

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

Ngoni Courage Shereni¹

¹ University of Johannesburg

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to review this manuscript. Comments to my review are noted below;

- The topic is clear as to what this study intends to do
- Abstract is concise and captures all aspect of the research
- The first paragraph in the introduction section is minimally cited. The authors should consider adding more intext citations to validate their argument.
- Since this paper did not provide a separate literature review section the introduction section need to be strengthened. The integration of tourism activities in heritage sites is not clearly articulated. The authors need to show by giving reference to previous studies how tourists visitations impact on heritage sites. Focus can be given on the environmental and socio-economic impacts of tourism activities.
- I suggest that the introduction be presented continuously without subtopics. The last paragraph should focus on the context of the study, its purpose as well as identify its contributions.
- The methodology section needs to be broadened. The authors should indicate the research approach and justify why it suits this study. Why did the researchers choose to focus on the selected sample? When was the data collection done? Which type of questions were included in the interview guide and what informed instrument design? Was any pilot study done? How did the researchers deal with the issue of intercoder reliability since the study involves three researchers?
- The authors should also provide a table profiling the participants eg provide participant's code
- The direct quotation should be ascribed to a specific interviewee by indicating their code or whether it is a tourist or a member of staff.
- The themes should also be explained broadly before giving reference to the direct quotation.
- The theme positive tourism impacts is not fully explained.
- Themes on the last objective strategies to minimize the negative impacts of tourist activities are not fully explained and direct quotes are also lacking.

Overall comment: This is an interesting study focusing on the protection and preservation heritage sites. I recommend the publication of the manuscript only after the authors have addressed the issues I highlighted in my review.