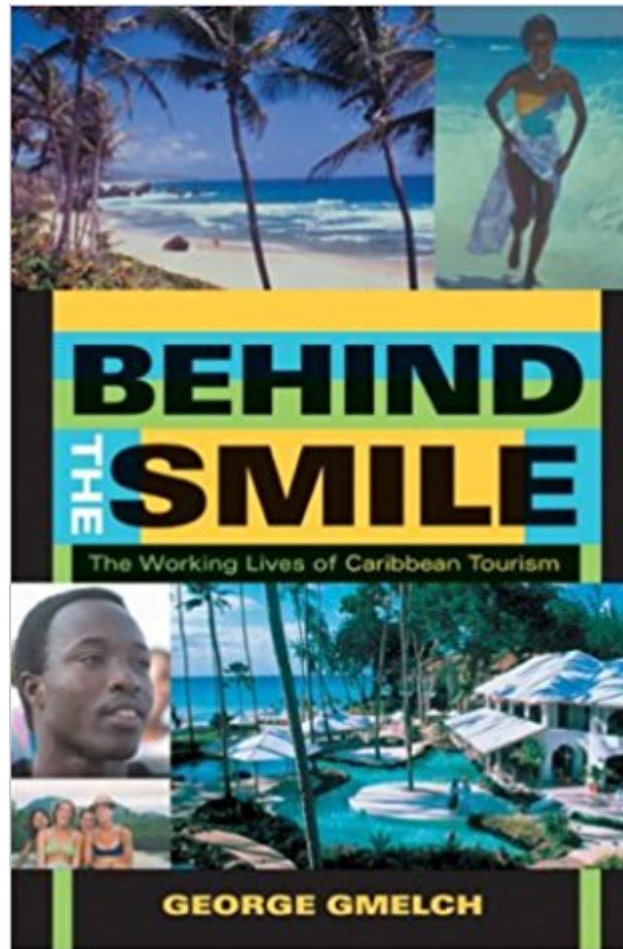


The book was found

# Behind The Smile: The Working Lives Of Caribbean Tourism



## Synopsis

Behind the Smile is an inside look at the world of Caribbean tourism as seen through the lives of the men and women in the tourist industry in Barbados. The workers represent every level of tourism, from maid to hotel manager, beach gigolo to taxi driver, red cap to diving instructor. These highly personal accounts offer insight into complex questions about tourism: how race shapes interactions between tourists and workers, how tourists may become agents of cultural change, the meaning of sexual encounters between locals and tourists, and the real economic and ecological costs of development through tourism. This updated edition includes several new narratives and a new chapter about American students' experiences during summer school and home stays in Barbados.

## Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press (September 11, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 025321615X

ISBN-13: 978-0253216151

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.6 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 13 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,391,516 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > Barbados & Trinidad and Tobago](#) #2281 in [Books > Business & Money > Industries > Hospitality, Travel & Tourism](#) #4610 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Anthropology > General](#)

## Customer Reviews

Building on his experience writing about Caribbean migrants and Barbados history and culture, Union College anthropology professor Gmelch presents an intriguing, but ultimately cursory, look at the world of Caribbean tourism. He profiles 20 men and women who work in Barbados's tourism industry, from maids and hotel managers to taxi drivers and diving instructors. By doing so, Gmelch finds answers to some questions about how tourism workers view their clients' affluent lifestyle, moral character and pursuit of leisure. Rather than drawing conclusions (or even commenting on his findings) however, the author prefers to let his subjects speak for themselves. For example, Gmelch makes no commentary about hotel water sports supervisor Zerphyl Greaves's belief that "sometimes you get the feeling that maybe they tourists don't like you because you're a different

color.... Sometimes you hear comments like, 'These black people don't really know how to do things right.'" Nonetheless, despite its lack of comprehensive analysis, this wide-reaching study provides a useful document about how Caribbean residents feel about the many visitors to their islands.  
Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

""The narratives are thought-provoking and Gmelch's comments are insightful. Everyone in the tourist industry should have this book on their shelves."" -- Anthropological Quarterly

the old one has been broke in my family , great . This is a well made, very sharp product at a great price point. I'd definitely recommend it and would buy other products from the seller. Another nice touch is that the seller contacted me to ask if I was satisfied. I am. suit for this price . it is very fast delivery.

This book is a simple, straight-forward, easy-to-read study of workers in the tourist industry in Barbados, employing oral history. The main body of the book is twenty brief, transcribed interviews from individuals positioned differently in the industry. The interviews are interesting, and offer illuminating insights into the views of workers themselves. The author is an anthropologist with considerable experience in fieldwork and oral history, who has been directing an ethnographic field school in Barbados. He has also written books on Bajan society and on Bajan emigrants. The book begins with an introductory chapter on tourism in general and Bajan tourism in particular, raising several issues for consideration. The second chapter provides an overview of the Barbados tourist industry, ending with a brief discussion of his research methods. There is also a concluding chapter, with generalizations based on the twenty interviews. The most striking point I got from reading this book is that the informants all seem to enjoy their jobs, and gain personal gratification from it, contrary to the critiques of many or most scholars. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in tourism or in the Caribbean.

I read this book for a research paper on Barbados, that I chose to write for an undergraduate anthropology class called Caribbean Ethnography. The book is written by Professor George Gmelch of Union College in Schenectady, NY. It is a very simple book with little to no anthropological analysis on the surface. However, upon completing this book you will realize Gmelch's perfect and unintentional introduction to the anthropology of everyday life. That is to say, the Gmelch gives us 20 snapshots of people working in the tourism industry in Barbados. Gmelch brings us, their jobs,

their home lives, their concerns and the things that bring them joy. Gmelch stumbles upon a fantastic way to introduce a culture. As I read this book (about 3 years ago, I am writing from memory which can only mean that this book was very good at leaving an impression), I thought that it would be great if other anthropologists and writers did this for each culture they study, as the lives of the people, their homes and concerns are surely one of the greatest insights into their culture. This book is generally about tourism, specifically about Caribbean tourism and the country of Barbados. I gave this book to my mother for her to read, as she is a regular big-boat cruise traveler. She loved the book. She told me it brought her a better awareness to the happenings outside of the cruise ship bubble. She was not shot down from ever going on cruises again, but rather took more consideration into planning her cruise, ecologically, economically and culturally.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Behind the Smile, Second Edition: The Working Lives of Caribbean Tourism Behind the Smile: The Working Lives of Caribbean Tourism Best Practice in Accessible Tourism: Inclusion, Disability, Ageing Population and Tourism (ASPECTS OF TOURISM) Most Popular Caribbean Recipes Quick & Easy!: Essential West Indian Food Recipes from the Caribbean Islands (Caribbean recipes, Caribbean recipes old ... recipes cookbook, West Indian cooking) The Gift of a Life Smile: Your Guide to Uncovering Your White Smile and Hidden Happiness Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean: A Guide to the Ships & the Ports of Call (Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean) (Cruising the Southern & Western Caribbean) Understanding and Managing Tourism Impacts: An Integrated Approach (Contemporary Geographies of Leisure, Tourism and Mobility) Tourism in the Pacific: Issues and Cases (Tourism and Hospitality Management Series) Tourism, Culture and Development: Hopes, Dreams and Realities in East Indonesia (Tourism and Cultural Change) Accessible Tourism: Concepts and Issues (ASPECTS OF TOURISM) Dark Tourism (Tourism, Leisure & Recreation) Tourism in Africa: Harnessing Tourism for Growth and Improved Livelihoods (Africa Development Forum) Bermuda History, Travel Guide and Tourism: Bermuda people and immigration, tourism information, Government, Culture and Economy Tourist Destination, Gambia tourism: discovery on Gambia tourism resources and Business opportunities Tourism, Religion and Pilgrimage in Jerusalem (Contemporary Geographies of Leisure, Tourism and Mobility) The Tourists Gaze, The Cretans Glance: Archaeology and Tourism on a Greek Island (Heritage, Tourism & Community) Behind the Smile: My Journey out of Postpartum Depression Behind a Philippines Smile 2 - Wedding Bells - Secret Love: Carina - Part Two of Two Behind a Philippines Smile - Against Her Will - A Friend in Need / More than Friends - Girlfriends: Carina - Part One of Two The Hidden Smile of God: The Fruit of Affliction in the Lives of John Bunyan,

William Cowper, and David Brainerd (Swans Are Not Silent)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)