

## **TOURISM FOR ALL OR ACCESSIBLE TOURISM**

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### **Abstract**

In the last decades, it has become clear/evident at international level that dealing with people with disabilities is not just a social or health issue, but a human rights issue as well. The main point of the change of attitude is that people with different types of disability have the same human rights as any other citizen.

In recent years people with disabilities have played increasingly important role in tourism, too. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) chose themes in 2014 (Community Building) and in 2016 (Tourism for All), in connection with the World Tourism Day and several conferences focusing on people with disabilities. Nowadays, more than 1 billion people live with some kind of disabilities and their number will increase in the coming years, due to the growing average age.

In our presentation, concerning handicap accessible tourism we want to show how important handicap accessibility is, which looks like a special area, but in reality it is not. Although the implementation of handicap accessibility in the segments of transport or tourism is an indispensable necessity for the involvement of disabled people, we have show in our lecture that it is a much larger segment simultaneously providing opportunities for improving the quality of life in parallel with several target groups and ultimately gives comfort for the whole society.

In recent years steps have been made in the field of accessibility, development, but in this respect Hungary is still lagging behind. It will take several years to reach the level of Western European or Northern European countries in terms of being socially responsible and infrastructure-oriented.

Handicap accessible tourism is important to everyone, and it is in the interest of tourism service to win a market that is much larger than we can think first.

In the light of the above, the presentation highlights the concepts and importance of accessibility, the actors of accessible tourism, its potential and beneficiaries.

### **Keywords**

Disabled people, accessible tourism,