

ACCESSIBLE TOURISM IN URBAN STRUCTURE OF TOURIST CITIES

The case of Santa Cruz/RN, Brazil

Dalyane Costa Pinto
Kerlei Eniele Sonaglio
Universidad Federal de
Rio Grande do Norte - Brasil

Accessibility in tourism arises the aim to include people with disabilities or reduced mobility in the practice of tourism activity, given the need of encouraging them to pursuit, permanently, an active and healthy life. Therefore, it is necessary to adapt touristic sights, adjusting them for a secure and comfortable use not only for people with disabilities and reduced mobility, but for all individuals living in the society. Thus, this article aims to contribute to the debate on "accessible tourism" and to reach this main objective, the structure of accessibility for people with disabilities and reduced mobility of the major leisure equipments and tourist attractions of the city of Santa Cruz/RN (Brazil) was evaluated. Data collection was done through the application of forms for tourist inventory (available on the Ministry of Tourism website) in 3 (three) leisure equipments and 2 (two) tourist attractions of the city and the observation of these sites through photographic record. Through research, it was possible to verify some kind of adaptation in the investigated sites. However, significant improvements in their structures are still necessary for the free and autonomous use of the related public.

KEY WORDS: *accessible tourism, inclusion, people with disabilities, reduced mobility.*