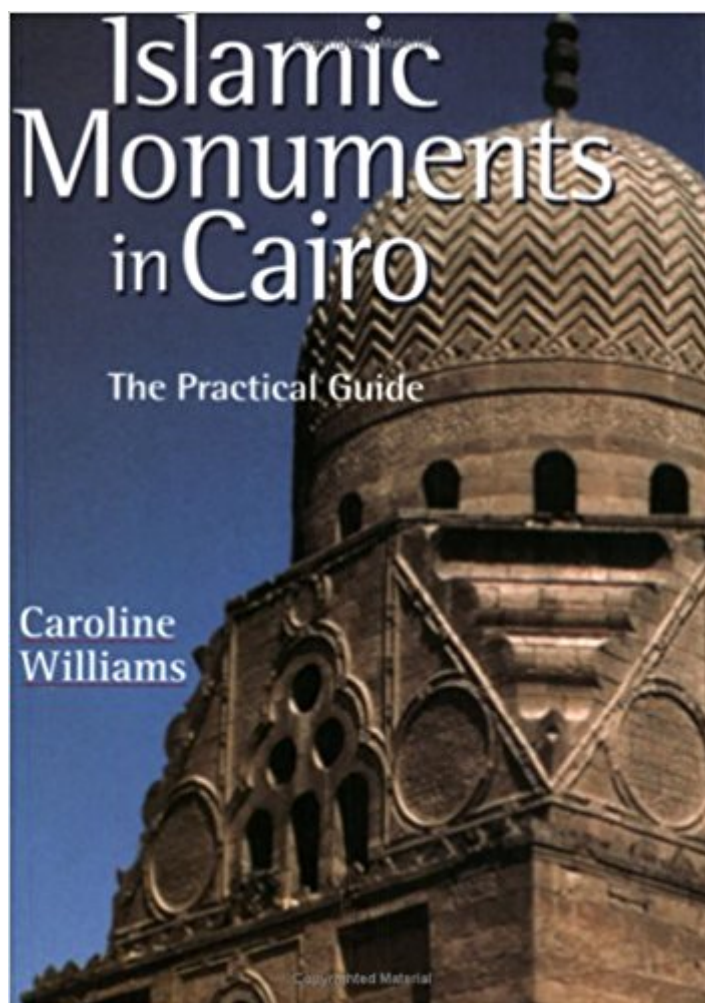


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Islamic Monuments In Cairo: The Practical Guide



Synopsis

Cairo's Islamic monuments are part of an uninterrupted tradition that spans over a thousand years of building activity. No other Islamic city can equal Cairo's spectacular heritage, nor trace its historical and architectural development with such clarity. The discovery of this historic core, first visually by nineteenth-century western artists then intellectually by twentieth-century Islamic art specialists, now - at the turn of the millennium - awaits the delight of the general visitor. This new edition of a popular and handy guide continues to walk the visitor around two hundred of the city's most interesting Islamic monuments. It also keeps pace with recent developments with updated and revised material.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Excellent" -- Lonely Planet

Caroline Williams, with graduate degrees in Middle Eastern history (Harvard) and Islamic art and architecture (American University in Cairo), has been a frequent resident/visitor of Cairo since 1961

I really love this book due to detailed information which it has. I highly recommend it. Photographs could have been better and more.

Caroline Williams has set the standard for all future books dealing with Cairo's Islamic heritage. Each chapter covers a specific area in medieval Cairo and starts with a list of the structures to be

discussed. The buildings are ranked according to quality - a feature that tourists with limited time will find invaluable. The book reads easily and in addition to describing the architectural features of the mosques, palaces and madrasas goes on to give a brief history of each monument's builder. Detailed and accurate maps are given at the end of the book. An introductory chapter describing the features of Islamic architecture in general is included. However, if you're looking for a book of photographs this is not it.

Given the often lightweight nature of 'guidebooks', Carolone Williams' guide is a real breath of fresh air. It is not an academic tome but instead is written in a way that informs and instructs newcomers about Cairo's wonderful heritage of Islamic Architecture. The maps are useful, though occasionally confusing, and the index takes a while to get to grips with but overall it is a thoroughly useful addition to the world of guide books. I look forward to future additions - perhaps including some of Nicholas Warner's superb maps and isometric drawings.

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