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Note

This book was prepared between 2005 and 2007, but publication was delayed because of the considerable costs involved to produce the book as an international co-edition as had occurred with the other titles of our *Islamic Art in the Mediterranean* series. However, thanks to the new publishing formats and fundraising tools that are available today, it has now been possible to complete the project and publish the English version of this book.

The Ayyubid Era: Art and Architecture in Medieval Syria is published as it was conceived by the authors before the war started. All texts, including useful information for the visit, refer to the pre-war situation and are our expression of hope that Syria, which has witnessed the evolution of civilisation since the beginnings of human history, may soon become a place of peace and the driving force behind a new and peaceful beginning for the entire region.

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Plan References

Most of the plans in this book were produced by Sergio Viguera (design) and Sakina Missoum (technical advisor). For plans taken from other sources, please refer to the plan credits on page 282.

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