

Should There Be Tourism in Antarctica?

There have been many debates as to whether there should be tourism in Antarctica. Not surprisingly, both conservationists and tour operators have put together good evidence to support their own arguments.

Firstly, conservationists believe that tourism could damage Antarctica's environment and wildlife. Unfortunately, ships that travel to and from Antarctica could have oil leaks, which would harm the marine life.

Furthermore, it would be reasonable to conclude that people who visit Antarctica might leave rubbish behind, which could lead to animals getting sick and eventually dying. Also, tourists may unknowingly scare and disturb native wildlife, such as penguins and seals.

Conservationists also argue that Antarctica should be left the way it is because, surprisingly, it is the only continent that has not been ruined by humans. Continual visits could lead to the melting of the incredible ice masses, which would result in our own continent being flooded and buried beneath the ocean.

However, tour operators argue that tourism could significantly raise people's awareness of Antarctica, which would make them think about the conservation of a continent that has not been ruined by humans.

As well as this, tour operators also claim that Antarctica has many spectacular natural features, such as the Aurora Australis, penguin rookeries and geographical ones, such as the Trans Antarctic Mountains. Unbelievably, approximately five thousand people visit Antarctica each year.

In conclusion, Antarctica is a unique place to visit but too much tourism could ruin its natural state. The native wildlife should be left alone. I strongly recommend that tourism continue, but that it should be monitored carefully or we could lose this mysterious and unique environment forever.

