



**MOUNTAINS ARE MY LEISURE**



# Next Generation



Zhangjiajie is a large mountain area that is also a UNESCO World Heritage listed natural park.

With souvenir stands at every corner, the vegetation was trampled and the soil was compacted, leading to accelerated environmental degradation. Used by many vendors to wash dishes, the streams became polluted.

The authorities are conducting a major ongoing clean-up, with the removal of inappropriate infrastructure, hotels, cafés and shops from inside the park, so that the prospects for the flora and fauna in the area – and local people – are considerably brighter than a few years ago. It is estimated that mountain tourism activities generate US\$70-90 billion a year in revenue and account for 15-20 percent of the tourist industry.

*Responsible ecotourism largely depends on our behaviour.*

**Mountains in a Rio+20 world**

Photo © mike 1963 / Flickr



---

---

---

---