

REVIEWER'S REPORT

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Title: Digital Geoarbitrage, Workation, and Remote Work Migration in Lisbon, Madeira, and Las Palmas: Socioeconomic Impacts and Reflections

Recommendation:

Accept as it is
Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			✓	
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity			✓	
Significance			✓	

Reviewer Name: Mr Bilal Mir

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

General Assessment:

This article offers a timely and analytically robust examination of the impacts of digital geoarbitrage and remote work migration in three prominent European destinations. It stands out for its critical engagement with structural and spatial consequences of remote work mobility, situating the phenomenon within a nuanced theoretical framework that extends beyond lifestyle discourses. The paper is conceptually sophisticated, empirically grounded, and contributes significantly to the interdisciplinary fields of urban studies, mobility studies, and digital labor.

Abstract Evaluation:

The abstract is clear, dense, and intellectually rigorous. It successfully conveys the paper's departure from popular narratives of digital nomadism, focusing instead on material impacts such as rental inflation, labor dynamics, and governance challenges. The integration of key theoretical paradigms—urban commodification, platform mobility, spatial justice, and symbolic governance—signals a high level of analytical depth. The abstract also outlines the article's comparative approach and critical stance without claiming exhaustive resolution, which is appropriate given the complexity of the subject.

Introduction Evaluation:

The introduction is well-formulated, providing a coherent backdrop for the study. It sets the stage by linking the post-pandemic transformation of labor geographies with emerging practices like digital geoarbitrage. The discussion is supported by contemporary literature and reflects a strong grasp of current academic conversations. The conceptual linkages between mobility, economic restructuring, and spatial reconfiguration are effectively established, offering a compelling rationale for focusing on Lisbon, Madeira, and Las Palmas.

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Theoretical Grounding and Analytical Depth:

The paper is well-anchored in critical theory. By engaging with authors such as Harvey, Soja, and Bozzi, the article provides a multidimensional lens through which the dynamics of remote work migration are interpreted. Concepts like gentrification, socio-spatial stratification, digital enclaves, and symbolic governance are deployed with precision and relevance. The article also engages with policy implications, particularly the framing of remote work as a governance challenge rather than solely an individual lifestyle choice.

Methodological Rigor:

While the methodology is not detailed in the abstract or introduction excerpt, references to empirical data—including salary differentials, rental trends, and visa policies—indicate that the paper draws on concrete data sources. This suggests a mixed-methods or data-informed qualitative approach that strengthens the article's claims. The comparative structure enhances its analytical reach, allowing for nuanced contrasts between cities facing similar pressures with different governance responses.

Critical Questions and Contribution:

The questions posed near the end of the abstract are insightful and sharpen the article's critical posture. They invite reflection on issues of equity, integration, and the evolving nature of urban space. Rather than advancing simplistic conclusions, the article emphasizes complexity and contingency, aligning well with scholarly expectations in critical urbanism and digital mobility research.

Language and Style:

The language is academic, sophisticated, and precise. Terminology is consistently appropriate for a scholarly audience, and the writing maintains clarity even when engaging with complex theoretical constructs.

Final Remarks:

This article provides a rigorous, comparative, and critically engaged study of digital geoarbitrage and remote work migration. Its theoretical integration, empirical relevance, and focus on spatial justice and governance make it a valuable contribution to ongoing discussions about the social consequences of digital labor mobility in urban contexts. The work offers a fresh perspective on a rapidly evolving issue, challenging celebratory narratives and calling for inclusive, reflexive policymaking.