

PREFACE

The aim of the Workshop was to: a) bring together a selection of scientists and tourism experts to review the current state of knowledge of tourism climate; and b) explore possibilities for future work and, in particular, the role of the ISBCCTR in this.

The Workshop was held in the well-known coastal resort of Porto Carras located two kilometres from the village of Neos Marmaras. The complex of hotels and recreational facilities is sited at the base of the Sithonia peninsular. Sithonia is the middle peninsular of three on the southern end of the picturesque Halkidiki area, the centre of one of the most important recreation and tourism regions in Greece. Sithonia is set between the Mount Athos peninsular to the east and the Kassandra peninsular to the west. Porto Carras is a large, well-established resort, built in the 1970s to cater for a broad range of activities, including swimming, boating, golf, coastal and inland touring.

A total of 25 delegates attended the Workshop. Their fields of expertise included biometeorology, bioclimatology, thermal comfort and heat balance modelling, UV-radiation, tourism marketing and planning, urban and landscape planning, architecture, and climate change impact assessment. Participants came from Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Germany, Greece, New Zealand, Poland, United Kingdom, USA and Switzerland.

Business conducted during the Workshop was divided in three parts:

- Approaches to Tourism Climate Research
- Methods and Applications
- Tourism Industry/Climate and Weather Information for Tourism

Each day of the Workshop had two separate sessions. The morning sessions comprised of oral presentations from 0830 to 1300 hours. This was followed by an extended break for rest and recreation through to 1700 hours, as is the custom in Greece. Evening sessions were held between 1700 to 1930 hours during which time the results of morning presentations were analysed, discussed and key points summarised. The results of this are summarised below.

The final day of the Workshop was dedicated to an extended field trip. Participants travelled by bus to the Petralona tourist cave and then through the mountain areas of Halkidiki including Holomontas mountain followed by visits to the traditional town of Arnea and the village Stagira, the birthplace of Aristotle.

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