

Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the
novice to the advanced.

Offline Maps

I've spoken previously about the powerful maps available on the internet. There are several great quality suppliers, my personal preference is Google Maps and Google Earth.

But what if you are on the road and out of WiFi contact. Sure maps can be used through 3G and 4G networks, but they will eat into your data allowance. Maybe you're overseas and have elected to go without international roaming on your iPad, iPhone, Tablet or Slate – then here is the solution.

Use Offline Maps. That means you are using maps that have been previously downloaded to your device. You do this by downloading an app, open it up, go to the area that you want a map for, and then save it to your device. You can usually also annotate the map with your notes like "Accommodation", "Station" etc. You should allow 100MB to 200MB per city.

There are many apps that offer this service and of course, they are all different. Some are free and some can be expensive. I have used Map Offline by Yanjun Xu, it cost \$0.99 and there is no extra for each location or map that you download. You can download the satellite or street map view, and you can choose from a variety of resolutions.

So by all means, use the free WiFi at any MacDonald's to find where you are in a new country, but then you have the use of an offline map to get you through the day as you go exploring.

Have Fun!

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