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CTS Cardiff 2011 The Meaning of Home in the Global Age; the touristic case of the holiday (home)

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The Meaning of Home in the Global Age; the touristic case of the holiday (home).

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The concept of home has become increasingly complex in an age where mobility on a global scale has become more pervasive. The somewhat related concept of place attachment has been made problematic by the ability of significant numbers of people to call more than one place home.

This paper seeks to explore what we currently call home and how we materialise attachment to place, and more specifically to home. In so doing it further explicates the phenomenon that is tourism because tourism cannot be understood except in relation to home (McCabe, 2002), it is our departure into a place and space that is different. '...home is unavoidably a constituent of tourist experiences...every tourist carries an inherent pursuit of a sense of home/self when travelling (Wang, 2007, p.797), as the definition of home changes so does the definition of tourism.

The study on which this paper is based is a phenomenological account of the second home living experience in Ireland, exploring the interactions between the everyday home life and the holiday home life of the second home owner. This study has found that in the case of second home living home remains an integral part of the tourist experience. To date the interface of home and tourism has not been extensively examined in either the home or tourism literatures.

McCabe, S. (2002) *The Tourist Experience and Everyday Life* in G. Dann, *The Tourist as a Metaphor of the Social World*, Oxford, CABI.

Wang, Y. (2007) Customized authenticity begins at home, *Annals of Tourism Research*, Vol. 34 (3), pp.789-804.

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