

## *How to use this guide*

The lack of adequate and readily accessible maps of Jordan (on a scale of 1:50,000 or less) often makes finding a particular site quite a challenge. However, the availability of the Global Positioning System (GPS) to the general public has greatly increased the chances of locating a specific place, once it has been 'waypointed'. For this reason, the longitude and latitude of each site is expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds (according to the WGS84 system; I have stayed away from UTM or the Palestine grid but a GPS should be able to convert the waypoints into, for instance, UTM co-ordinates) and basic travel indications have been added where useful. Nevertheless, the search for any site remains an exciting trip, often 'off the beaten track', where, *Inshallah*, you may find a new, unrecorded megalith on your way!

The Jordanian Department of Antiquities has a database at its disposal, called the Jordanian Archaeological Data and Information System (JADIS). JADIS was developed in the 1990s to register all known archaeological sites in Jordan and has been added to by many (but unfortunately not all!) archaeological surveys since. It included (in 2006) twenty-five sites with standing stones, and about 80 sites with one or more dolmens (I did not search it for all registered stone alignments, stone circles etc.). However, a number of the dolmen sites seem in fact to belong to one and the same field, so duplication should be taken into account when using JADIS. The information on the presence of standing stones or dolmens is minimal. On the other hand, not all the sites which I have included in this guide are mentioned in JADIS. Another problem with the system is that it often gives coordinates on the Palestine (or UTM) Grid, taken from inaccurate, old maps. I therefore decided, in the end, not to include the JADIS references, but hope that it will improve, as its potential is obvious.

The sites in this guide have been listed in a more-or-less north-south order.

*ACOR note:* The Department of Antiquities of Jordan announced in March 2008 that a new system is being developed to update JADIS. It is called MEGA: Middle Eastern Geo-Database for Antiquities.