



IMPACTOUR

Managing Tourism  
IMPACT on Cultural  
Tourism Destinations  
in European regions  
and areas

IMPACTOUR is at:  
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<https://www.circulobellasartes.com/visitas/>

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# IMPACTOUR Conference

Madrid,  
20 - 21 June 2023



**Manos Vougioukas**  
ECTN Secretary-General

[www.culturaltourism-network.eu](http://www.culturaltourism-network.eu)

# European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN)

the only pan-European network of destinations, regional and local authorities, tourism boards and associations, Universities and research institutes that brings together the cultural and tourism sectors to cooperate for **Sustainable Cultural Tourism** development and promotion



**Formed in Brussels in May 2009, as a merger of 2 previous networks  
39 members in 21 countries, including 6 Non-EU countries**

**Founding member of the European Heritage Alliance 3.3  
Signatory of the European Tourism Manifesto**



# European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN)



- Granada Diputacion, Spain
- Veneto Region, Italy
- Vastra Gotaland region, Sweden
- CIM do Ave and CIM Alto Minho, Portugal
- Bremerhaven, Germany
- Cork, Ireland
- Sibiu, Romania
- Burgas, Bulgaria
- Pecs, Hungary
- Vidzeme, Latvia
- Central Macedonia Region, Greece
- Pafos and Nicosia, Cyprus

**Including European Capitals of Culture:  
Timisoara 2023, Rijeka 2020, Pafos 2018, Guimaraes 2012,  
Maribor 2012, Pecs 2010, Sibiu 2007, Cork 2005**

# European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN)

## Vision

ECTN aims to achieve a high level of collaboration between Members in the field of Cultural Tourism and to establish a close cooperation with the institutions of the European Union and other international organizations and networks

## Mission

ECTN mission is to bring together the tourism and cultural industry professionals working in different regions of Europe to exchange experience and information on best practice and to develop new approaches and innovations

## Objectives

- ensure close cooperation and integration between the tourism and cultural sectors at all levels
- facilitate sharing of research results
- facilitate the development of transnational and interregional cooperation projects
- develop and improve training opportunities
- enable exchange of experience and best practice
- develop common responses to European Commission and other EU institutions consultations
- link with other networks
- create new and innovative approaches and tools





ECTN a member of the Stakeholders Committee  
European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018  
selected by the European Commission DG AEC

OUR HERITAGE:  
WHERE THE PAST  
MEETS THE FUTURE

2018   
EUROPEAN YEAR  
OF CULTURAL  
HERITAGE  
#EuropeForCulture

## EYCH 2018 - 10 European Initiatives including Tourism:

### Ten initiatives, four objectives



**Shared heritage:** cultural heritage belongs to us all

**Heritage at school:** children discovering Europe's most precious treasures and traditions

**Youth for heritage:** young people bringing new life to heritage



**Heritage in transition:** re-imagining industrial, religious, military sites and landscapes

**Tourism and heritage:** responsible and sustainable tourism around cultural heritage



**Cherishing heritage:** developing quality standards for interventions on cultural heritage

**Heritage at risk:** fighting against illicit trade in cultural goods and managing risks for cultural heritage



**Heritage-related skills:** better education and training for traditional and new professions

**All for heritage:** fostering social innovation and people's and communities participation

**Science for heritage:** research, innovation, science and technology for the benefit of heritage



# Annual Awards since 2014: Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism



Since 2018 EYCH in partnership with:



Supported by other European Networks,  
Associations and Cultural Routes



# Annual Conference on Cultural Tourism



EUROPEAN TRAVEL COMMISSION



Pafos Municipality



PAFOS 2023



16<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Cultural Tourism in Europe

Smart Tourism | Smart Destinations

Cultural Heritage & Creativity | Digitalisation | Sustainability

18-21 October 2023 | Pafos | Cyprus



# ECTN Charter for Sustainable Cultural Tourism

## Output of CHARTS INTERREG IVC Project 2012-2014



### Main Objectives:

- to build on experiences and exploit the outputs, methods, results, policies and strategies of previous projects and initiatives
- in the field of culture, heritage and sustainable tourism development strategies and
- to potentially transfer highly relevant Good Practices between the participating regions and Europe-wide,
- as added value to regional policy formulation and implementation, as well as contributing to implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Agendas





Cultural Tourism –  
a Lever for Sustainable Development



3rd edition

October 2018

[www.culturaltourism-network.eu](http://www.culturaltourism-network.eu)

# Charter

**A Statement of principles on policies and strategies**

**which guide the development, planning, management, operations and promotion of cultural and heritage tourism in the European Union and beyond**

**for the benefit of destinations, communities, businesses, citizens and visitors**

# Purpose of the Charter

- To bring together in a single, comprehensive and integrated document the main principles, features, findings, conclusions and recommendations on best practices and priorities regarding **Culture & Heritage Tourism**.
- **Charter** aims to build on all relevant previous initiatives, declarations, convention, resolutions, opinions and charters, to exploit synergies and facilitate implementation of recommendations by national, regional and local destinations authorities and agencies.
- The overall aim is to encourage **sustainable and responsible tourism** policies and actions across Europe and beyond, through **engaging culture and heritage with innovation and cohesion**



# ICOMOS Charter for Cultural Heritage Tourism



**ICOMOS**  
international cultural tourism committee



**During the 2022 ICOMOS Annual General Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand, Resolution AGA 2022/14 - Adoption of the ICOMOS International Charter for Cultural Heritage Tourism was presented. Voting for the resolution happened between October 31 to November 6, 2022. On November 10, 2022, the ICOMOS Secretariat announced that the resolution adopting the Charter was approved.**

<https://www.icomosictc.org/2022/11/the-icomos-international-cultural.html>





# Priorities for Cultural Tourism

1. Involving Innovative and Digital Media, inc. AR/VR
2. Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
3. Promoting *Creative Tourism based on Cultural & Creative Industries (CCIs)*
4. European Heritage Label sites
5. Enhancing Heritage Interpretation
6. Climate Action (Climate Heritage Alliance)
7. Transformation towards 'Smart Tourism' and 'Smart Destinations', including Sustainability, Accessibility, Digitalisation, Culture and Creativity



# Updating of the ECTN Charter

1. Legacy of EYCH2018 (EC DG EAC)
2. Smart Tourism Capital – Cultural Heritage and Creativity
3. Transition Pathway for Tourism (EC DG GROW)
4. UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030
5. UNWTO Smart Destinations, Wine & Gastronomy Tourism
6. UNESCO Creative Cities Network & Sustainable Tourism
7. European Travel Commission – Tourism Manifesto etc.
8. Council of Europe Cultural Routes Declarations
9. Cultural Diplomacy (Committee of the Regions)
10. Europa Nostra Manifestos
11. Europeana Network etc.
12. ICOMOS ICTC Charter 2022



# Stakeholders engagement



## UNWTO:

“**Smart destinations** can make tourism governance more inclusive through inclusive entities, such as boards, trusts or foundations, which represent all public/private stakeholders in the destination.”

## Successful Example: **Tourism Boards in Cyprus**

President from Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Vice-President from Municipality

Members: Hoteliers, Travel Agends, other Municipalities and Communities, Central Government (DM of Tourism)

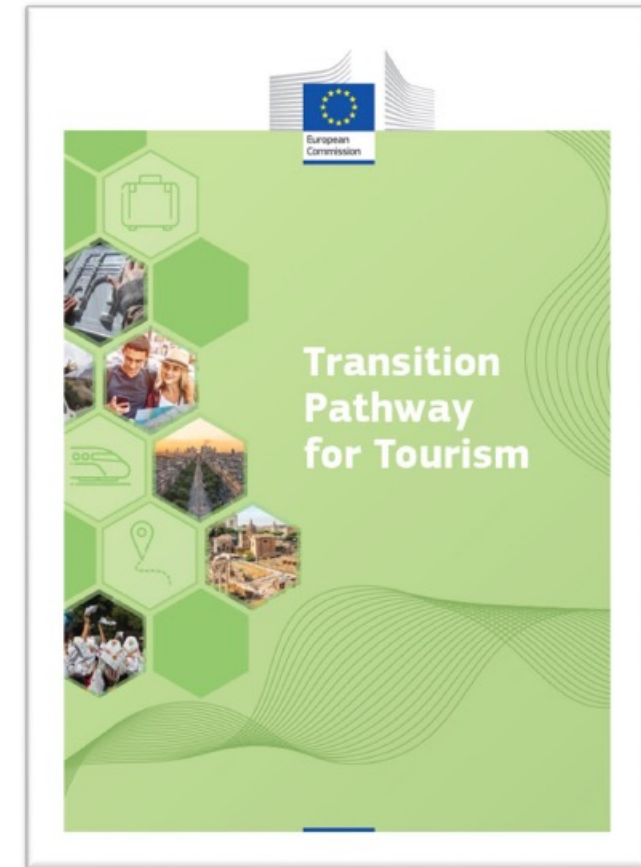




# Transition pathway for tourism published 4/2/2022

- Policy and governance
- Green transition
- Digital transition
- Resilience
- Funding
- Monitoring and co-implementation

Transition Pathway report at EU Publications Office portal:  
<https://op.europa.eu/s/vNbN> available in 22 languages



## Digital transition

Data-driven tourism services  
Clear online information offer  
R&I for digital tools and services  
Interoperable data space for tourism  
Digitalisation of SMEs and destinations

Collaborative and smart destination governance  
Comprehensive tourism strategies  
Expanding tourism indicators  
Multimodal travelling  
Short-term rentals

## Policy & governance

## Green transition

Circular tourism services  
Sustainable mobility  
Companies reducing environmental impacts  
R&I projects and pilots on sustainable tourism  
Experimenting environmental footprint methods for tourism

Facilitating travelling (cross-border, coordinated rules sharing)  
Skills and education development  
Fair and good quality jobs  
Accessible tourism services  
Diversification of tourism services, including resident perspective

## Skills & resilience

Networking,  
Best practice sharing

Awareness raising  
(skills needs, transition benefits)

One-stop-shop to  
resources (skills, funding)

## Stakeholder support



# Transition Pathway for Tourism

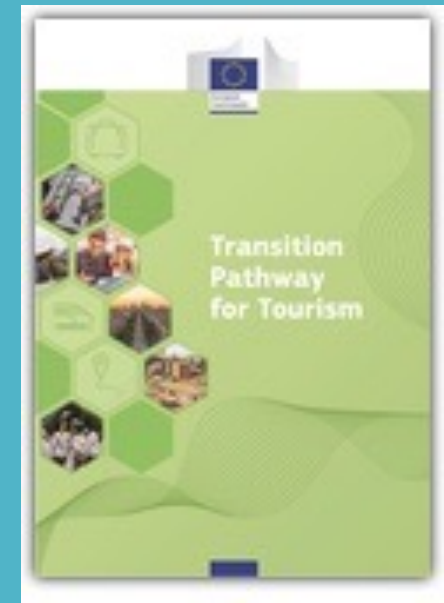
Several and highly relevant references on:

**virtual and augmented reality** services provide new ways to help preserve natural and cultural resources at risk, while enabling real-like visitor experiences

linking with the objectives of European data space for cultural heritage to **digitise cultural heritage assets**, R&I in this area could provide new innovative, sustainable and accessible forms of tourism services

**innovative tourism services using advanced technologies (virtual reality, augmented reality, AI) and digitized cultural heritage**

develop and implement **smart** and sustainable tourism strategies at the right level in order to emphasise local identity specialities by encouraging the promotion and quality craftsmanship, especially for regions that highlight their gastronomy, local knowledge and traditions.





# ReInHerit Horizon 2020 CSA

## Digital Hub

Tools and resources (on training, tourism, conservation, preservation, knowledge creation, content use/ reuse, illicit trafficking of goods) necessary for sustainable management will be shared through the digital platform that will host the ecosystem. This ecosystem will also be the experiential open-ended space that will support and generate entrepreneurial initiatives, knowledge produced through co-creation, curation of digital content and visitor experiences

**ECTN offers its substantial EU network for further project scientific results dissemination & exploitation & communication, particularly in relation to cultural heritage tourism**





<https://culturaltourism.awardstage.com/#!/p1>

Submission online till 30 June

Also Abstracts for the Conference:

<https://auth.oxfordabstracts.com/?redirect=/stages/6036/submitter>

# Categories and Themes 2023

**1. Digitalisation advances and digital transition in Sustainable Cultural Tourism, including Smart Tourism and Smart Destinations initiatives closely involving culture and heritage.**

**2. History and Heritage:** ancestry and heritage-related experiences in connection with historic places and events (places of memory, contemplation and commemoration), which exerted an influence in history.

**3. Riverside heritage:** sites and territories that have valorised a strong relation with their river through activities and experiences that both take the economic and social role of fluvial culture and heritage in tourism actions.

**4. Transnational Thematic Tourism Products,** on culture and heritage, including those related to European Cultural Routes, European Heritage Label and/or cross-border cultural tourism initiatives (involving at least two European countries, not necessarily neighbouring).

**5. Religious, Pilgrimage and Spiritual Tourism:** places of worship, travel for religious or spiritual purposes, walking tourism, visiting religious monuments, festivals and artefacts.

**6. Traditional Skills, Crafts and Creativity** in Smart and Sustainable Cultural and Creative Tourism activities (add-on to the European Year of Skills 2023).

1. Smart and Sustainable Tourism at UNESCO World Heritage Sites and UNESCO Geoparks.

2. Legacy of European Capitals of Culture for Smart and Sustainable Cultural Tourism advances.

3. Smart and Sustainable Cultural Tourism Synergies with the EU 'Transition Pathway for Tourism' and co-implementation prospects.



# Categories and Themes 2023

## Additional Conference themes

1. Smart and Sustainable Tourism at UNESCO World Heritage Sites and UNESCO Geoparks.
2. Legacy of European Capitals of Culture for Smart and Sustainable Cultural Tourism advances.
3. Smart and Sustainable Cultural Tourism Synergies with the EU 'Transition Pathway for Tourism' and co-implementation prospects.

# Thank you!

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