Tourism and climate change: Rethinking volume growth

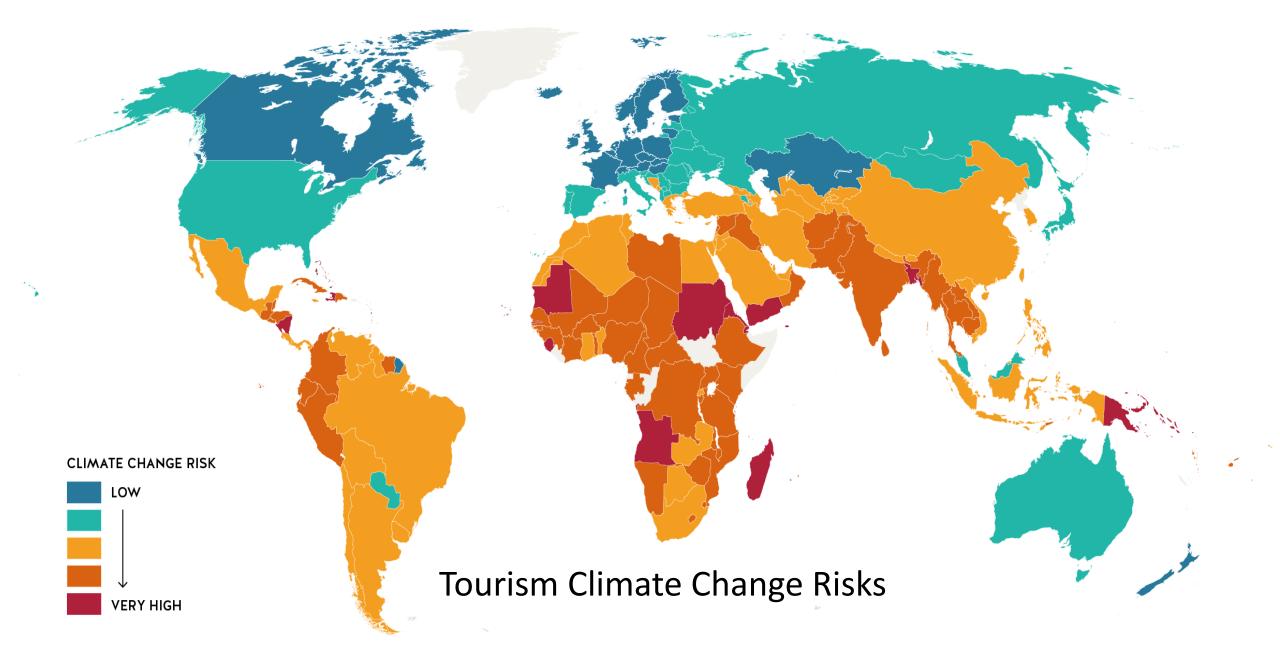
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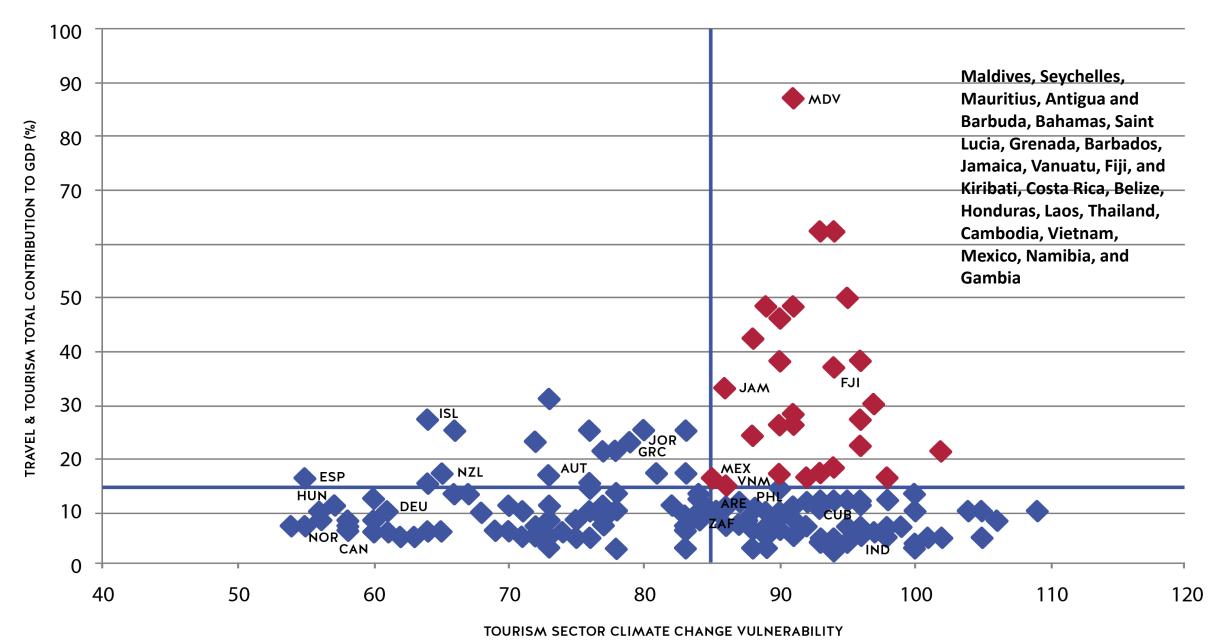






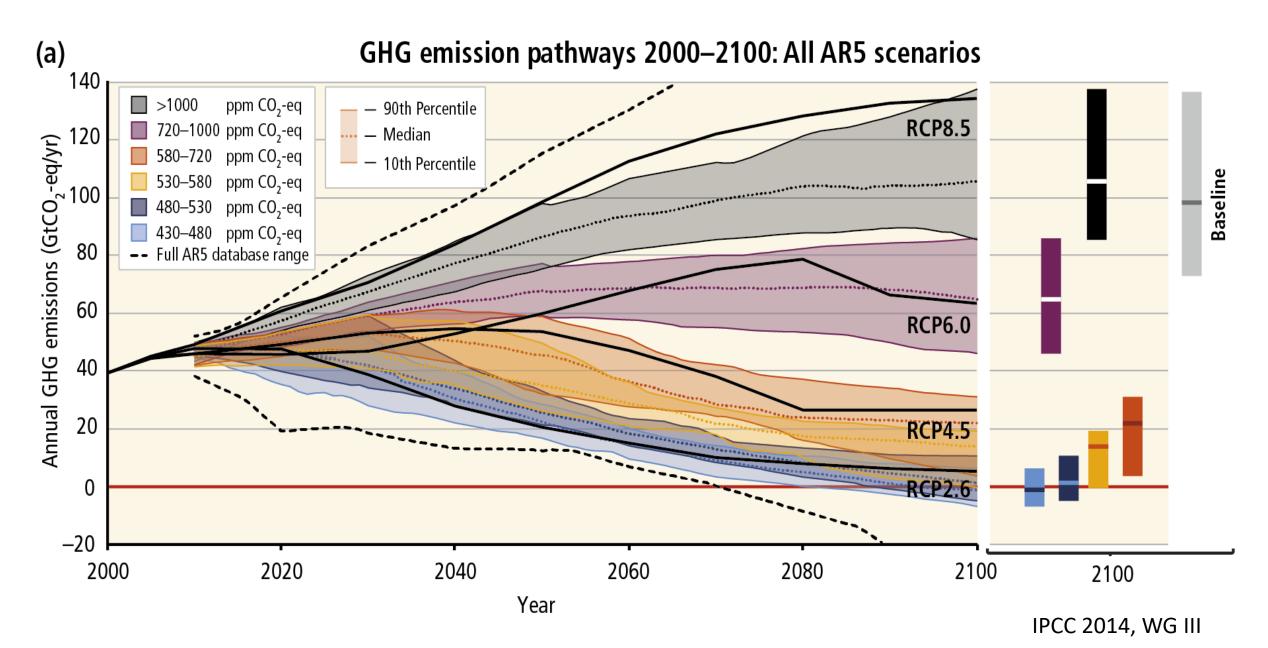


Courtesy: Dr. Daniel Scott, Uni. Waterloo, Ca.

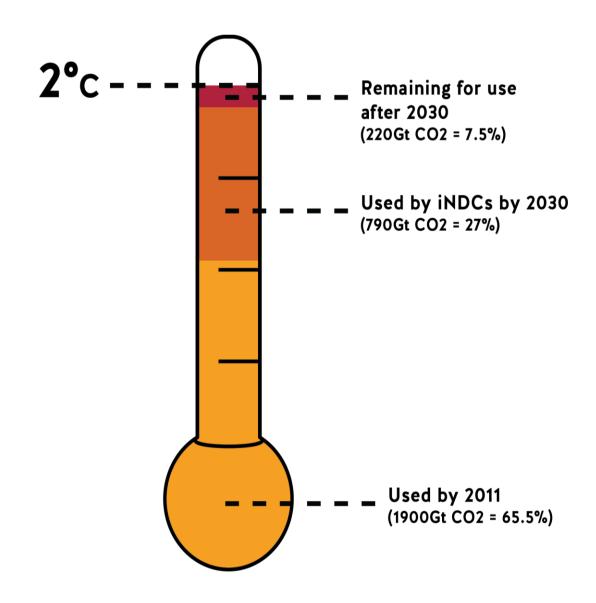


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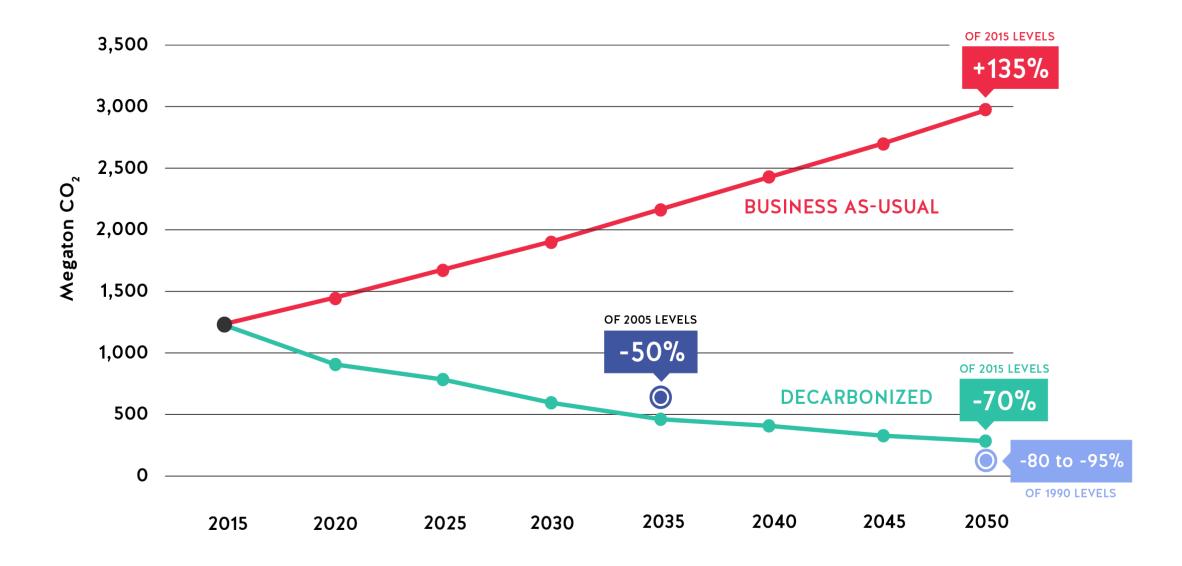
Representative Concentration Pathways



How much can we emit until we exceed 'limits'?

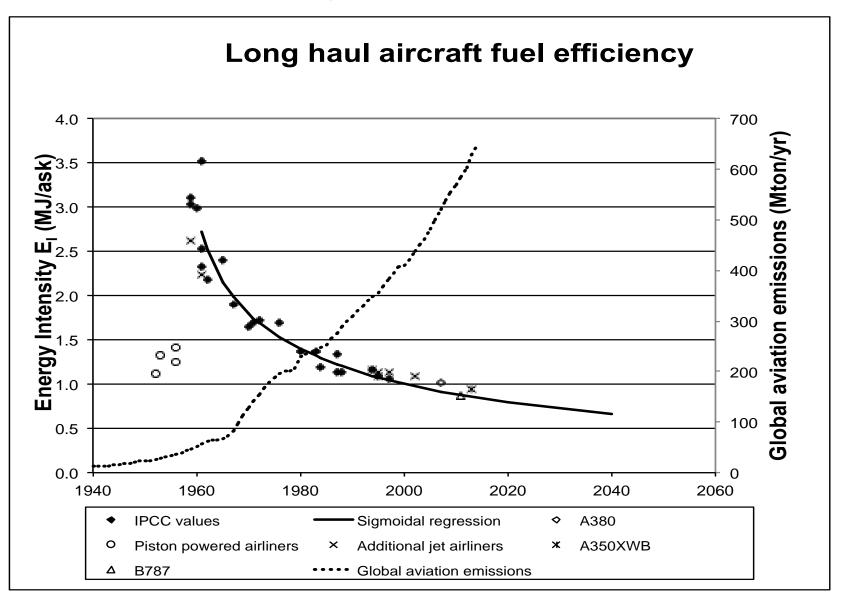


Courtesy: Dr. Daniel Scott, Uni. Waterloo, Ca.



- WTTC SECTORAL TARGET
- EU TARGET

Understanding efficiencies: Aviation



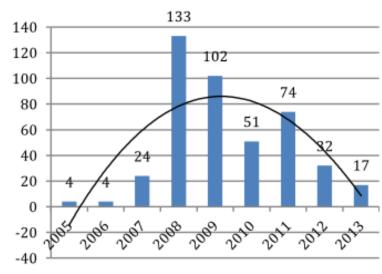
Peeters, P., Higham, J., Kutzner, D., Cohen, S. and Gössling, S. 2016. Are technology myths stalling aviation climate policy? Transportation Research Part D, http://dx.doi.org/10.10 16/j.trd.2016.02.004

'Potential' of new technologies

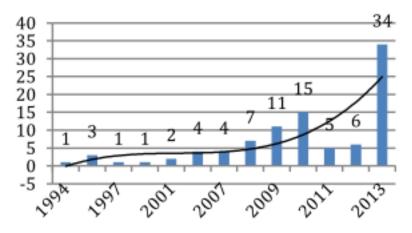
Aviation technology categories and items derived from Google Analytics (1994–2013).

Category	Item	
Airframe	Laminar flow Composite aircraft Blended wing body	
Engine	Solar flight Electric flight Open rotor or Propfan	
Alternative fuels	Jatropha Animals fats Hydrogen Algae Camelina	

Jatropha



Solar flight

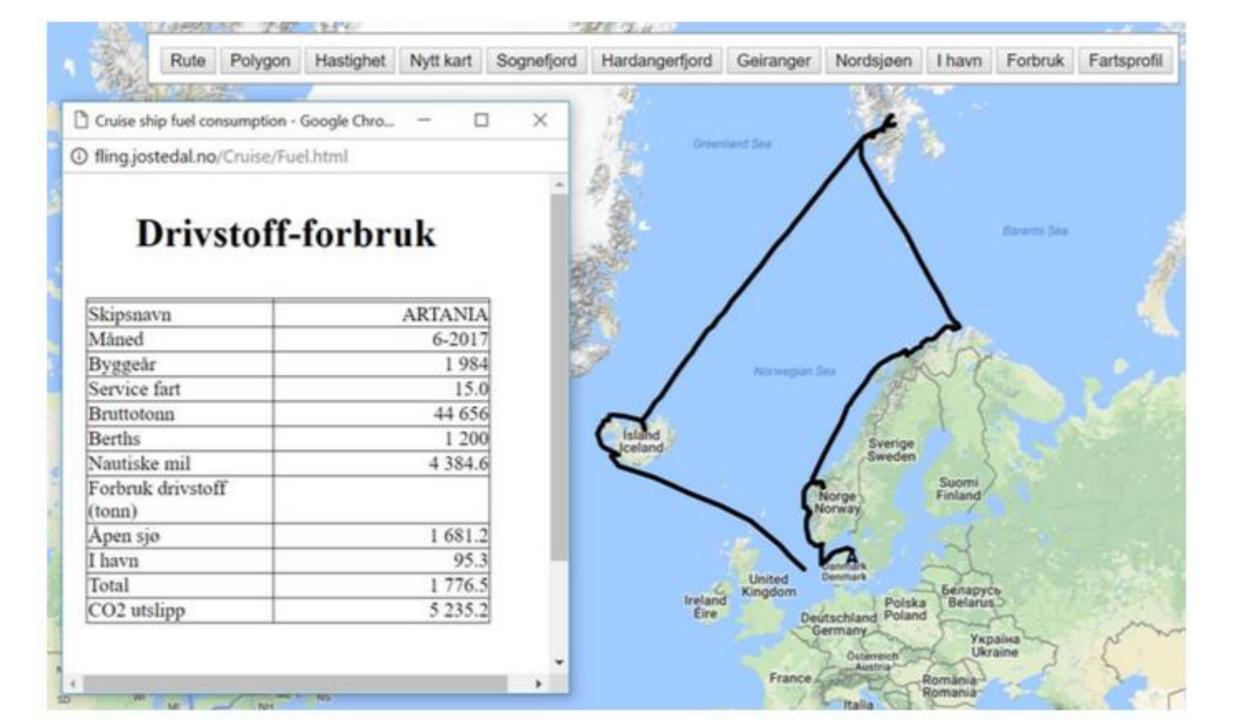


Will CORSIA be the solution?

- Only covers CO₂, ignoring non-CO₂ emissions
- Applies to only to 80% international air traffic, due to various exceptions, such as Small Island Developing States (EC 2017).
- Only covers emissions exceeding 2020 levels (i.e. it allows the sector to grow for another three years in emissions, before additional emissions will be 'covered' by the scheme).
- Is voluntary in its pilot (2021 through 2023) and first phase (2024-2026), involving only a share of airlines for at least another decade.
- Even though only a small share of emissions from aviation will be covered, the scheme would require offsetting at an unprecedented scale.
- Plans to source offset credits through low-cost projects. Forest projects have been criticized as highly unreliable offset projects, which in the case of REDD+ do not sequester carbon, rather than continue to maintain existing carbon pools.

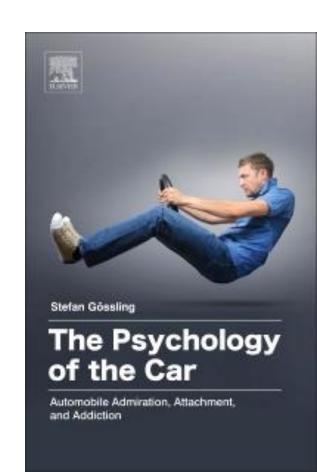
Cruise

- Emissions from cruises just very small share of global total, but more energy-intense than any other form of tourism (calculated per traveller)
- No reliable estimate of emissions from sector, nor any serious effort from sector to present such estimate
- Future technology change uncertain; LPG will only lead to insignificant change in emissions



Cars

- Emissions in 1950: 0.5 Gt CO₂/yr, 5.5 Gt CO₂ in 2010
- Expectation: more than 11 Gt CO₂ by 2050
- Cars becoming more efficient? Very limited evidence



Decarbonization: An Action Framework

"We recognize there is a situation in which industry cannot maintain a business as usual approach in regard to CO_2 , there is a need to decarbonize tourism. If climate policy is going to work for tourism, fossil fuels will have to become more expensive. In the longer term, energy intense forms of tourism will become unfeasible. Ignoring climate change will increasingly impose costs for tourism and make certain forms of tourism unfeasible."

OECD, 2017

Policy makers

- define decarbonisation targets for the tourism sector, including aviation and shipping, on supranational (aviation/shipping) and national (accommodation, ground transport) levels;
- introduce a price for carbon, with long-term price signal updated at each Paris Agreement stocktake cycle;
- support research and development of alternative fuels for aviation and other low-carbon technologies germane to emissions reduction in the tourism sector;
- work with tourism industry to establish monitoring systems for tourism sector emissions.

Tourism industry - stakeholders

- measure emissions;
- introduce carbon shadow pricing;
- increase eco-efficiencies to increase climate resilience and reduce emissions;
- use low-carbon fuels, renewable electricity;
- engage in energy co-production (renewables) with destination communities;
- invest in high-quality carbon offsetting;
- explore cross-sectoral partnerships to invest offsetting purchases in actions that decarbonize the tourism sector;
- increase investment in research and development of alternative fuels for aviation.

International tourism organizations

- advocate for low-carbon legislation, support mitigation governance;
- contribute to emissions measurement at global, national, business levels;
- provide advice on deployment of new technologies;
- develop models to assess cost of sector restructuring in a decarbonizing economy;
- share knowledge about best practice carbon disclosure, emissions reduction and climate resilience strategies;
- coordinate development of destination decarbonisation and adaptation strategies.

Iceland

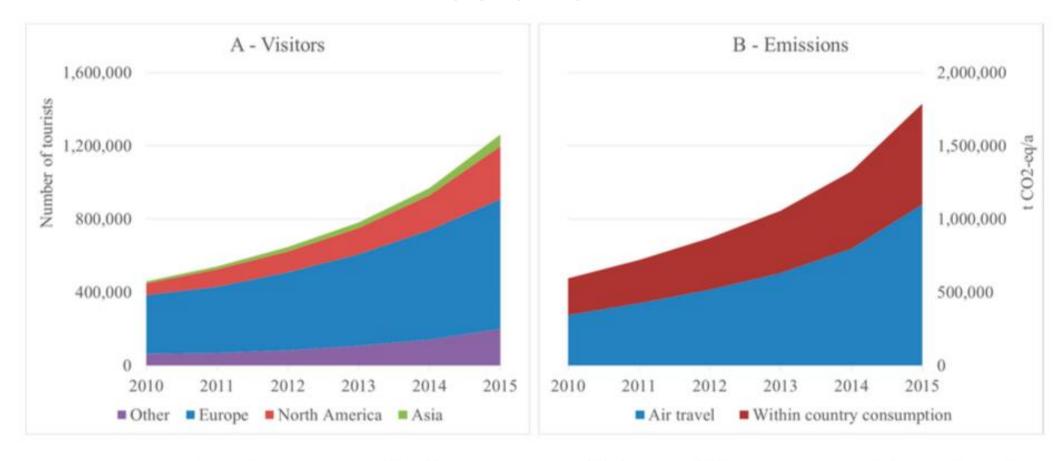
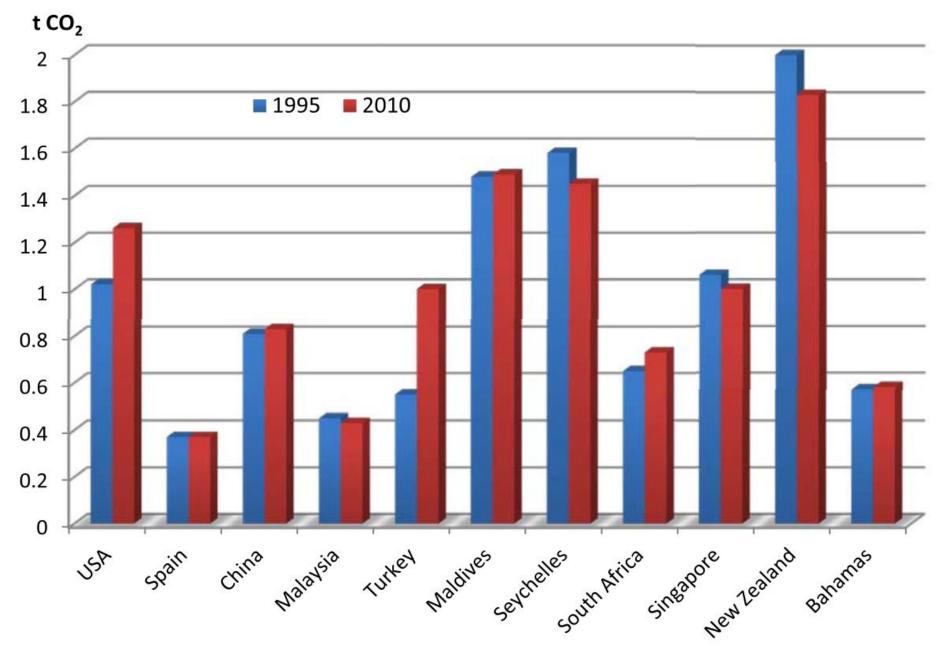


Figure 2. Number of tourists to Iceland in 2010–2015 and the overall GHG emissions: (**A**) number of tourists; (**B**) the annual GHG emissions.

Sharp, H., Grundius, J., & Heinonen, J. (2016). Carbon Footprint of Inbound Tourism to Iceland: A Consumption-Based Life-Cycle Assessment including Direct and Indirect Emissions. *Sustainability*, 8(11), 1147.



Development of per tourist emission intensity in various destinations, as a result of changes in market composition (1995-2010; arrivals by air)

Gössling, S., Scott, D., and Hall, C.M. 2015. Inter-market variability in CO2 emission-intensities in tourism: Implications for destination marketing and carbon management. Tourism Management 46: 203-212 doi:10.1016/j.tourman.2014.06.021



Figure 1. The distribution of the carbon footprint of the average foreign tourist in Iceland for 2013.

Iceland: Most important markets

Sharp, H., Grundius, J., & Heinonen, J. (2016). Carbon Footprint of Inbound Tourism to Iceland: A Consumption-Based Life-Cycle Assessment including Direct and Indirect Emissions. *Sustainability*, 8(11), 1147.

Region	Country	City	Distance (km)
Asia	China	Beijing	7880
	Japan	Tokyo	8790
Europe	Denmark	Kopenhagen	2110
	Finland	Helsinki	2430
	France	Paris	2240
	Germany	Frankfurt	2380
	Italy	Rome	3300
	The Netherlands	Amsterdam	2010
	Norway	Oslo	1740
	Poland	Warsaw	2770
	Russia	Moscow	3300
	Spain	Madrid	2900
	Sweden	Stockholm	2130
	Switzerland	Geneve	2640
	United Kingdom	London	1900
North America	Canada	Toronto	4200
	USA	Chicago	4760
-	Other	-	3220

As a destination...

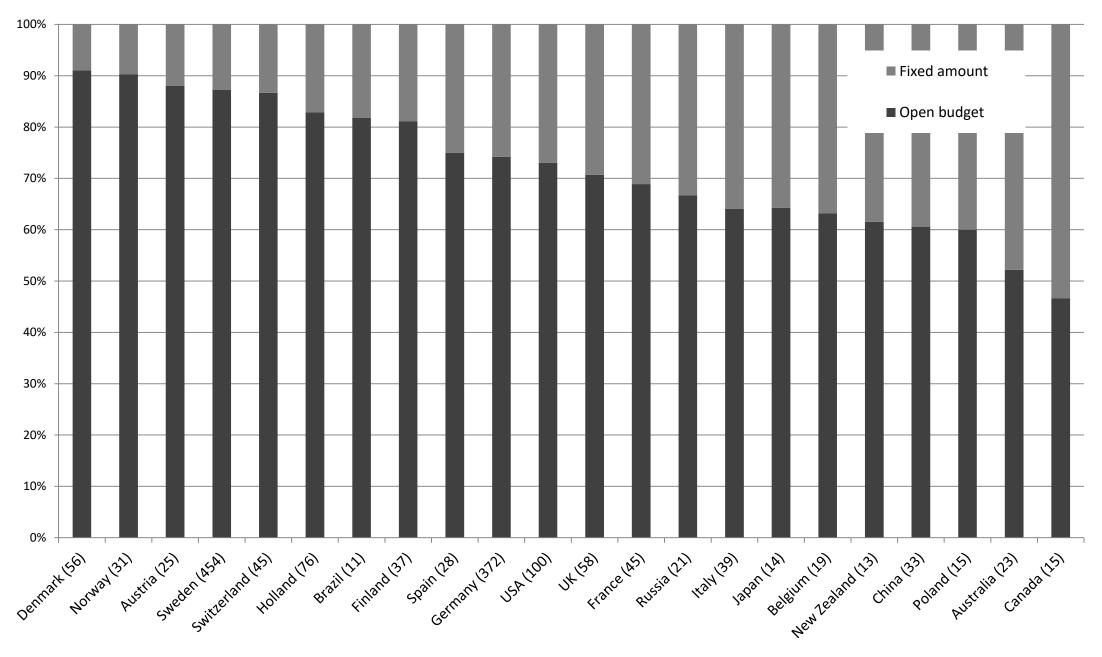
- Do you want to continue to maximize?
- Where will this lead you?
- Can you imagine to think differently, in terms of optimization?

NEWS

Tourists Find Geysir and Glacial Lagoon Overcrowded

Number of days 45 Potential extension of length of stay 40 ■ Average length of stay 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 South Korea (13) Wetherlands (53) Sweden 29al Dennark (40) Belgium 151 Spain [25] China [34] Germany 3031 Switzerland (36) MOLMBA (50) Japan LTN France lass J5A (98) Austria (201 Australia (25) Finland [28] Roland [20] Law Spair 14/50)

Gössling, S., Ring, A., Dwyer, L., Andersson, A.-C. and C.M. Hall. 2015. Optimizing or maximizing? A challenge to sustainable tourism. Journal of Sustainable Tourism, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0966958 2.2015.1085869



Gössling, S., Ring, A., Dwyer, L., Andersson, A.-C. and C.M. Hall. 2015. Optimizing or maximizing? A challenge to sustainable tourism. Journal of Sustainable Tourism, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2015.1085869

Introduction of an APD

- Follows initiatives in UK, Germany, Norway, France, Sweden
- Will have an insignificant impact on tourism
- Is reflective of potentially very large WTP (Swedish study)
- Will be internationally recognized, bring the world on track to decarbonisation
- €50/passenger would yield about €60 million per year (6.5 billion ISK)
- Could finance low-carbon society, show way ahead

