RecTour 2019 - Workshop on Recommenders in Tourism
Copenhagen, Denmark
In Conjunction with ACM RecSys 2019 (September 16th-20th, 2019)
http://www.ec.tuwien.ac.at/rectour2019/

Call for Papers
The rapid development of information and communication technologies (ICT) and the web transformed the tourism domain. Today, travelers no longer rely on travel agents and agencies. Indeed, recent studies indicate that they are now active in searching for information and composing their vacation packages according to their specific preferences. When onsite, they search for freely available information about the site itself rather than buying/renting a visitor guide or hiring a tour guide that may be available. However, like in many other cases, the blessing of the Web comes with a curse – the curse of information overload.

Recommender systems are a practical tool for overcoming this information overload. However, the tourism domain is substantially more complicated, and as such, creates huge challenges for those designing tourism-focused recommender systems. Planning a vacation usually involves searching for a set of products that are interconnected (e.g., means of transportation, lodging, attractions), with a rather limited availability, and where contextual aspects may have a major impact (e.g., time, location, social context, environmental context). In addition, products are emotionally "loaded" and considered "experience goods;" therefore, decision making is not only based on rational and objective criteria. As such, providing the right information to visitors of a tourism site at the right time about the site itself and various services nearby is challenging.

RecTour 2019 will therefore focus on the specific challenges for recommender systems in tourism and will bring together researchers and practitioners from different fields, such as tourism, recommender systems, user modelling, user interaction, mobile, ubiquitous and ambient technologies, artificial intelligence and web information systems, to discuss and illustrate challenges and applications of these technologies in tourism recommender systems of the future. Important aspects and topics to be discussed revolve around (but are not limited to):

- Specific applications and case studies (evaluation);
- Specific methods and techniques for tourism recommenders;
- Novel ICT and their impact on travel and tourism;
- Data integration from various sources (e.g., catalogues, Linked Open Data, usage logs);
- Context and mobility in tourism;
- Tourist trip recommendation and route planning;
- Cold-start problem in the context of tourism recommenders;
- Preference elicitation in tourism;
- Emotions and tourism recommenders;
- Personalized interaction and conversation strategies

Important Dates
Submission deadline: July 1st, 2019
Notification: July 29th, 2019
Camera-ready deadline: August 18th, 2019
Deadlines refer to 11:59pm (Anywhere on Earth).

Submission Types and Guidelines

Long research papers reporting on complete research (8 pages plus up to one page references); **Short papers** reporting on work in progress (4 pages plus up to one page references); **Position papers** reflecting on emerging topics (2-4 pages); **Demonstration papers** showcasing novel aspects or providing the opportunity to interact (2 pages) as well as **project ideas** discussing innovative research proposals and late breaking ideas (2-4 pages). Moreover, we specifically invite industry to submit relevant showcases as position or demo papers to the workshop.

RecTour 2019 submissions should be prepared in PDF format according to the standard double-column ACM SIG proceedings format. The peer review process is single-blind, handled electronically through EasyChair: https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=rectour2019.

Accepted papers will be included in the RecTour 2019 proceedings and at least one author of each accepted contribution must attend the workshop. After acceptance, no additional authors can be added.

Organizers
- Julia Neidhardt, TU Wien, Austria
- Wolfgang Wörndl, TU Munich, Germany
- Tsvi Kuflik, The University of Haifa, Israel
- Markus Zanker, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy
- Catalin-Mihai Barbu, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

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