Resort Morphology: Chinese applications

Abstract
This paper adopts a geographical perspective to understand the conceptual and theoretical issues of resort morphology. Resort morphology refers to "the forms and associated functions of a destination area and their development". Resort towns are differentiated from other urban areas in terms of morphology because of their functional emphasis on tourism. The literature reflects the significant interest of European geographers in the morphological study of coastal resort towns. However, limited attention has been given to resort morphology in developing countries. It is argued that the complex of contextual factors that influence the morphological character of resorts needs to be considered and, furthermore, there is a great need to develop a systematic approach for investigating resort morphology.

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URI
http://hdl.handle.net/10012/4070