

# Sustainable wildlife tourism in Asia and Australia

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# What is wildlife tourism?

It can be any tourism involving wildlife

- Viewing wild animals in the wild (if educational and environmentally sustainable it may then also be ecotourism)
- Hunting or fishing
- Viewing animals in zoos, aquaria or wildlife parks
- Viewing or interacting with animals free-ranging but not in natural environments (e.g. farmland)
- Other – photos with captive animals, museums, botanic gardens, wildlife art ....

# Wildlife Tourism Australia

Promoting the **sustainable** development  
of a **diverse** wildlife tourism industry  
that supports **conservation**



# Next conference



## **Wildlife Tourism:** Enhancing the Benefits for Wildlife and People

**Conference BRISBANE**  
**21-25 June 2020**

Tourism, including wildlife tourism, has potential for negative and positive effects.  
**How do we increase the positive?**

Great nature interpretation    Innovation  
Ecological sustainability  
Australasian, Asian & other examples  
Regional economies            etc.

Contact: [chair@wildlifetourismaustralia.org.au](mailto:chair@wildlifetourismaustralia.org.au)



*A conference for:*  
Tour operators, Zoo staff,  
Ecologde managers,  
Researchers, Students,  
Government staff,  
NGOs, Others



[www.wildlifetourismaustralia.org.au](http://www.wildlifetourismaustralia.org.au)

**Griffith University**  
**(Nathan campus)**



WTA's focus is mostly **viewing animals in the wild, semi-wild and well-run captive operations**



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# It is sometimes challenging to balance:

- **Conservation** of wildlife and their habitats
- **Welfare** of animals – not just without suffering but an enjoyable life
- What the **tourist** needs (safety, reasonable comfort) and wants (seeing animals, interactions, selfies”, ticks for lists, photos ...)
- What the tour **operator** needs to keep operating
- Benefits or annoyances to local **communities**



# Sustainability

- Environmental



- Economic



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  - Flow-on effects to community
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Sometimes **harmony**

Sometimes **conflict**