

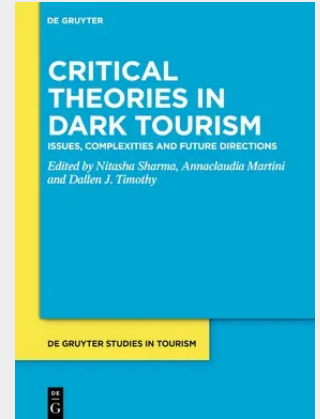
Kline / Rickly

## Exploring non-human work in tourism

From beasts of burden to animal ambassadors

Critical animal studies is increasingly interfacing with tourism research in an effort to shed light on the various ways animals are incorporated into touristic experience. Exploring non-human work in tourism: From beasts of burden to animal ambassadors builds upon the theoretical connections of animal ethics, agency, and welfare as it foregrounds specifically the work that animals perform in the industry. While some types of animal labor are more readily identified, readers of this volume may be surprised by how many forms of animal labor are overlooked. Taking a widely international perspective, with cases from the Arctic, China, Costa Rica, China, Finland, Greece, Mexico, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, this volume offers readers diverse scenarios of animals working. The book is arranged along three themes of work. Performative work focuses on the animals whose performances are front and center of tourists' motivations and experiences. Value-added work turns attention to the co-working relationships of animals, while the political work of animals as ambassadors and icons is examined within the chapters on hidden labor. Additionally, the book makes theoretical considerations of the implications of positioning animals as workers and offers reflections on ways this focus on working animals extends current scholarship in the field.

Critical animal studies is gaining momentum across academic research and tourism studies is no exception. In the last decade, the field has increasingly turned attention to the topic, with a particular interest in the ethical implications of tourist-animal encounters, from consumption of animals to animals for entertainment. Yet, the topic of working animals in tourism has yet to be considered with any real substance. Thus, the aim of this book is to survey the field for burgeoning research on the work animals do in tourism and to cultivate awareness on issues related to these working animals within the context of tourism. The labor performed by some animals in tourism is hardly noticed, such is the case for donkeys or llamas who carry gear on treks, or animals are not intended to be seen, such security dogs at airports. Other working animals are part of the experience, including elephants and camels who carry people on their backs and cows or horses drawing carts filled with tourists, or indeed they facilitate the holiday, as is the case for assistance dogs and service animals who accompany their owners and work for their safety. Further still, we find cases where the work performed by animals presents a thin line between entertainment of tourists and working in tourism, such as falconry or herding dogs exhibitions that engage with an audience to show off their natural instincts and skills. The book is designed to encompass international issues and will provide a mix of theoretical and applied research, as well as case studies. A variety of approaches and theoretical perspectives will be covered: critical animal studies theories, ethical paradigms, companion species theories, non-human rights and legal paradigms, and geographical approaches will be found throughout the book's various chapters.



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