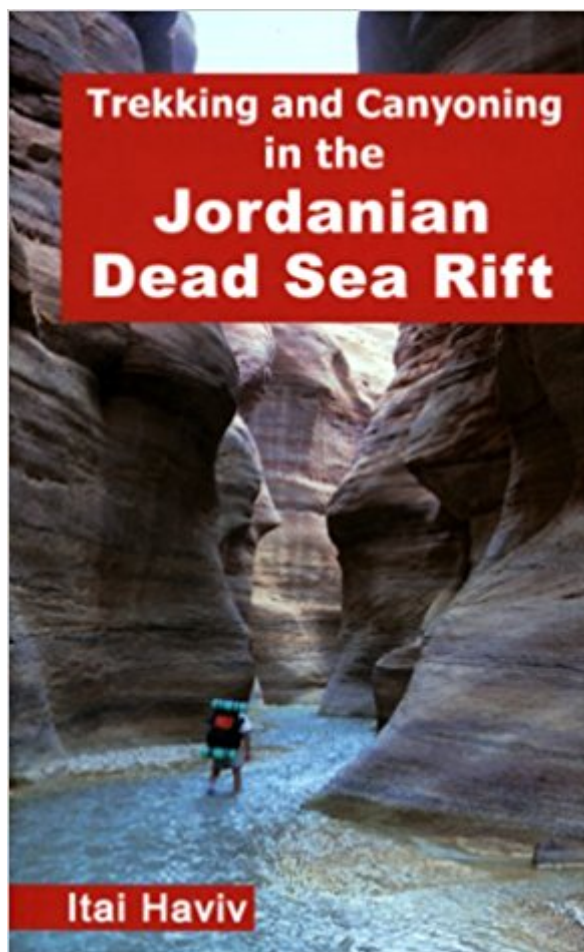


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Trekking And Canyoning In The Jordanian Dead Sea Rift



Synopsis

The Jordanian Dead Sea Rift includes some of the world's most ragged and colorful desert landscapes. Its dramatic canyons are only now beginning to be revealed, offering the trekker untamed desert wilderness. Year-round streams, waterfalls and lush vegetation are all here to be found, dotting the desert with numerous oases. Rising above the canyons are mazes of sandstone domes and isolated cliffs with spectacular vistas. Bedouin nomads roam through the region, herding their goats and often still living in goat-hair tents, not far from world-famous archeological sites such as the Nabataean city of Petra. It is amazing that a region as spectacular as the Jordanian Dead Sea Rift remained unknown to hikers for so many years. The guidebook is based on many months of through, day-to-day landscape survey of the Jordanian Rift, as well as on 6 years of leading trekking expeditions in Jordan. It is written from the perspective of an experienced hiker and guide who is also an environmentalist and geologist. The book describes 68 routes ranging from one to six days. Among the routes are easy walks for dayhikers as well as challenging treks. 12 canyoning routes demand abseiling skills. The book is 264 pages long including 41 detailed maps, 3 true-color satellite images and 24 color pages. Background information include geography, history, flora, fauna, people and culture, nature conservation and language as well as practical information about when to trek, how to get there, what to take etc.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An excellent guide...The maps and route descriptions are accurate and reliable and the background information is top-notch. -- RoughGuide 2002, Matthew Teller
Great guidebook for those who dare to

explore the wadis of Jordan. -- Listmania 2002:Best books about the Middle East by Tom Gutjahr
New horizons for desert trekkers. -- Eretz , September 2000The geologist Itai Haviv have published a superb trekking guidebook… -- Eretz Vateva , November 2000The introductory notes are thorough and informative and the maps are excellent… it is indispensable for trekking and canyoning. -- The Great Outdoors (TGO), February 2001When you finally set off for Jordan, don't put this book in your backpack - put it in your pocket! -- The Jerusalem Post, February 2001excellent guide... an eyeopener to anyone who thought Jordan is just Petra. -- The Jerusalem Post, February 2001

It is exciting to realize that even today one can still discover so many natural wonders in his backyard. Though Jordan is not yet a very popular destination for trekkers, we have no doubt that the Jordanian Dead Sea Rift will soon become as famous as the Andes in Peru or the Atlas Mountains in Morocco. It offers a rare blend of rugged desert terrain, abundant water sources, colorful rock formation and unique vegetation, as well nomadic Bedouin population with intriguing lifestyle.

After a quick read, the book seems to have sufficient information for you to plan and attempt the routes. A GPS point for the entrance or exit could be handy to ensure you at least begin in the same place the author intended. The Topomaps appear just sufficient, so a GPS coord to match the description to the map could be very useful'm a sucker for great photos, so it would have been great if there were more colour pictures, but I know that puts the price waaay up..Hope i get the chance to travel to Jordan soon to check these awesome looking canyons out!!

We only spent two days hiking in Wadi Rum. We ended up going guided because we didn't want to waste time searching. Good thing we did - the trail was completely unmarked and we would have never found our way. Still this book offered great information that supplemented our guide who spoke very little English.

great guide book very pro and informative. special for hikers and trekkers. routes, maps, info, language and much more. good bargain

Most of the exploration literature about this amazing stretch of land was written in the 19th and early 20th century, and was devoted mainly to biblical archaeology and to geographic descriptions of desert expanses. It is only recently that numerous beauty spots are beginning to be revealed hidden

in the darkness of the gorges amidst the spray of waterfalls, springs and hanging gardens - all exciting, but vulnerable places. If they were destined to be revealed, let it be in the way of Itai Haviv. The book's accurate route descriptions are accompanied by detailed maps, there is valuable practical and regional information and last but not least - dignity and love for humans, plants, animals and lands of the desert. Excerpts from early explorers literature flavor the text in appropriate locations and useful decorative sketches illustrate it. The book's layout is carefully planned creating an atmosphere which contributes to its content. Pleasant to browse through, it feels right in your hand, and you can definitely count on its reliability. (Eli Raz former manager of the Judean Desert field school in Ein Gedi and a BMC guide)

I hiked for 3 days in the Jordanian Dead Sea Rift using a guide and this book. If I had known about this book (the guide loaned it to me), I would not have needed the guide. It is excellent and unlocks to all readers this amazing hiking area. My favorite hikes by far were the ones up the "wadis" (Canyons) -- cool narrow canyons where the trail is a clear, cool stream. I am eager to return to Jordan to hike many more of the described hikes. Best for the hikes along the Dead Sea Rift. Also has hikes near Petra and two at Wadi Rum. Wonderful book despite its steep price.

I recommend this book based on three routes I trekked with my wife. The best one (as well as the longest one) was wadi Hassa (route 21 in the book), it is a wet and full of surprises two days walk. The pictures in the book are definitely encourage you to try more and more routes, and after two trips to Jordan, 5 days a time, we are only waiting to try the next wadis we didn't walk through yet.

The only real full traveling book - Accurate and detailed route descriptions and information, topographical maps, satellite maps, colored photos and all in one, compact and very "user friendly" book. An absolute must for anyone traveling the region and the best guidebook that exists of Jordan.

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