Cambridge University Press 978-1-108-82339-5 — Heritage Tourism Yujie Zhu Frontmatter <u>More Information</u>

Cambridge Elements⁼

Elements in Critical Heritage Studies

edited by Kristian Kristiansen, University of Gothenburg Michael Rowlands, UCL Francis Nyamnjoh, University of Cape Town Astrid Swenson, Bath University Shu-Li Wang, Academia Sinica Ola Wetterberg, University of Gothenburg

HERITAGE TOURISM

From Problems to Possibilities

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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

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www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108823395 DOI: 10.1017/9781108914024

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First published 2021

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-82339-5 Paperback ISSN 2632-7074 (online) ISSN 2632-7066 (print)

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DOI: 10.1017/9781108914024 First published online: May 2021

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Abstract: As one of the world's fastest-growing industries, heritage tourism is surrounded by political and ethical issues. This research explores the social and political effects and implications of heritage tourism through several pertinent topics. It examines the hegemonic power of heritage tourism and its consequences, the spectre of nationalism and colonialism in heritage-making, particularly for minorities and indigenous peoples, and the paradox of heritage tourism's role in combatting these issues. Drawing from global cases, the study addresses a range of approaches and the challenges of empowerment within the context of heritage tourism, including cultural landscapes, intangible heritage and ecomuseums. The research argues that heritage tourism has the potential to develop as a form of co-production. It can be used to create a mechanism for community-centred governance that integrates recognition and interpretation and promotes dialogue, equity and diversity.

Keywords: politics, empowerment, heritage, tourism, community

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ISBNs: 9781108823395 (PB), 9781108914024 (OC) ISSNs: 2632-7074 (online), 2632-7066 (print)

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