# Workshop on Tourism Recommender Systems (TouRS15)

*http://deim.urv.cat/~itaka/workshops/recsys2015/*

## 9th ACM International Conference on Recommender Systems

**(RecSys 2015** - *Vienna, Austria, 20th September 2015*)

Tourism is a very challenging field, ripe for the application of Recommender Systems. Travellers are very keen on using tools that may support their decision making processes when they are planning a trip, including the choice of destination, the selection of attractions to visit, the construction of a multi-day plan, the suggestion of appropriate accommodations and restaurants, etc. This one-day workshop looks for contributions that explore the application of the latest recommendation techniques in this area, including aspects such as the following:

- Design of user interfaces that support the planning of the trip and its actual execution (including Web and mobile interfaces).
- Study of all the contextual aspects that should be taken into account when providing touristic recommendations.
- Discovery and dynamic management of tourist interests, including context-dependent preferences.
- Definition of planning algorithms that may build different kinds of touristic routes, depending on the user's requirements.
- Use of semantic information, in the form of Tourism ontologies, that can help to make a more-fine grained analysis of the preferences of visitors.
- Group recommendation techniques, which take into account the individual opinions of the members of the travel group.
- Analysis of the factors that influence the satisfaction of the user with the touristic recommendations, including the analysis of the trade-off between accuracy and diversity.
- Analysis of the feedback from the user (interaction with the system, actions on social networks) to refine and improve the user profile.
- Combination of different recommendation techniques (content-based, collaborative, demographic, contextual) to provide recommendations of activities to visitors.
- Field tests of Tourism recommenders.

The workshop will feature the presentation of selected papers and demos, and a round panel analysing the main challenges in the area. The attendants to the workshop will have to register in the main RecSys conference (it will not be possible to register only for the workshop). One author of each accepted contribution in the workshop will have to register during the early registration period (before August 16th, 2015); otherwise, the contribution will not be included in the program and the proceedings.

## Committees

### Workshop chairs

Antonio Moreno, Univ. Rovira i Virgili (antonio.moreno@urv.cat)
Laura Sebastiá, Technical University of Valencia
Pieter Vansteenwegen, KU Leuven

### Program committee (provisional)

Joan Borràs, Scientific and Technological Park for Tourism and Leisure
Keith Cheverst, Lancaster Univ.
Belen Díaz, Univ. Complutense de Madrid
Damianos Gavalas, Univ. of the Aegean
Aldy Gunawan, Singapore Management Univ.
Yuxia Huang, Texas A&M Univ.
Yohei Kurata, Tokyo Metropolitan Univ.
Bernd Ludwig, Univ. Regensburg
David Martín, Cooperative Research Centre in Tourism
Juan Antonio Recio, Univ. Complutense de Madrid
Aida Valls, Univ. Rovira i Virgili
David Yuste, Troovel Travel Network

## Submissions

The workshop contributions must present original results. They must be formatted using the RecSys-2015 format (ACM SIG proceedings). Standard papers have a maximum length of 10 pages, and demo descriptions must have a 2-pages length. At least one different author of each accepted paper/demo should attend the workshop to present the work. The submission to the workshop must be made using EasyChair, through the following link:

https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=tours15

All the submitted papers/demos will be reviewed by at least two members of the Program Committee. The main aspects to be reviewed will be originality, technical accuracy and relevance to the workshop.

**Important dates**

Submission of papers/demos: **Extended to July, 5$^{th}$, 2015.**

Notification of acceptance/rejection decision: July 17$^{th}$, 2015

Camera-ready final version of accepted papers: July 24$^{th}$, 2015

Workshop: September 20$^{th}$, 2015

**Publication and post-proceedings**

Workshop proceedings will be distributed in the USB stick of the RecSys 2015 conference. If the quantity and quality of the submitted papers is appropriate, the organising committee will explore the possibility of editing a special issue with expanded versions of the best papers in a JCR-listed journal on Artificial Intelligence.