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Adventure tourism — Terminology

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 228, *Tourism and related services*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Adventure tourism

Adventure tourism is a global industry that is growing in importance. Whether provided on a commercial, not for profit or charitable basis, adventure tourism activities involve an accepted, inherent element of risk and challenge. Taking risks brings rewards but also brings dangers. In order to maximize the rewards, adventure tourism activity providers should operate as safely as practicable.

ISO 20611, ISO 21101, ISO 21102 and ISO 21103 provide a basis for adventure tourism activity providers to plan, deliver and inform about adventure tourism activities as safely as practicable.

Effective implementation of these documents will help consumers and other participants make informed choices about activities and providers.

Adventure tourism standards

The purpose of these documents is to set out the minimum requirements for safety management systems and information to participants.

The following four documents are independent entities since they apply to different aspects of adventure tourism:

- ISO 20611: provides requirements and recommendations on good practices for sustainability (environmental, social and economic aspects) for adventure tourism activities;
- ISO 21101: specifies how the adventure tourism organization manages its operations in terms of safety.

NOTE *A practical guide for SMEs – ISO 21101, Adventure tourism — Safety management systems* is a handbook that offers step-by-step guidance and examples to help small and medium-sized adventure tourism operators to develop, implement and continually improve a safety management system following the requirements of ISO 21101.

- ISO 21102: specifies the minimum requirements and recommendations of competencies and the related expected results of competencies for adventure tourism activity leaders common to any adventure tourism activity;
- ISO 21103: specifies the minimum information that shall be communicated to participants and potential participants before, during and after the activity.

Purpose of this document

Adventure tourism terminology is an important way to align terms to enhance the safe delivery of adventure tourism activities.

This document specifies most common terms and their definitions used in adventure tourism activities. This document was developed to make easier the understanding of adventure tourism terms in this market.

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Adventure tourism — Terminology

1 Scope

This document establishes the terms commonly used in several adventure tourism activities, including terms related to safety and services.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

2.1

abseiling **rappeling**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) with rope descending techniques, using specific equipment and procedures

Note 1 to entry: Abseiling inside caves is included in *vertical speleotourism* (2.35).

2.2

adventure speleotourism ISO/DIS 3163
standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5df1920f-8cf3-4670-a2e-5fb719532cd7/iso-dis-3163
adventure tourism activity in caves

2.3

adventure tourism activity

adventure activity for tourism purposes that involves a degree of instruction or leadership, safety management and an accepted inherent risk

Note 1 to entry: An accepted element of risk means that the *participant* (2.21) has a reasonable understanding about the risk involved.

[SOURCE: ISO 21101:2014, 3.35 (modified)]

2.4

adventure tourism activity provider

*individual or organization having overall responsibility for all aspects of the provision of *adventure tourism activities* (2.3)*

Note 1 to entry: *Adventure tourism activities* (2.3) can be provided free of charge or in return for payment.

[SOURCE: ISO 21101:2014, 3.36]

2.5

bungee jump **bungy jump**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) involves a person free falling from a height and the descent is limited by attachment to the bungee jump cord

Note 1 to entry: The elastic cord is manufactured specifically for the activity.

2.6

canyoning

adventure tourism activity (2.3) in wet or dry course descents, usually in canyons, progressing through aquatic or vertical obstacles

Note 1 to entry: to entry: **In wet courses, water can be intermittent.**

Note 2 to entry: A water course may contain waterfalls.

Note 3 to entry: Cascading is a term used for the descent of one particular waterfall.

2.7

cyclotourism

adventure tourism activity (2.3) by riding a bicycle

Note 1 to entry: The activity can involve an overnight stay.

2.8

climbing

adventure tourism activity (2.3) of scaling a steep surface

Note 1 to entry: Safe climbing uses specific technique and equipment.

Note 2 to entry: Some examples of steep surface can be rock face, side of a mountain, boulder, ice waterfall, ice cascade, artificial climbing wall, sea cliff.

2.9

difficulty level

rating or degree of physical and psychological difficulty expected to be encountered while participating in an *adventure tourism activity (2.3)*, based on factors such as required technical capacity, terrain, altitude or climate

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2.10

disability

umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions denoting the negative aspects of the interaction between an individual (with a health condition) and that individual's contextual factors (environmental and personal factors)

[SOURCE: ICF 2001, WHO and ISO 9999:2011]

2.11

emergency

serious situation requiring immediate action

[SOURCE: ISO 21101:2014, 3.43]

2.12

first aid

emergency procedures aimed at maintaining vital functions whilst ensuring that the condition of a casualty who is injured, unconscious or whose life is in danger is not aggravated, until he or she receives more qualified assistance for further treatment

[SOURCE: ISO 21102:2020, 3.7 (modified)]

2.13

free time

period(s) of time occurring within the overall duration of the *adventure tourism activity (2.3)*, defined as being beyond the contractual obligations of the *adventure tourism activity provider (2.4)*

2.14**high rope course**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) where participant is attached with specialized equipment at height above the ground, to courses usually constructed or installed in tree or made of utility poles

Note 1 to entry: It can be also referred to as a challenge course.

2.15**hiking**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) where the main element is to walk

2.16**interested party**

person or organization that can affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision or activity

2.17**itinerary**

description of the component parts involved in the *adventure tourism activity* (2.3), listing times, locations and activities

2.18**leader**

competent person who takes responsibility for people and is able to lead, guide and supervise an assigned activity

Note 1 to entry: A leader might also be referred to as 'guide', 'monitor' or similar.

[SOURCE: ISO 21102:2020, 3.8] (standards.iteh.ai)

2.19**mountaineering**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) of *hiking* (2.15), *trekking* (2.34) or *climbing* (2.8), practiced in a mountainous environment

2.20**off-road tourism**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) following routes, off public roads on unpaved secondary roads, *trails* (2.33), tracks or rough terrain using specialized vehicles or bikes

Note 1 to entry: The *route* (2.23) may include sections on public roads.

2.21**participant**

person taking part in the *adventure tourism activity* (2.3) but not a member of the leadership team

Note 1 to entry: A participant might also be referred to as 'client', 'customer' or similar.

Note 2 to entry: A leadership team comprises several *leaders* (2.18).

[SOURCE: ISO 21101:2014, 3.37]

2.22**rafting**

adventure tourism activity (2.3) with the descent of rivers with different ratings, using inflatable boats and specific techniques and specialized equipment

2.23**route**

course from the beginning of the *adventure tourism activity* (2.3) to its end

Note 1 to entry: In some routes, the start and end points can be the same.

2.24

self-rescue

specific techniques implemented by person on his or her own, to manage adverse situations without external intervention

Note 1 to entry: In some situations, it may be more than one person engaged in self-rescue.

2.25

self-belay system

self-connection system

safety device system, connected to the harness fixing point and connected to a safety point, made of ropes or another connection

Note 1 to entry: The self-belay system can have the capacity to absorb impact forces.

Note 2 to entry: A safety point can be a leash, a sling or a lanyard.

2.26

single track

trail where only one person or bicycle can pass at a time

2.27

stakeholder

individual or group that has an interest in any decision or activity of an organization

[SOURCE: ISO 26000:2010, 2.20]

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2.28

support vehicle (in cyclotourism) (standards.iteh.ai)

vehicle for logistic support and capable of transporting persons or bicycles safely

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2.29

support vehicle (on off-road tourism)

vehicle for logistic support during the course, except for the removal of injured *leaders* (2.18) or *participants* (2.21)

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2.30

sustainability

state of the global system, including environmental, social and economic aspects, in which the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Note 1 to entry: The environmental, social and economic aspects interact, are interdependent and are often referred to as the three dimensions of sustainability.

Note 2 to entry: Sustainability is the goal of *sustainable development* (2.31).

[SOURCE: ISO Guide 82:2019, 3.1]

2.31

sustainable development

development that meets the environmental, social and economic needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Note 1 to entry: Derived from the Brundtland Report.

[SOURCE: ISO Guide 82:2019, 3.2]

2.32

third party provider

external organization or individual that provides services to the *adventure tourism activity provider* (2.4)