

FROM LANDSCAPE TO THE AESTHETIC OF TOURIST SITES
A Study in Historical Centers and the Coast of the State of Paraná (Brazil)

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This article presents an interpretation of the aesthetic of urban tourist sites, which is based on research carried out on the coast of the state of Paraná (Brazil), in particular in the historical centers of Paranaguá, Antonina, Morretes, on the fringes of Guaratuba, and at the resort of Caiobá (Matinhos). The research framework incorporates Cauquelin's (2008) concept of "landscape spaces" as well as visual analysis. The research provides a description and interpretation of eighteen physical features that are common to these historical centers and coastal areas, four features that are solely present in the historical centers, and three other features that are specific to the coastal resort areas. The results of the study suggest that the aesthetics of tourist sites corresponds to the expression of a set of physical features, which are related to a morphological dimension and to the social use of urban spaces.

KEY WORDS: *landscape, tourist sites, Paraná Coast (Brazil).*