

SCIENTIFIC ECOTOURISM IN THE SÃO PAULO STATE, SOUTHERNMOST COASTAL PLAIN, BRAZIL

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The Cananéia-Iguape and Ilha Comprida coastal plain, at the southernmost São Paulo state extremity, is a privileged place with respect to their natural resources that are enough to transform the area in an interesting pole of scientific tourism. Presently this region receives only people interested in sun, sand and sea tourism, mainly during the summer holidays and during the rest of the year the region area is visited by ecotourists interested in aspects related to geosciences and / or biosciences that could be developed in the region. People who might be interested in this kind of activity are mainly ecotourist attracted by the study of mangrove ecosystems, archeological sites as shell-middens and eolian dune fields, besides fauna and flora. These visits would be done under the guidance of researchers familiar with the places to be visited.

KEY WORDS: coastal plain, scientific ecotourism, natural attractive, mangrove, wind dune.