Introduction

Geotourism is a form of nature tourism that specifically focuses on geology and landscapes which shape the character of a region. It promotes properly managed and quality tours to “geo-sites” and the conservation of geodiversity and an understanding of earth sciences through appreciation and learning. It is the driving force of global movement of geoparks and is being promoted by Global Geoparks Network assisted by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Though important, geotourism is still a new concept to various stakeholders.

The APGC 2013 is the first international geotourism conference organised in the Asia Pacific region in support of the global geoparks movement which aims at:

1. sharing geotourism experience and exploring challenges and opportunities;
2. pioneering Hong Kong as a regional hub to promote geotourism and geopark;
3. supporting development of Hong Kong Global Geopark in the promotion of conservation, earth sciences popularisation and sustainable economic development

Conference (free registration fee)
Date: 30 November, 2013 (Saturday)
Time: 08:45 – 17:10
Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre L1 Theatre 2
Language: provided with simultaneous interpretation of English and Putonghua (Exclude lunch)

Organisers

1. Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong
2. Hong Kong Global Geopark of China
3. Committee of Tourism Earthscience and Geopark of Geological Society of China

Guest of Honour

Mr. Alan C. K. WONG, JP, Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation, HKSARG

Keynote speakers

1. Professor Nickolas ZOUROS, key member of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network Bureau
2. Professor Ross DOWLING OAM, Advisor, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network
3. Professor Setsuya NAKADA, Volcano Research Center, Earthquake Research Institute, the University of Tokyo
4. Professor Anze CHEN, Research Fellow, Chinese Academy of Geological Science, Beijing, China
5. Professor Zhizhong ZHAO, Vice Director, Center of National Geoparks of China, Ministry of Land and Resources, China

In addition, there are seven other speakers from various areas of geotourism.

Sponsors
1. NWS Holdings Limited
2. Rotary Club of Hong Kong South
3. District 3450 Preserve Planet Earth Committee
4. HKTraveler.com Limited

Supporting Organisations
1. Asia Pacific Geoparks Network
2. Tourism Commission, HKSARG
3. Hong Kong Tourism Board
4. The Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong
5. Chinese Academy of Tourism Earthscience, Hong Kong
6. Institute of Space and Earth Information Science, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
7. Centre for Environmental Policy and Resource Management, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
8. College of International Education, Hong Kong Baptist University
9. The Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education
10. Edith Cowan University, Western Australia
11. Ideology Pty Ltd., Australia
12. Borneo Eco Tours, Malaysia
13. Rotary Club of Tolo Harbour

Participants

The number of participants is expected to be over 300 from Hong Kong, China, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia and Europe, including a significant number of representatives from various geoparks in China. It will be one of the largest geopark related meetings in the world after the UNESCO Global Geopark Conference, Asia Pacific Geopark Symposium and the European Geopark Conference.

Enquiry
Please contact the Conference Secretariat at email: apgc2013@rocks.org.hk for any queries.