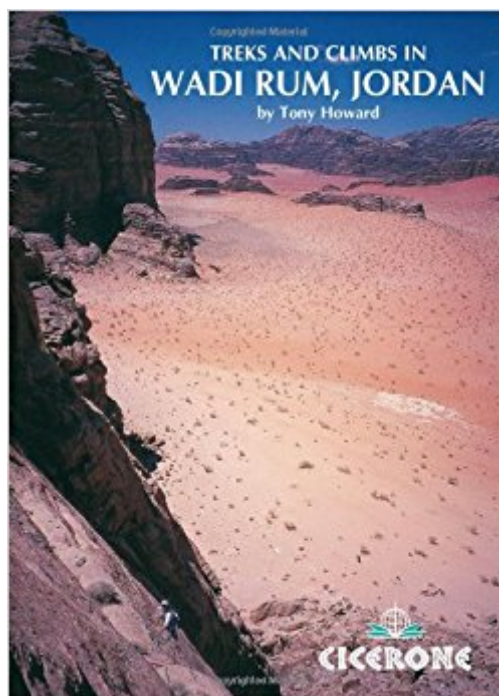


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Treks And Climbs In Wadi Rum, Jordan



Synopsis

Wadi Rum is tucked away in the south of Jordan, close to the Red Sea port of Aqaba, remote and splendid in both landscape and culture, yet only a five-hour flight and a short onward journey from Europe. It was brought to the world's attention by Lawrence of Arabia, and the subsequent film of that name was responsible for the author's visit with a team of climbing friends in 1984. Thus began the exploration of Wadi Rum for rock climbing and trekking, with the approval and encouragement of the local Bedouin who have lived and climbed in this desert and mountain region for generations. The first edition of this guide published in 1987 contained about 140 routes. Since then the number of climbs has doubled. Here are detailed descriptions and 'topos' of all the known routes to date, from short walks, camel treks and 4-WD journeys through to sports climbs and major 'big walls' of the highest technical difficulty. Additionally the author gives information on sites of antiquity, flora and fauna and life with the Bedouin.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English Introduction: French

Toni tarted climbing in 1953 and was very active in the Peak District in 1950s and 60s, writing guides to gritstone and limestone. In the early 1960s he worked as an outdoors instructor in Wales and the Lake District, qualifying as a British Mountaineering Council guide in 1965, the year he was on the first ascent of Norway's 1000m Troll Wall, "the biggest unclimbed rock wall in Europe". He then worked as a Mountain Guide in Romsdal from 1965 to '70. Elsewhere, he has climbed in most

north African and Middle Eastern countries from 1963 onwards, and climbed and/or trekked in Greenland, Canada, America, South Georgia, India, Nepal, Thailand, Madagascar and Iran. He was a founding partner of Troll climbing equipment in 1965. In 1984 together with Di Taylor he founded the adventure travel consultancy N.O.M.A.D.S. (New Opportunities for Mountaineering, Adventure and Desert Sports), when they discovered the climbing potential of Wadi Rum in Jordan. Tony has worked with Austrian and BBC TV, filming in the mountains of Jordan and is a regular contributor to outdoor magazines and travel guides. He wrote 'Walks and Climbs in Romsdal, Norway', 'Treks and Climbs in Wadi Rum, Jordan' and, together with Di Taylor, 'Jordan - Walks, Treks, Caves, Climbs and Canyons' and 'Walks in Palestine with the Nativity Trail'. They return to the Middle East every spring to enjoy the hot rock, great trekking and the companionship of their many Bedouin friends.

Since this guidebook is the only one available for climbing in Wadi Rum, it's a must for anyone who needs a comprehensive source of information for climbing there. But this book is clearly outdated. Route descriptions are generally bad, especially for approach. Many routes are missing, although both topos and description can be found elsewhere. Basically no serious effort to stay up to date was done for nearly 20 years. It's a pity, since the place is one of the best and unique spots on the planet.

Used this book for a climbing trip in 2013 and it was great. There is apparently a new area with new steep sport climbing that is not in the book, perhaps they will be published in a newer edition.

I bought the first edition in 1994 when we trekked in Wadi Rum with our baby of 4 months. It was helpful. Wadi Rum is tucked away in the south of Jordan, close to the Red Sea port of Aqaba, remote and splendid in both landscape and culture, yet only a five-hour flight and a short onward journey from Europe. Here are detailed descriptions and 'topos' of all the known routes to date, from short walks, camel treks and 4WD journeys through sports climbs and major 'big walls' of the highest technical difficulty. Additionally the author gives information on sites of antiquity, flora and fauna and life with the Bedouin. It is their roguish humour and warm hospitality as much as the magnificence of these deserts and mountains that make a visit to Rum a unique experience. This book tells you everything you need to know. It is a remote and spectacular landscape, offering unlimited rock for the pioneer, as well as many superb existing routes of all grades of difficulty, while the desert and numerous "siqs" or canyons offer a wilderness experience not to be found anywhere else in the world. The wealth of experience is further increased by the Bedouin whose homeland

this is, and by the variety of wildlife to be found in the area. It is hoped that this book will allow others to savor the solitude and mystical magic of these deserts and mountains.

Wadi rum protected area is a large area [...] it has many mountains and these two people have done a great job, i think the use of gps would improve the book and much better maps, but for 1st effort is great

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