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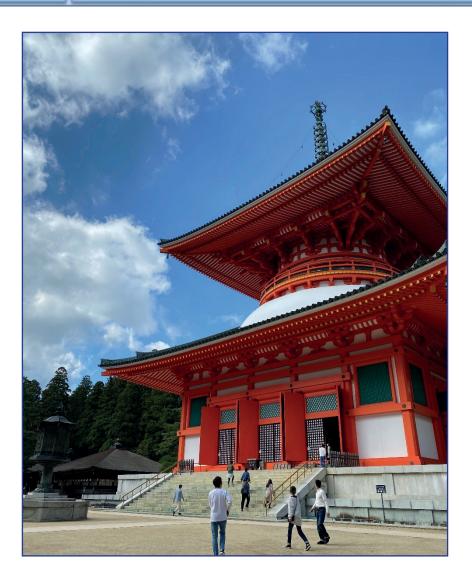
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Cover Image - Domestic Visitors in Kōyasan, September 2020, picture courtesy of Ricardo Nicolas Progano

Editorial

Dr. Sandeep Walia, Editor

Dr. Saurabh Dixit, Advisor

The 21st century has redefined the notions of traditional forms of tourism, as people have started moving to the newer concepts, which keeps them more engaged. A shift pertaining to seek psychological separation from the everyday life through spiritual travel practices have been observed and advocated by various researchers and practitioners. People can study, contemplate, and exercise spirituality in ways that are not normally available in day-to-day life through such practices. Spirituality provides knowledge since tourists have the opportunity to learn a lot of new things when participating in spiritual tourism events. Spiritual tourism is a type of trip that adds persistence and meaning to a tourist's life.

Because of recent upheavals in the ways people seek serenity and a condition of grace in life, travel has arisen as an important practice in the rising spiritual marketplace. Modern tourists, on the other hand, are more likely to take unexpected solo vacations focused on natural contact, intercultural exchange, meditation, wellness, spiritual healing, being alone, active involvement, and immersion in local traditions and lifestyles. Faith, spirituality, belief, and religion's importance in human life will always be a driving force behind modern travelers' interest in spirituality and related behaviors. The special issue has tried to address and highlight that people have started rejecting the notions of organized travel, which provides a set-in-stone rule-book, as the concept of having an individualized spiritual experience allows a sense of control. This issue addresses all such aspirations and motivations of tourists undertaking spiritual travel as there is dearth of literature which address the growing inclination of tourists towards spirituality.