

Culture and Tourism

Defining Roles and Relationships

Introduction

Tourism's true significance should probably lie in the role it plays in imparting learning and providing recreation for the traveller in today's world. Bacon said of travel a long time ago that "*it is a [person's] part of education.*" Travelling has become a global phenomenon, and people are increasingly taking to it. The tide of travel flows from the developed and industrially advanced countries of the West, taking their nationals far and wide, visiting exotic places, enjoying their unique natural and cultural heritage, and getting all the fun and adventure out of it. Modern tourism, however, has gone beyond this early innocence. It has become a much more organised, professional, and hard-headed business. In third world countries such as Nepal, tourism is regarded as a top money-spinner and an excessively economic preoccupation.