

Från: [CFT](#)
Hemlig kopia: hgu-alla@handels.gu.se; cft-alla@handels.gu.se; cft-styrelse@handels.gu.se
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Welcome to CFT's newsletter 1/2020!

For comments and feedback, please contact Erik Lundberg: erik.lundberg@handels.gu.se or cft@gu.se.

COVID-19: Challenges for the tourism industry

Tourism is one of the industries, which has been hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. Travelling has come to a halt. The Centre for Tourism (CFT) is engaged in research, education and collaboration efforts concerning the present crisis.

In April 2020, CFT organized a seminar on how tourism research at the Centre for Tourism will change and adapt due to the pandemic. The seminar was recorded and it is available [here](#).

Some interviews in the media:

[Corona ändrar vårt resande – på kort sikt](#)
[Viruset kan leda till miljontals färre jobb](#)

Following the local tourism industry's request, CFT has put together a list of relevant publications related to tourism and crisis, crisis management, and recovery. Please contact erik.lundberg@handels.gu.se if you want a copy.

Further down you can read more about how specific research projects and courses have responded to this challenge.

Festivals, events and inclusive urban public spaces in Europe – FESTSPACE and the COVID19 pandemic

FESTSPACE project, led by Kristina Lindström from the Centre for Tourism and run by a European consortium discusses implications of COVID19 on festival and events. Information on how COVID19 affects FESTSPACE project can be retrieved [here](#).

Sustainable development course and COVID19 pandemic

Each spring the University of Gothenburg offers a case study based course in sustainable development. This year's case study course in sustainable development has a new focus. The students will study local and regional effects of the authorities' strategies for reducing the spread of covid-19, with a special eye on sustainability issues in this regard. Out of 14 projects, 2 directly address tourism and travels. For more information, [read here](#).

Mistra Sport & Outdoors – new research project

The new research program Mistra Sport & Outdoors started on the 1st of April. The program will have an initial four years of funding and collaborate closely with public and private organisations. John Armbrecht, Andreas Skriver Hansen and Erik Lundberg are participating from the Centre for Tourism. For more information, see the [homepage](#) and the [blog](#) of the program.

Kick-off meeting of the project “Towards sustainable governance of Swedish tourism: Co-creative strategies for sustainable spatial planning in the public tourism sector – TIPS”

On January 13th 2020, the kick-off meeting of TIPS project was held in Falköping. TIPS project aims to bridge gaps between municipalities, sub-regional and regional spatial planning and tourism development, by aligning tourism management within sustainable spatial planning through co-creative reflexive processes of knowledge capacity-building. For more information, [read here](#).

Pilot project study - UNESCO man and biosphere area

Researchers at Centre for Tourism are engaged in a project to determine whether Bohuslän on the west coast can become a UNESCO man and biosphere area. A man and biosphere area is essentially a landscape-based concept with a focus on emphasizing unique human and ecological qualities in the landscape. It is often said to be an area for finding sustainable solutions to real life challenges.

The project is a pilot study aimed to investigate opportunities for commencing an official Biosphere process. It is led by a steering committee with members from Uddevalla and Lysekil municipalities, the Gothenburg Region, Centre for Tourism and Centre for Sea & Society. The study will be carried out during 2020 by WSP

consultants.

For contact or questions, please mail: Eva Maria Jernsand
(eva.maria.jernsand@handels.gu.se) and Andreas Skriver Hansen
(andreas.hansen@geography.gu.se)

