

LEISURE TOURISM DATABASE: A SHORT INTRODUCTION

What is it?

Leisure Tourism is a major database specialising in recreation, tourism and hospitality research. It is produced and maintained by CABI, a leading intergovernmental non-profit research organisation. Subject coverage includes leisure and tourism policies, travel and transport, facility and event management, ecotourism and sport. The database carries a full reference and abstract of each article, but not the full text of the article.

How to access it

Leisure Tourism can be accessed via the DIT Library Website by going to the **databases** page and scrolling alphabetically, clicking on Leisuretourism.com at <http://0-www.leisuretourism.com.ditlib.dit.ie/Index.asp> .

It can also be accessed via the “subject gateways” drop-down. Go to the “Hospitality, tourism and leisure” gateway at <http://www.dit.ie/DIT/library/resources/subjects/hospitalitytourism/index.html> .

Leisure Tourism searches time out after a 30-minute period, and there are limits on the number of users it can have at any one time.

Searching Leisure Tourism

Leisure Tourism has 3 levels of search: **Quick**, **Advanced** and **Expert**. **Quick** search allows you to search with a single term or combination of terms (combining them with AND, OR, or NOT) and allows limiting of records to those published since a chosen date.

Advanced search allows you to combine a greater number of terms and to limit the fields where a term is searched for, e.g. to search the term only when it occurs in the title, or in the abstract. Limits can also be placed on the sort of documents searched, e.g. theses only.

Expert search gives more freedom in constructing search strings, but is only recommended for those already familiar with the database.

There is also a **thesaurus**, which is useful for establishing which search terms will be most successfully used in searching for a particular subject.

In all cases, each record you retrieve has a full reference and abstract, with facilities for onward searching by author or keyword.

Saving and retrieving records and searches

From each set of search results, using choices displayed at the bottom of each results page, you can **Mark** the most useful records, **Add** them to a marked list, and save, print or email this list. You can also save your searches for future re-use.

Additional features and help

Useful searching-tips are available by clicking the **Tips** icon over the search window in any of the search modes. The home page also has a comprehensive **database guide**, plus a **calendar** of forthcoming events in the tourism industry. Finally, always feel free to ask any member of library staff for help.