



Introduction

Monitoring and management of visitors in recreation and protected areas is specific and multidisciplinary field of research. The ever-increasing use of protected areas for a variety of activities has led to a growing concern about the limits of their ecological carrying capacities. Areas of high ecological value, such as national parks and nature reserves, experience ever increasing pressures, from tourism at first place. In addition, new technologies make natural areas more accessible, which leads to extensive ecological impacts and to increasing conflicts between their user groups. In order to manage visitor activities and behaviour, one needs to monitor them and therefore deepen the understanding of their expectations, motivations and overall satisfaction. The MMV conference has made the first step in this direction, when it gathered scholars across disciplines and industry experts in Vienna in 2002, who all made contributions to knowledge and practice from their own perspectives. This event was considered a great success due to its multidisciplinary character, therefore the idea for follow-up conferences was supported and the conference now represents a global forum for exchanging ideas and experiences related to monitoring and management of visitors in recreation and protected areas.

There were seven previous MMV conferences held in Vienna, Austria (2002), Rovaniemi, Finland (2004), Rapperswil, Switzerland (2006), Montecatini Terme, Italy (2008), Wageningen, The Netherlands (2010), Stockholm, Sweden (2012) and Tallinn, Estonia (2014).

The 8th MMV will be held in Novi Sad, Serbia 26-30th September, 2016. It is organised by people from Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad. After more than two years of planning and organisational activities, we are more than proud to announce that we have more than 200 participants from almost 40 different countries from whole world!

We hope to succeed in expanding the MMV community and enhancing both natural environment and social experience.

We are looking forward to be your hosts. Enjoy your stay in Serbia, Novi Sad, and our University, or if you missed the event, please take pleasure in reading this book.

On behalf of MMV8 Organising Board,

Dordije Vasiljević