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## Review of: Contemporary Christian Travel, Pilgrimage, Practice and Place by Amos S. Ron and Dallen J. Timothy

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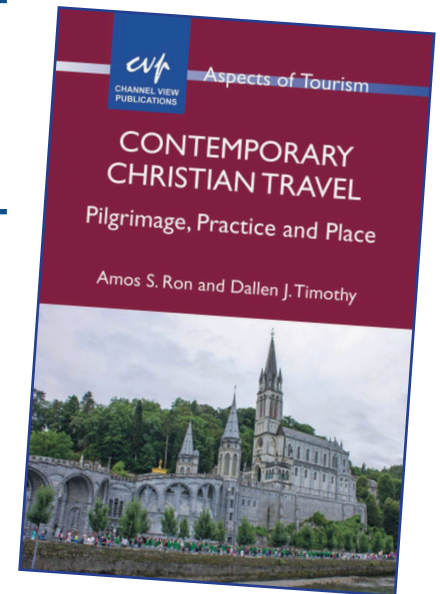
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## Review of: *Contemporary Christian Travel, Pilgrimage, Practice and Place*

Ron, A. and Timothy, D.J. (2018) *Contemporary Christian Travel, Pilgrimage, Practice and Place*, Clevedon, Channel View Publications. 434 pages. £34.95/US\$49.95/€44.95 (Softcover) ISBN: 978-1845416638



With a clear structure and a specific articulation on the different facets of Christian travel, this book offers experts, researchers, students, and those interested in religious travel a useful guide to explore and understand several issues related to religion and religious practices. It can be stated that the general frames as well the focused situations presented by the authors are, undoubtedly, the result of a thorough examination on the intricacies and distinctiveness of global Christian travel, of its manifestation in terms of demand and supply, as well as its motivations and practices all around the world.

Generally, travel means to go on a journey, especially a long one, while tourism is referred to the activity of traveling to a place. As shown in the book, when it comes to the world of Christianity the secular and the traditional aspects of religion are combined, in contemporary society, with the experiences provided by organisational and fulfilment elements of tourist products and destinations. Thus, what specifically defines travel and tourism dissolves in the different shades assumed by a multifaced phenomenon of movement for religious motivations that animates people and places.

Within this perspective, there emerges a huge range of typologies of contemporary Christian travel, moving from the pilgrimage sphere to pilgrimage related sites, or not, to the scriptures, to other kinds of travels.

The book deals with the systems of tourist production and consumption, design and management, and it is divided into eight chapters plus one of conclusions. Starting from denominational and geographical perspectives, it touches upon both theoretical and practical aspects: heritage, routes and events are presented in addition to commodification, promotional, charitable and environmental questions. Business and leisure, young and volunteers, devotees and interested: these are just a few examples of the targets and communities involved in the analysis, both at an input or outcome stage. Several cases from Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, North America and Latin America are included, as well as many tables and graphics.

These are the reasons why I would highly recommend this book.

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