



UN TOURISM NEWS

UN Tourism News #15 - 12 August 2020
COVID-19 Responses Must Not Undermine Solidarity and Confidence



COVID-19 Responses Must Not Undermine Solidarity and Confidence

This goes hand-in-hand with a responsibility to preserve the spirit of international solidarity that has characterized our response to this shared crisis, a response that has included international institutions, the civil society at large and individual citizens.

Again and again, the pandemic puts us to the test and proves that **we are stronger if we act together and not in isolation.**

*Zurab Pololikashvili
Secretary-General,
World Tourism Organization*



**Op-ed by the Secretary-General in The Independent:
Unless we take these steps, UK quarantine
restrictions against Spain will do more harm than
good**



Tourism Restarts: 40% of Destinations Have Now Eased Travel Restrictions

The responsible restart of tourism is underway around the world as growing numbers of destinations ease COVID-19 related travel restrictions and adapt to the new reality. According to the latest analysis from the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), 40% of all destinations worldwide have now eased the restrictions they placed on international tourism in response to COVID-19.



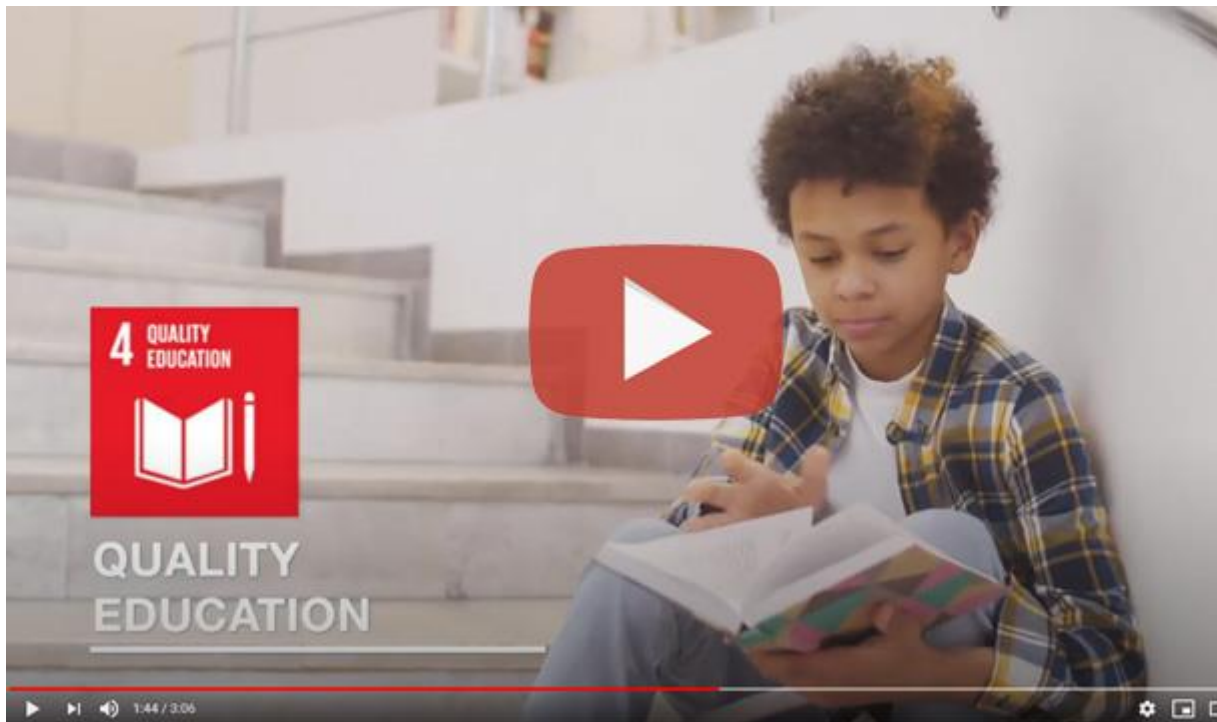
Impact of COVID-19 on Global Tourism Made Clear as UNWTO Counts the Cost of Standstill

The enormous toll of COVID-19 on international tourism has now become clear, with World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) data showing the cost up to May was already three times that of the 2009 Global Economic Crisis. As the situation continues to evolve, the United Nations specialized agency has provided the first comprehensive insight into the impact of the pandemic, both in tourist numbers and lost revenues, ahead of the upcoming release of up-to-date information on travel restrictions worldwide.



UNWTO, ONCE Foundation and ENAT Call for The Reopening of Tourism Destinations to Cater for the Needs of People With Disabilities

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is calling on destinations to recognize the needs of travellers with disabilities or specific access requirements as they open up to visitors again. In partnership with the ONCE Foundation of Spain and the European Network for Accessible Tourism (ENAT), the United Nations specialized agency has released new guideline to ensure accessibility and inclusivity as the responsible restart of tourism gets underway.



UNWTO Invites Startups to Pitch Ways to Accelerate SDGs

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has announced the launch of a new Startup Competition as it looks to identify innovators with the power to further tourism's contribution to sustainable development.

As the United Nations specialized agency for tourism, UNWTO has been guiding the sector's efforts to contribute to the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including through the Tourism 4 SDGs online platform. Now, as the global community faces just 10 years to reach this ambitious agenda for people and planet, tourism's unique ability to advance several of the SDGs is more relevant than ever.



Tourism Sector to Continue Taking Action on Plastic Pollution

A new set of Recommendations published today outline how the global tourism sector can continue in its fight against plastic pollution while effectively facing the public health and hygiene challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ongoing pandemic has hit the tourism sector hard, putting more than 100 million jobs at risk. Now, as countries begin to recover and tourism restarts in a growing number of destinations, the **Global Tourism Plastics Initiative**, led by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, has provided a plan of action for both **public and private sector stakeholders** to address the **root causes of plastic pollution** in these challenging times.



UNWTO Recognizes Safe and Responsible Restart of Tourism on the Canary Islands

The Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has paid an official visit to the Canary Islands to recognize the reopening of the destination and the steps the local authorities have taken to keep both visitors and tourism workers safe as the sector restarts.

On our radar:



Coronavirus Cost Global Tourism \$320 Billion In Just Five Months



Join the Brazilian Tourism Innovation Challenge to #RestartTourism!

This is the perfect opportunity for innovators to deliver the ideas that will revitalize the tourism sector with innovation and sustainability.

Be part of the transformation!

UNWTO media highlights:



[Barcelona coronavirus travel ban empty restaurants hotels](#)



[Global struggles to recover amid easing COVID-19 restrictions](#)



[Coronavirus Cost Global Tourism \\$320 Billion In Just Five Months](#)



[UNWTO calls for accessible tourism for all](#)



[These Countries Have Eased Coronavirus Travel Restrictions: Restart Of Tourism Underway, U.N Reports](#)



[Southern Europe Opens Its Doors to Tourists. Not Many Are Coming.](#)



[Tourism is restarting around the world, says UNWTO, with 40% of destinations now easing travel restrictions amid a pandemic that has resulted in over £245BILLION in lost revenues](#)



[Spotlight: Global tourism struggles to recover amid easing COVID-19 restrictions](#)



[UN tourism chief sees vital Saudi role in sector's post-coronavirus revival](#)



[Safe flight, spotless hotel and masks everywhere: Canaries reopen to tourism](#)



[China will be a main source market for European destinations, says UNWTO chief](#)



[How “flying solo” undermines the trust tourism brings for socioeconomic recovery](#)



[UNWTO's leadership guiding countries as we #RestartTourism](#)



[Harry Hwang, UNWTO, talks to Travel Extra](#)

Most Popular On Social Media:



[Statement from Ibiza: "COVID-19 Responses must not Undermine Solidarity and Confidence", says #UNWTO_SG @pololikashvili.](#)
[Governments have a double duty: putting the wellbeing of their citizens first, and protecting livelihoods and businesses.](#)



[#RestartTourism is now a reality for some countries who are doing just this in a safe and responsible way.](#)
[#UNWTO is proud to support its Member States and the wider #tourism sector as it adapts to a more resilient & sustainable future led by #innovation.](#)



[Following our official visit to Italy, we traveled to the Canary Islands in Spain to see first hand the measures being taken to #RestartTourism.](#)
[Safety and coordination have proven to be key to strengthen tourism's power to drive a better #growth.](#)



[What's the impact of #Covid19 on #tourism](#)
[Get the latest data on:](#)
[- 2020 tourism results](#)
[- International arrivals by month](#)
[- Most vulnerable destinations](#)

[Information is crucial to #RestartTourism in a safe and responsible way.](#)



[Latest data from #UNWTO barometer shows that during the January-May period:](#)
[-56% tourism arrivals](#)
[-300 million tourist](#)
[-US\\$320 billion in international tourism receipts](#)



The responsible restart of tourism is underway.
UNWTO latest travel restrictions report shows that of 217 destinations: 87 have eased #COVID19 related measures for international tourism. 115 have their borders closed for international tourism.



¡Únete a nuestra primera Startup Competition por los #ObjetivosdeDesarrolloSostenible! ¡#Innovadores y #emprendedores, esta es vuestra oportunidad para hacer del #turismo el sector más sostenible, innovador e inclusivo de todos! #RestartTourism! #SDGs #ODS



The safe and responsible restart of #tourism can be achieved with:
Coordination and cooperation
Safety protocols
Innovation and digitalization
#UNWTO provides governments and businesses with a comprehensive set of measures to #RestartTourism



CNN joins #UNWTO Inspiration Africa branding Challenge!
This is a call for #branding and #marketing experts to share the campaign that will strengthen Africa's image as an extraordinary tourism destination.
Boost the Pan-African tourism recovery through your ideas!



#SDG11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" #RestartTourism
Our Recommendations on Urban Tourism provide guidance on how to manage the challenges and opportunities of urban destinations as they become increasingly popular.



We launch the #SmartSolutions for #SmartDestinations Challenge in collaboration with Athletic Club and Bizkaiko Foru Aldundia!
Smart solutions will shape the tourism of the future with #innovation and #technology! Join the challenge!



Tourism is a genuine driver of growth. That's why, as we #RestartTourism we must guarantee to grow better:
- Respecting different cultures
- Embracing their traditions
- Bridging understanding



At a time when a global crisis has threatened the #Agenda2030 like never before, the #tourism sector stands ready to keep delivering:
Inclusiveness
Sustainability
Equality



We are delighted to participate with **#SommetEducation** on an exciting **#HospitalityChallenge!**

We call on all entrepreneurs to share their ideas to keep fostering the power of tourism sector to transform lives with **#innovation** and **#sustainability!** Winners will be eligible for 1 of the 30 scholarships granted by Sommet Education. Join us!.



#RestartTourism by fighting plastic pollution!

UN Environment Programme and Ellen MacArthur Foundation join **#UNWTO** to provide guidance for the **#tourism** sector to mitigate the environmental impact of COVID-19.

This is our chance to build back more sustainably!



Mark your calendar: 23 July, the 1st Global UNWTO Students League Final4 Competition is bringing together the most innovative ideas for the tourism sector. Together to **#RestartTourism**, young people also have a saying building a more sustainable future for all!



*The **World Tourism Organization** (UNWTO), a United Nations specialized agency, is the leading international organization with the decisive and central role in promoting the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how. Its membership includes 159 countries, 6 territories, 2 permanent observers and over 500 Affiliate Members.*

*Follow us on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram**, **YouTube**, **LinkedIn** and **Flickr**.*

*C/ Poeta Joan Maragall 42
Madrid, 28020
Spain*