

# Crossing the Iron Curtain: Tourism and Travelling in the Cold War

Friday 7 April

Venue: Bushuis/Oost-Indisch Huis D 2.04  
Kloveniersburgwal 48, 1012 CX Amsterdam

**8:45 – 9:15 Registration & coffee**

**9:15 – 9:30: Opening**

*Christian Noack & Sune Bechmann Pedersen (UvA)*

**9:30 – 11:00 City Twinning and Holidays in Germany**

*Michelle Standley, Pratt Institute*

“Experiencing” Communism, Bolstering Capitalism:  
Guided Bus Tours of 1970s East Berlin

*Julie Andersen, University of Southern Denmark*

Summer Vacation in the Heart of the Cold War:  
Danish tourists in the Federal Republic of Germany  
(FRG) in the 1950s and 1960s

*Sarolta Klenjanszky, Centre for Adv. Study, Sofia*

Touristic Relations between Eastern and Western  
Europe through the Lens of the City Twinning  
Movement (1960–1990)

**11:15 – 12:30 Youth and Pioneer Camps**

*Robert Hornsby, University of Leeds*

Making Friends at Last: Soviet Youth Tourism to  
Communist Eastern Europe, 1958–68

*Kathleen Beger, University of Regensburg*

Friendship at a Distance? East-West Encounters in  
the Soviet Pioneer Camp “Artek”



Amsterdam  
School of  
Historical  
Studies (ASH)

**12:30 – 14:00 Lunchbreak**

**14:15 – 15:45 Western Tourism in Eastern Europe**

*Adelina Stefan, Central European University*

The Lure of Capitalism: Foreign Tourists and the  
“Economy of Shadows” in Socialist Romania of the  
1960s–1980s

*Elitza Stanoeva, European University Institute*

Welcoming the Scandinavian Tourist: Economic  
Opportunities and Ideological Challenges for  
Bulgarian Foreign Tourism in the Long 1970s

*Pavel Mücke, Czech Academy of Science*

Short Insight to Czechoslovak Politics Towards  
Western Incoming Tourism to Czechoslovakia Between  
1945 and 1989: Remarks about Actors, Trends and  
Historical Periodization

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**16:15 – 17:30 Keynote Address** *Angela Romano,  
European University Institute*

A Much Porous Curtain

**19:00 Dinner**

(registered participants only)

Restaurant “Plancius”

Plantage Kerklaan 61 1018 CX Amsterdam

**Saturday 8 April**

Venue: University Library, Doelenzaal

Singel 425 1012 WP Amsterdam



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**9:00 – 9:30 Coffee**

**9:30 – 11:00 The International Travel Industry**

*Igor Tchoukarine, University of Minnesota*

Advertising, Regulating and Organizing Global  
Tourism during the Cold War

*Kim Frederichsen, University of Copenhagen*

Through Friendship to Knowledge: The Travel  
Department of the Society for Cooperation between  
Denmark and the Soviet Union

*Lenka Krátka, Czech Academy of Science*

Business Trips as a Way How to Travel Behind the  
Iron Curtain (Case Study from Czechoslovakia)

**11:15 – 12:45 In and Out of the Soviet Union**

*Lara Piccardo, University of Genoa*

Travelling for Playing: How the Soviet Football  
Crossed the Iron Curtain

*Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University*

Foreign Tourists, Domestic Encounters: Human  
Rights Travel and Western Visits to Soviet Jewish  
Homes

*Lonneke Geerlings, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

“Much more freedom of thought than expected  
there”: Dutch Cultural Mobilizer Rosey E. Pool’s  
Visits the Soviet Union (1965)

**12:45 – 14:15 Lunch break**

**14:30 – 16:00 Travelling beyond the Eastern Bloc**

*Francesco Zavatti, Stockholm University*

Travelling Stalinist Utopia: Swedish Tourists in  
Communist Albania

*Antonio Barrento, University of Lisbon*

Going East: Socialist Destinations in the China  
Traveler, 1949–1954

*Anne Hedén, Södertörn University*

Elsa Larsson and the Story of her Trip to China in  
1977: The Fellow-Travelers Memories in a Thirty  
Year Perspective

**16:15 – 16:45 Closing remarks**

**For more information contact:**

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