

The Tourism Performance of History : Interpreting the Battle of Hastings Reenactment, England

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Abstract

Historical reenactment is one of most popular tourism events held in many historic sites and museums in Europe and the U.S.A. It is considered as an edutainment way in teaching and learning history with reenacting historic battles and events.

The research discusses the concept and characteristics of historical reenactment in cultural studies of tourism perspective with a case study of the reenactment of Battle of Hasting hosted in Battle, England. It assumes that the reenactment belongs to the cultural performance in tourism field, which seeks to articulate the meanings of historic event to spectators under the consideration of making tourism profit. For this reason, the holding time and the program of the reenactment have to look after both history learning and entertainment making, which leads the event become not only a stage of displaying the medieval English culture, but also a historical spectacle.

**Key Words : historical reenactment, living history, tourism
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