Heritage on the Move:

Migrations, Diasporas, Tourisms and the Making of Heritage

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Call for Chapters

Over the past decades, heritage studies have critically examined how heritage is constructed, institutionalized, and mobilized in the production of identities, territories, and political claims. Yet, despite important advances, heritage research has often remained implicitly anchored in sedentary assumptions: heritage is frequently understood as rooted in place, bounded by territory, and tied to stable communities.

At the same time, mobility studies and migration studies have profoundly transformed the social sciences by foregrounding movement, circulation, and displacement as structuring features of contemporary and historical societies. From forced displacement and exile to tourism, lifestyle migration, labor mobility, and digital circulation, mobilities have become a central condition of social life.

This edited volume seeks to bring these fields into sustained dialogue by exploring a central proposition: heritage is not only produced in place — it is also produced through movement. Rather than treating mobility as an external factor that affects pre-existing heritage, we invite contributors to examine how mobility itself generates, transforms, re-signifies, and politicizes heritage.

We welcome theoretically informed empirical case studies that explore the relationship between heritage and various forms of mobility (migrations, tourism, transports), including but not limited to:

- Heritage of diasporas and transnational communities
- Return migration and post-conflict reconstruction through heritage
- Heritage, lifestyle migration and amenity mobility
- Tourism and heritage circulation
- Labor migration and everyday heritage practices
- Climate-induced displacement and impacts on heritage
- Digital mobilities and virtual heritage
- Mobile objects, archives, and memory practices

We are particularly interested in contributions that address one or more of the following questions:

- How does mobility challenge sedentary and territorialized understandings of heritage?
- In what ways do displaced or mobile communities produce new forms of heritage?
- How are memories, practices, and objects reconfigured through circulation?
- What political claims to belonging, citizenship, or recognition are articulated through mobile heritage?
- How do institutions (local, national, international) govern or regulate heritage in contexts of mobility?
- How do inequalities of mobility (who can move, who cannot) shape heritage production?
- Can heritage function as a resource, strategy, or constraint in migratory trajectories?

The volume aims to position itself at the intersection of heritage studies, mobility studies, and migration studies, contributing to ongoing debates on transnationalism, belonging, cultural governance, and the

politics of memory. We encourage comparative, multi-sited, and interdisciplinary approaches drawing from anthropology, sociology, geography, history, political science, cultural studies, and related fields.

We particularly welcome case studies from diverse geographical contexts and historical periods. Contributions may focus on urban or rural settings, tangible or intangible heritage, institutionalized or vernacular practices, material objects or embodied traditions.

Each chapter should not only present a case study but also explicitly engage with the broader conceptual question of how mobility shapes heritage-making processes.

We plan to submit this volume to a recognised international publisher and a specialist series on heritage and mobility issues, preferably in open access.

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts of 300–400 words + 4-6 keywords (in word format)
- A short biographical note (150 words) (in word format)
- Deadline for abstract submission: May 20th 2026
- Notification of acceptance: June 30th 2026
- Full chapters (7,000–8,000 words) due November 2026

Abstracts should clearly outline:

- The empirical case
- The type(s) of mobility addressed
- The heritage dimension examined
- The chapter's main theoretical contribution

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By examining heritage through the lens of mobility, this volume seeks to move beyond methodological nationalism and sedentary bias, and to contribute to a more dynamic, relational understanding of cultural production in a world shaped by movement, displacement, and circulation.