



First announcement  
and call for papers

## **VIII Nordic-Scottish Conference on Rural and Regional Development**

in association with

### **The 14th Nordic Symposium in Tourism and Hospitality Research**

September 22-25, 2005

University of Akureyri will be hosting the 2005 Nordic-Scottish conference on rural and regional development. The conference will be held in Akureyri Iceland on September 22-25. The conference is administered by the University of Akureyri Research Institute. This year the conference will to some extent be run parallel to the Nordic Symposium in Tourism and Hospitality Research<sup>1</sup> which is being administered by the Icelandic Tourism Research Center in Akureyri. The choice of conference themes takes this arrangement into account.

#### **Conference themes:**

##### **1) Societal change and development in rural areas,**

for example including topics such as:

- The impact of large scale industrial projects in sparsely populated regions.
- Innovation in rural communities with traditional economic structure.
- The role of transportation systems for sustaining rural communities.

##### **2) The role and potential of tourism for rural regions in the North,**

including for example topics such as:

- The coverage and role of tourism in rural and regional policies.
- Development strategies for rural tourism development (examples of good practice).
- Balancing tourism development and broader rural community development.

All papers related to the two broad themes of the conference are welcomed. Also we welcome posters related to the conference themes. University students at any level are especially encouraged to participate in the poster sessions of the conference. Those interested in presenting a paper or poster should submit an abstract of maximum 400 words to the contact persons listed below. The abstract deadline is June 10 2005.

The Nordic Scottish Conference on Rural and Regional Development will run an independent agenda on Thursday, September 22, with an emphasis on theme number one. On Friday September 23 and Saturday September 24, theme number two will be run parallel to the Nordic Tourism Symposium. This includes joint plenary sessions for both events and also opportunities to attend concurrent sessions associated with both events. On Sunday September 25 a study trip/excursion to Lake Myvatn area will be arranged for participants in both events.

For additional information contact:

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<sup>1</sup> Preliminary information on the conference themes of the Nordic Tourism Symposium are provided on line at  
<http://www.aktravel.is/template1.asp?PageID=134>