



# RecTour 2024: Workshop on Recommenders in Tourism

October 18, 2024



**Organizers:** Julia Neidhardt (TU Wien), Tsvi Kuflik (University of Haifa), Amit Livne (Booking.com), Markus Zanker (Free University of Bozen/Bolzano, University of Klagenfurt)

# Aims

- Address the **unique challenges** in tourism recommender systems
- Explore **novel solutions** for interconnected, **context-aware tourism products**
- Highlight key topics such as **evaluation methods, mobility, cold-start issues, emotional influence, and emerging technologies**
- Promote **community building** among researchers and industry practitioners
- Encourage **diverse contributions**, including research papers, position papers, industry papers, and demos

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## Workshop History

[RecTour 2023](#) at [ACM RecSys 2023](#), Singapore and online, September 2022.

[RecTour 2022](#) at [ACM RecSys 2022](#), Seattle, WA, USA and online, September 2022.

[RecTour 2021](#) at [ACM RecSys 2021](#), online, September 2021.

[RecTour 2019](#) at [ACM RecSys 2019](#), Copenhagen, Denmark, September 2019.

[RecTour 2018](#) at [ACM RecSys 2018](#), Vancouver, Canada, October 2018.

[RecTour 2017](#) at [ACM RecSys 2017](#), Como, Italy, August 2017.

[RecTour 2016](#) at [ACM RecSys 2016](#), Cambridge, MA, USA, September 2016.

# Program

**09:00 – 10:30: Workshop Opening and Keynote**

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**Keynote: *Expanding the Boundaries: Recommender Systems and the Multifaceted World of Tourism***

By **Alejandro Bellogín**, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)



**Abstract:** This keynote presentation explores the transformative potential of recommender systems within the tourism industry, while also examining the broader technological and sustainable trends emerging in adjacent fields. Moving beyond the traditional tasks and vocabulary known in the RecSys community, this presentation will showcase techniques and methods in use in other research areas (such as IoT, Operational Research, or Data Mining) that could be useful for the attendees of this workshop. Through case studies and real-world examples, we illustrate the synergies, challenges, and potential impact such technologies may bring to the community.

# Program (cont.)

## 11:15 – 12:45: Paper Session 1

- *TRACE: Transformer-based User Representations from Attributed Clickstream Event Sequences.*  
By **William Black**, Alex Manlove, Jack Pennington, **Andrea Marchini**, Ercument Ilhan, and Vilda Markeviciute
- *Multi-funnel Recommender System for Cold Item Boosting.*  
By **Ahmed Khaili**, Kostia Kofman, Edgar Cano, **Adva Hadrian**, and Andrew Mende
- *Structured Entity Extraction from Travel Videos Using Vision-Language Models.*  
By **Kevin Dela Rosa**
- *Lifecycle of Promotional Campaigns in the Online Travel Industry.*  
By **Carlos Herrero**, **Amit Livne**, Itsik Adiv, Hugo Manuel Proença, Felipe Moraes, Javier Albert, and Dima Goldenberg

# Program (cont.)

## 14:30 – 16:00: Paper Session 2

- *SMARTIE: Smart Museum for All Using a Range of Technology for Inclusive Experience.*  
By Alexandra Danial-Saad, Yael Avni, Julia Sheidin, and **Tsvi Kuflik**
- *A Multimodal Dataset and Benchmark for Tourism Review Generation.*  
By **Hiromasa Yamanishi**, Ling Xiao, and Toshihiko Yamasaki
- *A Roadmap for Privacy Preserving Tourist Recommendation Systems.*  
Alan Wecker, Noa Tuval, Alain Hertz, Mohammad Mahamid, and **Tsvi Kuflik**
- *Journey to Centralizing Destination Recommendations.*  
By **Maria Prosviryakova**, Gaurav Misra, Sebastien Le Digabel, and Rodrigo Villatoro

# Program (cont.)

## 16:45 – 18:15: Challenge Presentations and Closing

- *Booking.com RecSys RecTour 2024 Challenge.*  
By **Amit Livne** and **Eran Fainman**
- *Accommodation Review Ranking for Tourism Recommendation.*  
By **Emrul Hasan**, Chen Ding, Sajib Saha, Neelima Preeti, and Abdul Halim
- *ProfileRec: Efficient Accommodation Review Ranking using Sentence Embeddings and Nearest-Neighbor Search.*  
By **Rajorshi Chaudhuri**, Pranav Bhatki, and Yash Dubal
- *Solution to the Personalized Accommodation Review Ranking Task via Tabular Data Approach.*  
By **Yu Tokutake**
- Workshop Closing



**Enjoy the Workshop!**

**Website of RecTour 2024:**

<https://workshops.ds-ifs.tuwien.ac.at/rectour24/>

