
The Most Important Books of Maximiliano E. Korstanje: A Critical Commentary

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1. The Sociology of Tourism: An Enchanting Journey (2018)

Main contribution: Tourism as a social institution

Among Korstanje's most important books, *The Sociology of Tourism: An Enchanting Journey* represents perhaps the clearest expression of his attempt to establish tourism as a legitimate object of sociological inquiry. The book challenges the dominant tendency to approach tourism primarily through economics, management, and marketing, arguing that tourism must be understood as a social phenomenon embedded within historical, cultural, and political processes.

Korstanje's central argument is that tourism is not simply an industry that produces economic benefits; it is a mechanism through which societies construct meanings, identities, and relationships with others. Tourism reflects the organization of modern life because it involves questions of mobility, social distinction, consumption, authenticity, and belonging.

One of the book's major contributions is its dialogue with classical sociology. Korstanje connects tourism with thinkers such as Émile Durkheim, Max Weber, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, and Norbert Elias. Through this perspective, tourism becomes a window for understanding broader social transformations.

For example, tourism can be interpreted as:

- a ritual practice through which individuals seek transformation;
- a form of consumption through which identities are constructed;
- a social institution regulating encounters between strangers;
- a reflection of capitalist modernity.

The book also develops Korstanje's idea that tourism represents a contemporary form of enchantment. Modern societies often appear rationalized and disenchanted, but tourism creates spaces where individuals search for extraordinary experiences, authenticity, and emotional connection.

Critical assessment

The strength of the book lies in its theoretical ambition. It pushes tourism studies beyond managerial approaches and reconnects the field with classical social theory. However, some critics argue that the book is highly conceptual and sometimes lacks empirical case studies that could demonstrate how these theories operate in specific destinations.

Nevertheless, it remains one of his most important contributions to tourism epistemology.

2. Terrorism, Tourism and the End of Hospitality in the "West" (2017)

Main contribution: Tourism, security, and the transformation of hospitality

This book is one of Korstanje's most influential and controversial works. It examines how terrorism has transformed tourism, mobility, and the meaning of hospitality in Western societies.

The central thesis is that terrorism does not merely damage tourism economically; it changes the cultural foundations upon which tourism depends. Tourism requires openness, trust, and movement, but terrorism introduces fear, suspicion, and control.

Korstanje argues that after events such as September 11, 2001, Western societies increasingly replaced traditional hospitality with security-oriented practices. Airports, borders, and tourist spaces became places of surveillance and identification.

The book draws heavily on Jacques Derrida's philosophy of hospitality, particularly the tension between:

- unconditional hospitality (welcoming the stranger);

- conditional hospitality (welcoming only after verification and control).

According to Korstanje, modern tourism demonstrates this contradiction. The tourist is welcomed, but only after passing through security systems, identity checks, and risk assessments.

Critical assessment

The book's greatest contribution is its philosophical interpretation of tourism security. It moves beyond practical crisis management and asks deeper questions about the relationship between mobility and social control.

However, critics argue that Korstanje's argument may overemphasize insecurity and understate the resilience of hospitality practices. Tourism continues to generate encounters, solidarity, and cultural exchange despite increased security measures.

The provocative title and argument have generated debate precisely because they challenge conventional ideas of tourism as inherently peaceful.

3. The Rise of Thana Capitalism and Tourism (2017)

Main contribution: Death, disaster, and the economy of insecurity

This book represents Korstanje's most original theoretical contribution. The concept of **Thana Capitalism** refers to the idea that contemporary capitalism increasingly generates economic value through death, fear, disaster, and insecurity.

The term derives from *Thanatos*, the Greek concept associated with death.

Korstanje argues that modern capitalism does not only produce goods and services; it also produces markets based on catastrophe. Examples include:

- security industries;
- disaster management;
- terrorism prevention;

- insurance systems;
- risk consulting;
- dark tourism.

Tourism plays a central role in this process because destinations associated with tragedy, conflict, and disaster become sites of memory and consumption.

The book contributes significantly to debates about dark tourism by asking why modern societies increasingly travel to places connected with suffering and death.

Korstanje does not simply condemn dark tourism. Instead, he examines its contradictions:

- it preserves memory but can commercialize suffering;
- it educates visitors but also creates tourism markets;
- it commemorates victims while generating economic activity.

Critical assessment

The concept of Thana Capitalism is one of Korstanje's most innovative ideas. It connects tourism studies with broader debates about capitalism and risk.

The main criticism is that the concept can be difficult to empirically measure. Some scholars consider it more a philosophical interpretation of capitalism than a testable social theory.

Despite this criticism, it has stimulated important discussions about the relationship between tourism, death, and economic systems.

4. The Anthropology of Tourism: An Introduction (2011)

Main contribution: Tourism as cultural encounter and ritual

This work represents an earlier stage of Korstanje's intellectual development and demonstrates his engagement with anthropology.

The book argues that tourism should be understood as a cultural practice involving symbolic exchange, identity formation, and encounters between hosts and guests.

Drawing from anthropological traditions, Korstanje explores tourism through concepts such as:

- ritual;
- pilgrimage;
- authenticity;
- cultural difference;
- hospitality.

A major contribution is his interpretation of tourism as a modern rite of passage. Inspired by Arnold van Gennep and Victor Turner, he argues that tourists experience separation from everyday life, enter a liminal condition, and return transformed.

Critical assessment

The book's importance lies in reconnecting tourism studies with anthropology. It challenges purely economic interpretations of travel and highlights the cultural meanings attached to tourism.

However, some anthropologists might argue that tourism cannot always be understood through universal ritual models because experiences differ significantly across cultures and historical contexts.

5. Tourism and Terrorism: Conflicts and Commonalities (with Adrian Clayton, 2012)

Main contribution: The relationship between mobility and violence

This work develops many arguments that later appear in Korstanje's book on terrorism and hospitality.

The authors examine why tourist spaces become targets of terrorism and how both tourism and terrorism depend upon global communication systems.

Their argument is not that tourism and terrorism are morally equivalent, but that both operate through:

- mobility;
- symbolic spaces;
- media visibility;
- global networks.

Tourist destinations become attractive targets because they represent openness, globalization, and international connection.

Critical assessment

The book helped expand tourism security studies by introducing sociological perspectives. However, some critics argue that the comparison between tourism and terrorism requires careful interpretation to avoid minimizing the ethical differences between leisure travel and political violence.

6. The Future of Tourism: Innovation and Sustainability (edited with others, 2020)

Main contribution: Tourism after crisis

This work reflects Korstanje's engagement with contemporary challenges facing tourism, particularly sustainability, uncertainty, and global disruption.

The book examines how tourism must adapt to:

- environmental challenges;
- technological change;
- social transformations;
- global crises.

It connects with his broader argument that tourism cannot continue operating under assumptions of unlimited growth.

Critical assessment

This contribution is important because it places Korstanje's theoretical ideas within practical debates about the future of tourism. It demonstrates that his work is not only philosophical but also relevant to policy and education.

7. Tourism and COVID-19: The Great Reset (with Babu George, 2020)

Main contribution: Crisis and transformation

Written during the COVID-19 pandemic, this book examines how the global health crisis exposed vulnerabilities within tourism systems.

The pandemic confirmed many themes present in Korstanje's previous work:

- the fragility of global mobility;
- the importance of risk perception;
- the relationship between security and tourism;
- the need to rethink tourism development.

The book argues that recovery should not simply restore previous tourism models but should encourage reflection about sustainability, resilience, and inequality.

Critical assessment

The book's main strength is its timeliness. It connects tourism theory with one of the greatest disruptions in modern mobility.

A limitation is that, because it was written during the crisis, some interpretations require further empirical evaluation as tourism systems continue evolving.

Overall Evaluation of Korstanje's Intellectual Legacy

Taken together, Korstanje's books represent a coherent attempt to transform tourism studies from an applied managerial discipline into a critical social science.

His major contributions can be summarized as follows:

Area	Contribution
Tourism sociology	Tourism as a social institution rather than only an industry
Anthropology	Tourism as ritual, pilgrimage, and identity formation
Hospitality studies	The transformation of welcoming practices under security regimes
Tourism security	Risk and terrorism as social and symbolic phenomena
Dark tourism	Death and disaster as part of contemporary capitalism
Epistemology	Tourism as interdisciplinary knowledge production
Global perspectives	South Critique of dominant Eurocentric tourism theories
Sustainability	Tourism education and development under conditions of uncertainty

Final Reflection

Korstanje's importance does not come from creating a single unified theory of tourism but from continuously questioning the assumptions that organize tourism knowledge. His books invite scholars to see tourism as a reflection of deeper social processes: capitalism, globalization, inequality, fear, memory, and the search for meaning.

His work remains debated because it is deliberately provocative. Some scholars view his concepts as excessively theoretical, while others consider them valuable tools for questioning conventional approaches. Regardless of these debates, his contribution is significant because he has expanded the intellectual boundaries of tourism studies and encouraged researchers to examine tourism not only as an industry of movement but as a mirror of contemporary civilization.

Write again citing the reference exactly with publisher year etc

I will rewrite it with full bibliographic details and a more academic style. I have corrected the publication information where necessary. Some of Korstanje's books have appeared with different publication dates depending on hardcover, ebook, or reprint editions; I use the original edition information when possible.

The Intellectual Legacy of Maximiliano E. Korstanje Through His Major Books: A Critical Commentary

Introduction

Maximiliano E. Korstanje occupies a distinctive position in contemporary tourism studies because of his attempt to transform tourism from an applied managerial discipline into a critical field of social inquiry. Across his books, Korstanje has consistently challenged conventional approaches that reduce tourism to economic growth, destination competitiveness, consumer behavior, or hospitality management. Instead, he examines tourism as a complex social phenomenon connected with modernity, capitalism, mobility, fear, risk, identity, memory, and power. His intellectual trajectory demonstrates a movement from tourism anthropology and sociology toward broader reflections on globalization, terrorism, insecurity, coloniality, and the contradictions of contemporary capitalism. His work has been particularly influential among scholars interested in critical tourism studies because he insists that tourism cannot be separated from the historical and political conditions that make global mobility possible.

Although his arguments have generated debate because of their theoretical ambition and provocative formulations, his books have expanded the conceptual boundaries of tourism research and encouraged scholars to reconsider fundamental questions: What is tourism? Why do people travel? How are tourism experiences constructed? Who controls mobility? And what does tourism reveal about contemporary society?

1. The Anthropology of Tourism: An Introduction

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (2011). *The Anthropology of Tourism: An Introduction*. *Tourismos: An International Multidisciplinary Journal of Tourism*, 6(2), 1–20.

Contribution: Tourism as culture, ritual, and symbolic exchange

This early contribution represents Korstanje's effort to reconnect tourism studies with anthropology. At a time when much tourism research was dominated by economic and managerial approaches, Korstanje argued that tourism should be understood as a cultural practice involving symbolic meanings, rituals, identity construction, and encounters between hosts and guests. The central contribution of this work is the argument that tourism reproduces many characteristics traditionally associated with ritual processes. Drawing from Arnold van Gennep's theory of rites of passage and Victor Turner's concept of liminality, Korstanje interprets tourism as a symbolic journey in which individuals leave ordinary social structures, enter extraordinary spaces, and return transformed. The tourist experience therefore becomes more than consumption. It becomes a process of identity formation.

Tourism allows individuals to:

- escape everyday routines;
- encounter difference;
- negotiate personal identity;
- create narratives about themselves.

This approach challenges the idea that tourism is simply leisure behavior motivated by economic conditions. Instead, tourism becomes a cultural institution that reveals how modern societies search for meaning.

Critical evaluation

The importance of this contribution lies in its attempt to broaden tourism theory through anthropology. However, some critics argue that ritual interpretations can sometimes overlook the diversity of tourist experiences and the importance of political economy.

Not all tourism experiences produce transformation, and not all travelers participate in tourism as symbolic rituals. Nevertheless, this work established foundations for Korstanje's later contributions on tourism sociology and epistemology.

2. The Sociology of Tourism: An Enchanting Journey

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (2018). *The Sociology of Tourism: An Enchanting Journey*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

Contribution: Tourism as a social institution

This book represents one of Korstanje's most comprehensive attempts to establish tourism as a sociological field. The main argument is that tourism cannot be understood only as an economic activity because it reflects deeper social structures related to modernity, capitalism, identity, and cultural change. Korstanje argues that tourism is a privileged lens through which researchers can analyze contemporary society. Tourism reveals:

- patterns of social distinction;
- inequalities of mobility;
- relationships between hosts and guests;
- processes of commodification;
- the search for authenticity.

The title's reference to "enchantment" reflects his argument that modern societies, despite their rationalization and technological development, continue to search for extraordinary experiences. Tourism becomes a modern mechanism through which individuals recover emotions, meanings, and experiences that appear absent from everyday life. The book engages with classical sociological thinkers, including Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Elias, showing how tourism reflects broader processes of social organization.

Critical evaluation

The book's greatest strength is its theoretical scope. It successfully challenges the narrow idea that tourism is merely an economic sector. However, critics may argue that the book's theoretical density sometimes exceeds its empirical grounding. Some concepts would benefit from more detailed case studies demonstrating how these social mechanisms operate in specific destinations. Despite this limitation, the book remains one of Korstanje's central contributions to tourism epistemology.

3. The Rise of Thana-Capitalism and Tourism

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (2017). *The Rise of Thana-Capitalism and Tourism*. Abingdon, Oxon & New York: Routledge. ISBN 978-1-138-20926-8.

Contribution: Dark tourism, death, and capitalism

This is perhaps Korstanje's most original theoretical contribution. The concept of **Thana-capitalism** describes a social order in which death, disaster, suffering, and insecurity become incorporated into economic and cultural systems. The book argues that contemporary societies are increasingly fascinated by mortality. This fascination is visible in:

- disaster tourism;
- visits to concentration camps;
- memorial tourism;
- terrorism-related tourism;
- sites of collective trauma.

Korstanje argues that dark tourism is not an isolated phenomenon but part of a wider transformation in capitalism. Death becomes something that can be represented, consumed, and transformed into economic value.

The book connects tourism studies with broader theories of:

- risk society (Beck);
- biopolitics (Foucault);
- consumer culture;
- capitalism and spectacle.

Critical evaluation

The concept of Thana-capitalism has been influential because it provides a provocative explanation for the relationship between tourism and suffering. However, critics argue that the concept risks presenting tourists as passive consumers of death and may underestimate educational, ethical, and commemorative motivations behind visits to tragic sites. The book's contribution remains significant because it forces tourism scholars to confront uncomfortable questions about memory, ethics, and commercialization.

4. Terrorism, Tourism and the End of Hospitality in the “West”

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (2017). *Terrorism, Tourism and the End of Hospitality in the “West”*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-52252-4.

Contribution: Hospitality, terrorism, and the politics of mobility

This book is one of Korstanje's most debated works. It examines how terrorism has transformed tourism by altering perceptions of safety, strangers, borders, and hospitality. The central argument is that terrorism affects tourism not only through physical attacks but through symbolic transformations. Fear changes how societies understand mobility and strangers. Drawing from Derrida's philosophy of hospitality, Korstanje argues that Western societies increasingly replace unconditional hospitality with conditional hospitality.

The visitor is welcomed, but only after:

- identification;

- surveillance;
- security screening;
- institutional control.

Tourism therefore reveals a contradiction: societies celebrate global mobility while simultaneously restricting and monitoring it.

Critical evaluation

The book's major contribution is its philosophical interpretation of tourism security. However, some scholars criticize the provocative argument that terrorism represents a fundamental threat to hospitality, arguing that hospitality has adapted rather than disappeared. Others argue that tourism and terrorism should not be placed too close conceptually because tourism represents voluntary movement while terrorism involves coercion and violence. Nevertheless, the book remains important because it links tourism studies with debates about borders, fear, and globalization.

5. Tourism and Terrorism: Conflicts and Commonalities

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E., & Clayton, Anthony. (2012). Tourism and terrorism: Conflicts and commonalities. *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes*, 4(1), 8–25.

Contribution: Mobility, symbolism, and vulnerability

This work developed many themes later expanded in Korstanje's books.

The authors argue that tourism and terrorism are connected through shared characteristics:

- global visibility;
- symbolic spaces;
- international mobility;
- media representation.

Tourist destinations become attractive targets because they represent globalization and international interaction.

7. The Mobilities Paradox: A Critical Analysis (2018)

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (2018). *The Mobilities Paradox: A Critical Analysis*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-78811-330-4.

Contribution: Questioning the ideology of unlimited mobility

Among Korstanje's most theoretically ambitious books, *The Mobilities Paradox* represents a major contribution to understanding tourism within the broader framework of mobility studies. The book engages critically with the "new mobilities paradigm" developed by scholars such as John Urry, Mimi Sheller, and Kevin Hannam, which argues that contemporary societies are increasingly organized around movement, circulation, and flows. Korstanje accepts the importance of mobility but challenges the assumption that increased movement necessarily represents freedom, progress, or emancipation. His central argument is that contemporary mobility contains a fundamental contradiction: societies celebrate the possibility of moving everywhere while simultaneously creating new forms of immobility, exclusion, surveillance, and control. This paradox is particularly relevant for tourism. Modern tourism appears to symbolize freedom: the ability to cross borders, experience cultures, and escape everyday routines. However, Korstanje argues that tourism mobility is shaped by unequal access to movement. Some individuals experience mobility as privilege:

- international tourists with passports from powerful countries;
- consumers able to purchase global experiences;
- citizens protected by international mobility agreements.

Others experience mobility restrictions:

- migrants facing border controls;
- refugees denied movement;

- populations excluded from global tourism markets.

Tourism therefore becomes part of a wider global hierarchy of mobility.

Tourism, Freedom, and Control

One of the most important arguments in *The Mobilities Paradox* is that mobility has become an ideological symbol of modern freedom. Contemporary societies often assume that being able to travel means being free. Korstanje challenges this assumption by arguing that mobility is increasingly managed through:

- airports;
- biometric controls;
- security systems;
- passports;
- visa regimes;
- technological surveillance.

The tourist is free to move, but only within systems regulated by governments and corporations. This argument connects with his earlier work on terrorism and hospitality. In both cases, mobility appears simultaneously as liberation and regulation. Tourism is therefore not simply about movement; it is about who is allowed to move, under what conditions, and with what consequences.

Critical Evaluation

The importance of *The Mobilities Paradox* lies in connecting tourism studies with political sociology and critical mobility studies. Its main contribution is conceptual: it demonstrates that mobility should not automatically be understood as positive. However, critics may argue that the book places significant emphasis on structural constraints while giving less attention to individual agency. Many tourists actively use mobility to develop cultural understanding, solidarity, and personal transformation. Nevertheless, the book remains important because it challenges one of the fundamental assumptions of globalization: that more movement always means greater freedom.

8. Mobility and Globalization in the Aftermath of COVID-19: Emerging New Geographies in a Locked World

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E., & George, Babu. (2021). *Mobility and Globalization in the Aftermath of COVID-19: Emerging New Geographies in a Locked World*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-78845-2.

Contribution: The pandemic as a crisis of mobility

This book represents a continuation of Korstanje's mobility theories in the context of COVID-19. The pandemic created an unprecedented interruption of global movement: borders closed, flights stopped, and tourism economies collapsed. The authors argue that COVID-19 revealed the vulnerability of a world built around accelerated mobility. Before the pandemic, globalization was characterized by:

- rapid international travel;
- global tourism flows;
- interconnected economies;
- constant circulation of people.

COVID-19 transformed mobility from a symbol of progress into a potential source of danger. A central argument of the book is that the same mobility system that allowed globalization to expand also facilitated the rapid spread of the virus. This creates another paradox:

Mobility produces globalization, but excessive mobility also produces vulnerability.

Colonial Histories of Mobility

One of the most interesting aspects of this book is its historical analysis of mobility. Korstanje and George examine how mobility has historically been connected with power relations, colonial expansion, and unequal global systems.

European colonialism depended on mobility:

- ships crossing oceans;
- exploration;
- trade networks;
- military expansion.

However, colonial mobility was not equally available to everyone. Some groups moved as conquerors and traders, while others were displaced, controlled, or exploited. The pandemic temporarily reversed some of these dynamics. Tourists who previously represented privilege became restricted travelers, sometimes perceived as carriers of disease.

This transformation demonstrates that mobility is not a neutral process but a social relationship shaped by power.

Critical Evaluation

The book's main strength is that it connects COVID-19 with long-term theories of globalization rather than treating the pandemic as an isolated event. Its limitation is that the rapid evolution of the pandemic means some predictions require further examination. Nevertheless, the book provides an important theoretical framework for understanding post-pandemic tourism.

9. The Nature and Future of Tourism: A Post-COVID-19 Context

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E., & George, Babu. (2022). *The Nature and Future of Tourism: A Post-COVID-19 Context*. Palm Bay, FL: Apple Academic Press. ISBN: **978-1-77463-729-6**.

Contribution: Tourism after systemic crisis

This book examines how COVID-19 transformed tourism and raises questions about the future direction of the industry. Rather than viewing the pandemic only as an economic disaster, Korstanje and George interpret it as an opportunity to rethink tourism models.

The authors argue that tourism after COVID-19 requires a new conceptual framework because previous assumptions about unlimited growth and constant mobility have been challenged.

The book explores:

- tourism resilience;
- technological transformation;
- new forms of mobility;
- changing consumer behavior;
- sustainability;
- crisis management.

Theoretical Importance

The book connects with Korstanje's previous arguments about risk and uncertainty.

Before COVID-19, tourism studies often assumed that crises were temporary interruptions. Korstanje argues instead that crises reveal structural vulnerabilities.

The pandemic demonstrates that tourism depends on fragile systems:

- international aviation;
- political stability;
- public health;
- consumer confidence.

Tourism education and policy must therefore prepare for uncertainty rather than assume continuous growth.

Tourism as a Rite of Passage After COVID-19

An important contribution of this work is the reinterpretation of tourism as a rite of passage after a collective traumatic experience.

Travel after COVID-19 is not simply a return to previous habits. It represents a transformed relationship with mobility.

Tourists now negotiate:

- fear;
- safety;
- health protocols;
- responsibility toward others.

The meaning of travel itself has changed.

Critical Evaluation

The strength of this book is its attempt to combine practical tourism concerns with theoretical reflection.

However, some critics may argue that the concept of a “new tourism” requires stronger empirical evidence because many tourism practices have returned to previous patterns after the pandemic.

10. Tourism Safety and Security Just After COVID-19

Reference

Korstanje, Maximiliano E. (Ed.). (2022). *Tourism Safety and Security Just After COVID-19*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers. DOI: 10.52305/NGTC9612.

Contribution: Security as the future of tourism

This edited volume extends Korstanje’s long-standing interest in tourism security.

The book argues that COVID-19 should be understood alongside previous tourism crises:

- terrorism;
- ecological disasters;
- political instability;
- health emergencies.

Tourism security is no longer limited to preventing attacks. It now includes:

- health security;
- environmental risks;
- social vulnerability;
- technological surveillance.

Tourism Education Crisis

One important contribution is the discussion of tourism education after COVID-19.

Korstanje argues that tourism programs must change because future professionals will operate in a world defined by uncertainty.

Tourism education should include:

- crisis management;
- ethical decision-making;
- sustainability;
- risk analysis;
- social responsibility.

This connects directly with his broader epistemological project: tourism education must produce critical thinkers rather than only industry employees.

11. Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism (2nd Edition)

Reference

Gowreesunkar, Vanessa G. B., Korstanje, Maximiliano E., & Séraphin, Hugues (Eds.). (2023). *Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism* (2nd ed.). Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press. ISBN: 978-1-77491-350-5.

Contribution: Tourism after trauma

This book extends Korstanje's research on disasters, memory, and recovery.

It examines how destinations affected by:

- conflict;
- disasters;
- pandemics;
- political instability;

attempt to rebuild tourism.

A key argument is that tourism recovery is not only economic. It involves questions of:

- collective memory;
- identity;
- justice;
- representation.

The book includes discussions of post-COVID recovery, post-conflict destinations, and postcolonial tourism challenges.

Conclusion

Maximiliano E. Korstanje's books represent a sustained effort to rethink tourism as a central phenomenon of modern society. His work challenges conventional tourism studies by showing that travel is not simply movement, consumption, or leisure, but a practice deeply connected with identity, power, fear, capitalism, and social transformation. His theories of tourism as ritual, hospitality as a contested relationship, and dark tourism as part of Thana-capitalism have expanded the vocabulary of critical tourism research. At the same time, his scholarship remains contested. Critics question the abstract nature of some arguments, the provocative language of certain concepts, and the need for stronger empirical validation. These debates, however, demonstrate the intellectual importance of his work. Korstanje's lasting contribution is not the creation of a single tourism theory but the expansion of tourism as a field capable of addressing some of the major questions of contemporary society: mobility, inequality, insecurity, memory, and the human search for meaning.

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