of the series as well as making the book attractive to look at.

There is a great deal of variety in the chapters. Some of the chapters are clearly empirical in nature and some are a bit more theoretical. For example, Jürg Stettler, Andreas Hüsler, and Lukas Huck's contribution in the penultimate chapter reports on a February 2020 survey of the population in Luzern to learn about their perceptions on tourists and tourism in Luzern. Another good example of a chapter based upon very empirical issues is Richard Jenitschek and Christian Buer's contribution which is a fairly interesting and thorough statistical analysis of data from a survey with regards to guest experience and customer satisfaction. These stand in contrast against Daniel Fischer and Curdin Bergamin's chapter that is much more theoretical contribution, dealing with how corporate strategies and resilience following crises.

For those who are interested in the pandemic and the impact of the pandemic on tourism, the first chapters should be quite useful. Of those chapters, there are three that really stand out. Monica Nadegger, Birgit Bosio, Stefanie Haselwanter, Janosch Untersteiner, and Philipp K. Wegener's chapter that analyzes Instagram data is especially interesting, looking into the portrayal of a Tyrolean destinations during the pandemic. Thomas Bieger and Philipp Lütolf's chapter approaches the pandemic from the perspective of the accounting of companies in the crisis, something that many who are concerned with the bottom line and the financial/accounting risks of the pandemic should find interesting. However, Daniel Fischer and Curdin Bergamin's chapter seems to be the strongest of those that deal with the pandemic. Although not grounded in empirical data, Fisher and Bergamin deal with crisis management and resilience in a systematic, stimulating, and useful way. As such, Fischer and Bergamin contribution is especially useful and pragmatic with regards to tourism management.

In terms of the chapters that do not directly deal with the pandemic, there are several that stand out from the others. Harald Pechlaner, Natalie Olbrich, Elina Gavriljuk, and Christian Eckert's chapter on the participatory development of tourism using the example of the city of Eichstätt is detailed and interesting, giving some insight into the process of the development of a destination. In addition, Rahel Meili and Esther Schlumpf's chapter on destination management is useful and has some charm to it, not something that is often seen in academic books. The chapter would be a useful case study to use in a classroom since it has text boxes and an attractive picture of the Swiss landscape, a landscape that is likely the envy of the world, a (probably unintentional) visual reminder of why Switzerland is a wonderful place to visit.

As with any book, there are strengths and weaknesses. The diversity of topics and methods is the chief strength of this book. While almost half of the chapters relate quite directly to the pandemic and the problems caused by the pandemic, there is still quite a bit of variety left in the remaining chapters. The remaining chapters deal with some issues that are quite long-term in terms of their considerations, such as destination management and marketing. But some of the other chapters also deal with more modern considerations in tourism that have only developed in recent years, such as issues linked with the sharing economy. The variety of the topics is a clear strength of this book. Another additional strength is the variety of methods used. Some chapters are somewhat sophisticated empirical analyses with statistical tests, others show much more basic findings from surveys, and some are purely theoretical. The chief weakness of the book is that it is in German. In some ways, it is a pity that the book is not in English, as it limits the number of people who will read it. While some of the chapters are clearly weaker than others, I think that producing this in English would widen the audience a great deal. As it is in German, the possible readership of the text is very limited, even if many of the chapters are quite good and interesting and probably useful to an audience that is not German-speaking.

All-in-all this is a good and interesting book and it should be recommended. I think that the level of the book would be accessible to students who are second year university students or greater. While some of the chapters may be a bit too sophisticated for some, particularly Richard Jenitschek and Christian Buer's chapter, since it expects that the reader would have some background in research statistics, most of them would be accessible to most and would be interesting to read and discuss with students. Some of the chapters, too, would be good for other purposes. For example, Daniel Fischer and Curdin Bergamin's chapter would be an interesting primer on crisis management in tourism and would be a good starting point for an assignment on the resilience of the hospitality and tourism industry following a shock. There is value in this book and it is an interesting, useful, and timely collection of chapters that is worth your time, if you are interested in alpine tourism, crisis management, or destination management.

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