

Submitted Abstract

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Abstract

Climate change has important consequences for the cryosphere on a global scale. Among other negative impacts, the reduction of the cryosphere has consequences for glacier tourism. In response to questions from both the academic world and stakeholders in this tourism niche, a PhD project was launched in 2018, with the aim of understanding how climate change impacts glacier tourism in the European Alps. The aim of this paper is to present the results of this PhD work, which was defended in December 2021. The different surveys conducted with visitors and operators and their results will be presented. Different questions are addressed: does glacier retreat lead to a change in the perception and aesthetic judgment of the landscape by visitors to the sites? Are last chance motivations visible? What geomorphological processes have consequences for tourism operators? How do they adapt? How have glacier fluctuations impacted the development of glacier tourism over the last 200 years? Do glaciers play a role as climate sentinels that can influence the pro-environmental behavioural intentions of visitors?