WHY DO PAPERS GET DESK-REJECTED?

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When do desk rejections occur?

You

Desk Rejection within a few days

Editor in Chief

Desk Rejection ~ 2 weeks

Associate Editor

A quick desk-rejection is a good desk-rejection!
Editor in Chief desk rejections

- Lack of fit with aims & scope
  - Not tourism
  - *Annals vs Annals Empirical Insights*
- Text duplication
- Lack of contribution to knowledge
- Lack of transferability
  - context-specific
  - no broader implications
- Poor illustration and readability
  - Poor English, grammatical errors, typos, too many charts
  - Too complicated, too many technical terms and discipline-specific terms
- Scholarly self-reflection
Associate Editor desk rejections

• Lack of contribution to knowledge (from an expert perspective)
• Flawed methodology
  – The research design does not generate valid conclusions
  – The study is not replicable
• Lack of relevance
  – To academics
  – To policy makers and industry
  – To residents
• Findings do not support conclusions
• Ignoring key developments (e.g. COVID-19, Airbnb)
Common desk rejection reasons for qualitative and conceptual papers

- Applied case study
- Narrow focus of the study
- Significance of contribution to knowledge is below the threshold
- Weaknesses in research design
- Failure in conceptual design for conceptual research
- Ill-fitting findings
Common desk rejection reasons for quantitative papers using secondary data

- Data mining without theoretical underpinning
- Spurious regression when time series data are used
- Sample biases
- Inappropriate use of causality tests
- Measurement problem of secondary data
Common desk rejection reasons for quantitative papers using primary data (mainly surveys)

- Convenience sampling
- Problematic survey questions
- Adapted scales
- Scale development “exercises”
- Invalid measures of behaviour
- Causal conclusions from non-causal research designs

Can a desk-rejection be useful?

- We provide key reasons for desk-rejections
- Helps to strengthen your work
- For submission to another journal
- For future submissions to *Annals of Tourism Research* or *Annals of Tourism Research Empirical Insights*
Thank you.

We are looking forward to taking questions.

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