

What is Dark Tourism?

August 3, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Dark Tourism:

- Dark tourism, also known as **black tourism**, **than a tourism**, or **grief tourism**, refers to the practice of **visiting locations associated with death**, suffering, **tragedy**, or something unusual.
- An early definition defined by John Lennon and Malcolm Foley defines dark tourism as “the representation of inhuman acts and how these are interpreted for visitors”.
- Dark **tourism sites** are all **associated with tragic history**. These sites might include cemeteries, mausoleums, disaster zones, battlefields, memorials, prisons, execution sites, and crime scenes.
- As a more specific component of dark tourism, “**disaster tourism**” denotes situations where the tourism product is generated within, and from, the **aftermath of a major disaster or traumatic event**”.
- **Prominent dark tourism sites** include **Auschwitz Concentration Camp** in Poland, **Chernobyl in Ukraine**, **Ground Zero in New York**, **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** in Japan, etc.
- The act of dark tourism is somewhat controversial, with some viewing it as an act of respect and others as unethical practice.

Dark tourism appeals to many because it offers an emotional connection to sites of tragedy.

Q1: What is Ground Zero in New York?

Ground Zero in New York refers to the site of the former World Trade Center complex, which was destroyed in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Located in Lower Manhattan, it became a focal point for rescue, recovery, and rebuilding efforts following the attacks. The term “Ground Zero” originally denoted the point on the ground directly beneath the detonation of a nuclear bomb or other large explosive, but it became widely associated with the World Trade Center site after 9/11.

Source: What is dark tourism that Kerala Police is warning against in Wayanad

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/dark-tourism/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.