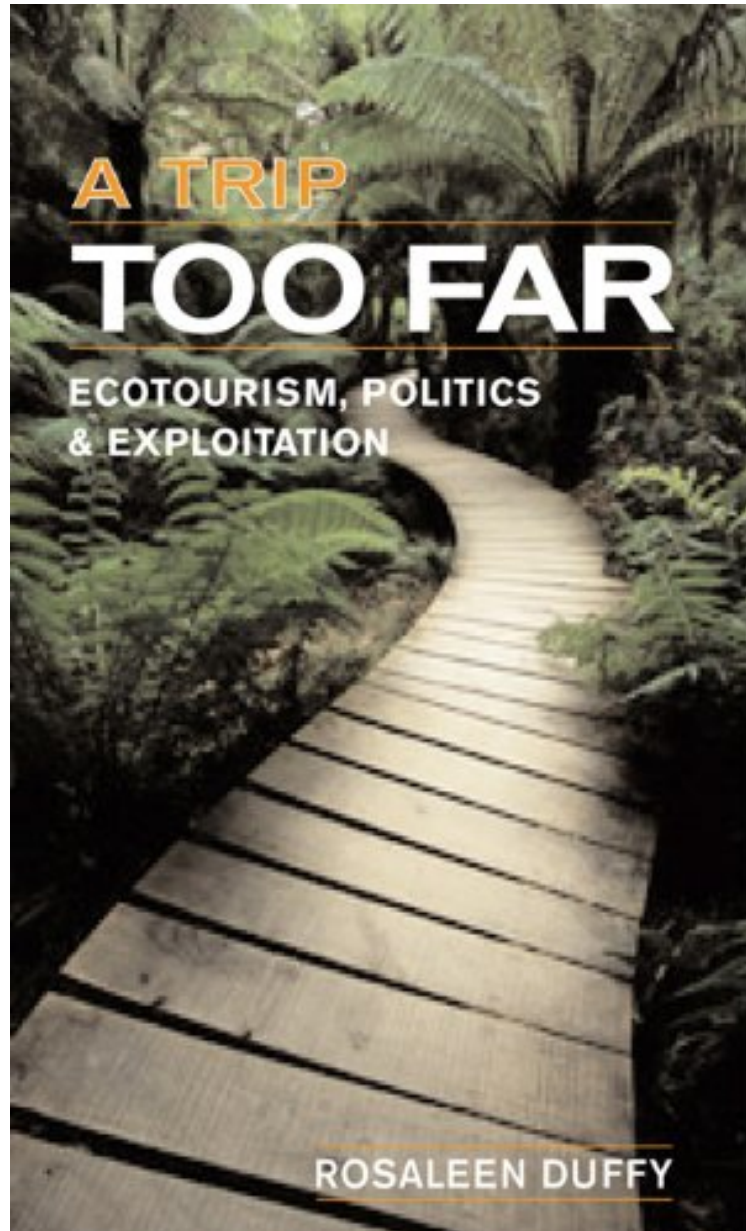


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## **A Trip Too Far: *Ecotourism, Politics and Exploitation*;**

*Rosaleen Duffy*

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**Rosaleen Duffy : A Trip Too Far: *Ecotourism, Politics and Exploitation*;** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Trip Too Far: *Ecotourism, Politics and Exploitation*;

6 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Not worth your timeBy Danny DavisWhile it attempts to be a

damning account of ecotourism's flaws, this book is itself so philosophically flawed that it is not worth reading. The author tries to bring out every point to say that ecotourism has negative side effects, even if they are philosophically contradicting, for example she criticizes the industry for both giving women jobs that cement domestic roles, and giving them jobs that free them from traditional roles, and therefore cause strife in their communities. Or she goes on about how ecotourism is not a challenge to the capitalist system, so therefore it is somehow fundamentally flawed. Or worse, at one point Duffy even says that because ecotourism is at times credible, it therefore lends credibility to capitalist goals of environmental preservation, and since that is bad, ecotourism is bad for lending a bad thing credibility. The part I like best though is when she talks about how ecotourist guides who have implemented no swimming with manatees policies in order to protect the manatees, are tempted financially by tourists to begin offering tours that allow them to do so. So ecotourism is bad because ecotourist guides are tempted to move towards regular tourism? It's almost as good as when she says that guides face complex problems, because "tourists are not a captive audience, which means that the guides have to make the trips interesting and entertaining?" So ecotourism puts pressure on tour guides to run good interesting? Certainly ecotourism is not all cracked up to be, but this book should have focused on the simpler points of where it falls short. It also should have provided better anecdotal evidence of how it has the similar negative effects to regular tourism.

Environmentally-sustainable tourism or ecotourism has become a major area of interest for governments, the private sector and international lending institutions. It is regarded as a way of allowing economic development whilst protecting against environmental degradation, especially in those countries with fragile ecosystems. However, despite the beneficial intentions of ecotourism, it tends to be regarded uncritically by environmental organizations, governments and the private sector alike. Rosaleen Duffy presents this analysis of ecotourism, linking it with environmental ideologies and the politics of North-South relations. By the extensive use of case study and interview material, she formulates ideas and proposals that should be important for the development of ecotourism around the globe.

About the Author Rosaleen Duffy is a lecturer in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Lancaster University, with a particular focus on global governance, environmental politics and ecotourism in developing states.