

## Heritage Value and Industrial Tourism Potential of the Urals, Russia

**Authors :** Anatoly V. Stepanov, Maria Y. Ilyushkina, Alexander S. Burnasov

**Abstract :** Expansion of tourism, especially after WWII, has led to significant improvements in the regional infrastructure. The present study has revealed a lot of progress in the advancement of industrial heritage narrative in the Central Urals. The evidence comes from the general public's increased fascination with some of Europe's oldest mining and industrial sites, and the agreement of many stakeholders that the Urals industrial heritage should be preserved. The development of tourist sites in Nizhny Tagil and Nvyansk, gold-digging in Beryosovsky, gemstone search in Murzinka, and the progress with the Urals Gemstone Ring project are the examples showing the immense opportunities of industrial heritage tourism development in the region that are still to be realized. Regardless of the economic future of the Central Urals, whether it will remain an industrial region or experience a deeper deindustrialization, the sprouts of the industrial heritage tourism should be advanced and amplified for the benefit of local communities and the tourist community at large as it is hard to imagine a more suitable site for the discovery of industrial and mining heritage than the Central Urals Region of Russia.

**Keywords :** industrial heritage, mining heritage, Central Urals, Russia

**Conference Title :** ICCHTA 2020 : International Conference on Culture and Heritage Tourism Activities

**Conference Location :** New York, United States

**Conference Dates :** August 10-11, 2020