

Buying & Using Tour & Trail Custom Maps with Garmin GPS Units

basic guide, print for reference

Modern Garmin GPS units have a Custom Maps capability enabling you to load your own mapping onto your Garmin gps. Custom maps use the kmz file format used by Google Earth and can be loaded via My Collection into Garmin Basecamp software. DWG have produced Custom Map (CM) digital editions of our Tour & Trail Maps. These Custom Map digital editions can then be loaded into your Garmin GPS and activated to replace the unit's base map giving you real time Tour & Trail mapping on your gps.

Before buying, or downloading, Custom Maps check using the Garmin website that your gps unit has the Custom Maps capability.

Buying your Tour & Trail Custom Map from Discovery Walking Guides

On our website you will find an option to buy each CM, or zip file of CMs, making payment through PayPal.

After making your PayPal payment you will be sent two emails to your email address that is linked to your PayPal account; note that the emails cannot be redirected to any other email address as a protection against fraudulent use.

One email from PayPal will detail your Custom Map purchase. The second email is sent from dwgwalking.co.uk containing an encrypted download link. Several ISPs and some email security measures will block these emails containing a hyperlink, and should place the email in your Spam folder. These emails are sent within seconds of you making your payment. If you only receive the PayPal email then look in your Spam folder for the dwgwalking.co.uk email. If you cannot find the dwgwalking.co.uk email then contact us at ask.discovery@ntlworld.com

Downloading your Tour & Trail Custom Map from Discovery Walking Guides

Only Download, and Unzip, files on your PC/Mac, do not use your phone.

In your email from dwgwalking.co.uk you will see the file name of your purchase underlined:-

"To download your Gran Canaria Tour & Trail Custom Map click the link below:

[dwgTTCMGranCanaria.kmz \(18.45Mb\)](#) ~ Download link will expire in 72 hours"

Click on the download link, a 'Download' box appears. Choose the 'Save' option and select where on your C (hard drive) you want to save your Custom map.

If your Custom Map purchase is a zip file, then unzip the file into its separate Custom Map kmz files.

Checking your Custom Map (s) download

If your CM is a zip file, unzip into its separate kmz files. Locate your CM kmz file on your hard drive. Double click on the kmz filename, Google Earth will open and display your CM as a transparent overlay on the Google Earth 3D terrain model.

In Garmin Basecamp bring your CM kmz file (s) into My Collection, then select your kmz file and Basecamp will display your CM as a 2D solid map on top of the Basecamp base map

Now you can be sure your CM is correctly downloaded and is working.

Loading Custom Map kmz files into your Garmin

Check the official Garmin website for instructions and advice on using Custom Maps.

Here is how I load a CM. With my Garmin switched on and gps reception switched off, I connect the gps to my PC with a USB lead. In Windows Explorer I copy the CM kmz file from my hard drive. Then I open the Garmin folder in my gps, and then open the CustomMaps folder where I paste the CM kmz file.

Garmin suggest installing CustomMaps on an SD card, but I have found the pasting directly into the gps CustomMaps memory is easier and more reliable. If in doubt ask Garmin.

Using your Custom Map on your Garmin

After switching on your gps go into 'Setup' and then to 'Maps' and then 'Configure Maps' then into 'CustomMaps' where you will find the Custom Maps in your gps memory.

Select your Custom Map, and check that all other Custom Maps are switched off, and it will display on your gps screen instead of the unit's base map. Note if you are doing this in a location away from the Custom Map area you will need to Pan and Zoom to find your Custom Map.

Note that you can only have one Custom map activated at any one time. If you have activated two or more Custom Maps then your gps will not recognise any of the Custom Maps.

If in doubt consult Garmin 'Help' on their official website.