

Review of: "Tourists' Activities and their Impacts on Chinhoyi Caves Heritage Site, Zimbabwe"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper is an interesting read which I believe aims at informing the policy making and knowledge around tourism facilities. I have some comments

1. What is the new knowledge the authors are presenting with regards to knowledge on tourism and Chinhoyi caves in particular- I encourage the authors to do a bit more reading to establish and acknowledge what has already been written and how their paper contributes to it.
2. The abstract seems to imply that they used secondary sources, key informant interviews and site visit- though this is not so clearly articulated
3. The key words should include geographical location. try not to use the term tourism so many times in key words -use words that can summarise the article /or themes that the article is exploring
4. Introduction -suggest reference to domestication/localisation of UNESCO and reference to the relevant SDG
5. Include a section that explains the layout of the paper and how the sections link to one another
6. It appears the site has heritage and cultural value too but this is not a clearly articulated theme- a bit awkward to describe cultural activities and rituals as tourism
7. deterioration - clarify natural versus human induced
8. Research objectives are repeated in section 5
9. Describe the study site(location and what attractions are there(seems like there is a pool, some rocks, a zoo?). What authority manages the caves international, national, local
10. Research Methods -Mention that you used Secondary sources as well as primary sources which were triangulated with xxxx. What were the limitations of the data collection and how was it corrected. Say something about the validity of the findings
11. Describe the tourist sample age, gender, local /passing or whatever else you have so the reader can have context
12. Define heritage site as used in literature and how you use it in the paper- Why is Chinhoyi a heritage site?
13. The authors should diversify from presenting a series of quotes as evidence -what about the observations - example section 5.1.2 - the 6 quotes can be reduced to photography, recreation and experience
14. similarly - Section 5.2.1 destruction, degradation, desecration , alteration
15. End of section 5.1.2 is that the authors' opinion or a finding of the research
16. Is leaving "clay pots for rituals " tourism ? - I think not
17. Figure 1 is not clear -use arrows to highlight the damage

18. Authors should conclude the sections by summarising what they found instead of inserting a literature source (which should be in the literature reviews section)
19. The research findings mix definitions, findings, illegal and legal activities section 5.1.3 needs reorganisation
20. Section 5.2.3 refer to your literature for subheadings e.g income generation, heritage, employment creation, education etc
21. 5.3 again refer to literature for strategies to manage tourism facilities. see number 9 comment then elaborate here which authority does what ? comment on how these are enforced and what are the challenges
22. The conclusion is not drawn from the research findings- link it to the research objectives
23. The last sentence is not a concluding remark but study limitations which belong in the research Methodology section