

Buying and Using Custom Maps in Garmin mapping gps units – Basic Guide

Print for reference

Garmin mapping gps units such as eTrex20/30 through to Oregon have a Custom Maps capability so that you can load your own mapping to your gps. DWG have produced Custom Map (CM) digital editions of our Tour & Trail maps which can be used with your Garmin gps unit to give you Tour & Trail mapping on your Garmin. Before looking to buy and download Tour & Trail Custom Maps (CM) do check that your gps has this Custom maps facility; we check our CMs on our Oregon 600 and eTrex20 gps units, plus Garmin Basecamp and Google Earth; we recommend that you install these on your PC.

Buying your Tour & Trail Custom Map from Discovery Walking Guides

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

After making your payment you will be sent 2 emails; one from PayPal detailed your purchase, and another from dwgwalking.co.uk containing an encrypted download link – unfortunately several ISPs treat our dwgwalking.co.uk email as Spam so look in your Spam folder for this second email if it is not in your email box. These emails are sent within seconds of you making your payment.

If you cannot find your dwgwalking.co.uk email it may mean your ISP is blocking our emails. Contact us on ask.discovery@ntlworld.com and ask your ISP why they are blocking these emails.

Downloading your Tour & Trail Custom Map from Discovery Walking Guides

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

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

[dwgTTCMGranCanaria.kmz](#) (18.45 MB) ~ Download link will expire in 24 hours”

Click on this encrypted link and a ‘Download’ box will appear on screen. Choose the ‘Save’ option and then select where on your C (hard) drive you want to save your file.

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

Checking your Custom Map(s) download.

Locate the CM on your hard drive eg “[dwgTTCMGranCanaria.kmz](#)” and double click on the file name, 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 CM kmz file and Basecamp will show the Tour & Trail Map as a 2D solid map on top of the Basecamp base map.

Now you can be sure that your Custom Map is correctly stored on your hard drive.

Loading Custom Maps into your Garmin

With your Garmin switched on and in ‘Demo Mode’, so that it is not looking for satellites, connect your gps to your PC using the USB lead. In Windows explorer your gps will show as a separate hard drive.

Using ‘Copy & Paste’ select your CM kmz file on your hard drive and select ‘Copy’. Then in your Garmin Open the Garmin folder, then Open the CustomMaps folder and ‘Paste’ your CM kmz file into the CustomMaps memory.

Garmin suggest installing Custom Maps on an SD card but we have found that installing directly to the gps CustomMaps memory is both easier and more reliable.

Using your Custom Map on your Garmin

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

Select your Custom Map and it will display on your gps screen.

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