

The Akatsuki Tourism: Venus observation campaign as next-generation geopark contents

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This paper discusses the potential of planetary science as next-generation geopark contents, which has not been focused ever. It should be easy to divert existing geopark contents to planetary science outreach because the Earth is a planet.

In order for the geopark tourists to understand planetary science contents, the guides have to require considerable time and patience of the guests to tell the whole story beyond the story about the Earth. Clearly, we cannot challenge the patience of lay tourists. We should therefore target the geo-fan base, and make them to become a word-of-mouth hubs that popularize the geocontents.

In order for the geopark tourist not to understand planetary science but just to touch the topics, astronomical observation events may work. A good example is the Venus observation campaign in 2017, supporting and cheering the Japanese spacecraft Akatsuki in geoparks.