

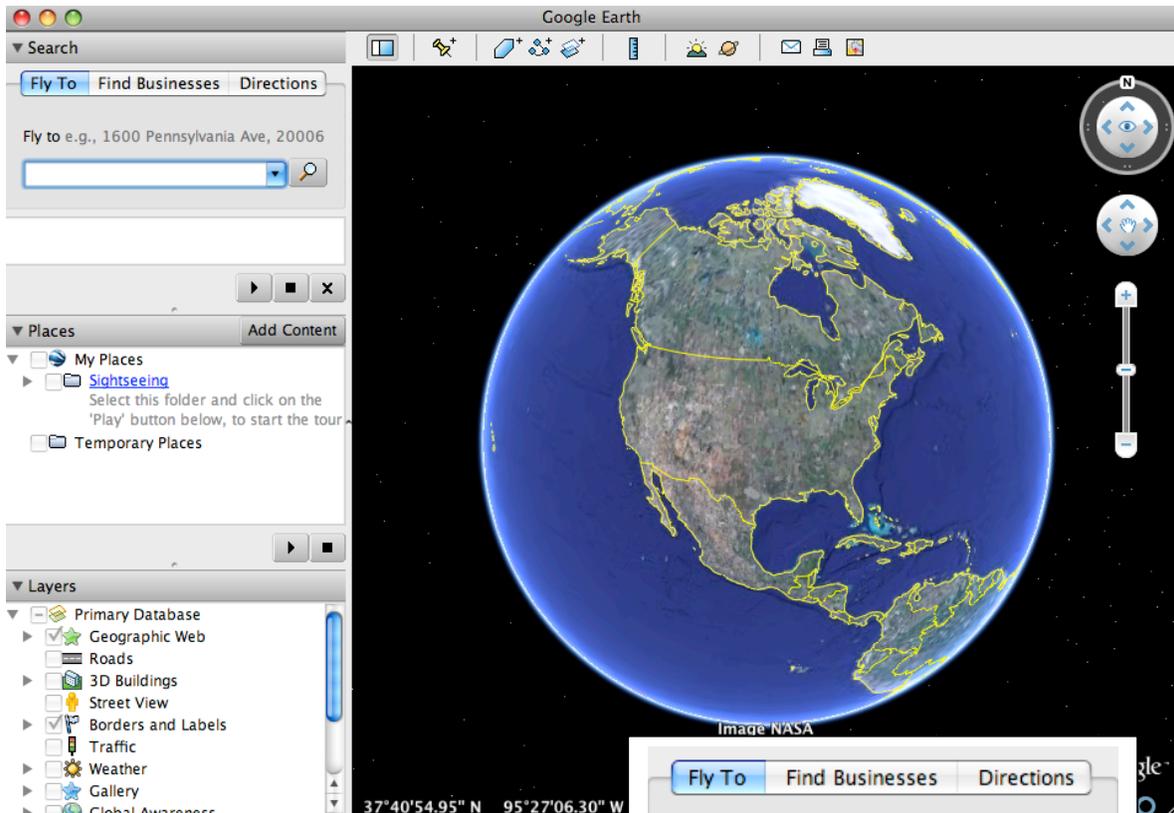
Google Earth Tutorial

Getting started with Google Earth:

Google Earth is a useful application for viewing almost any location in the world from a bird's-eye view. To begin exploring, click on the Google Earth icon in the dock of a Mac or on the desktop of a PC. If your computer does not have Google Earth, download the free version at: <http://earth.google.com/>

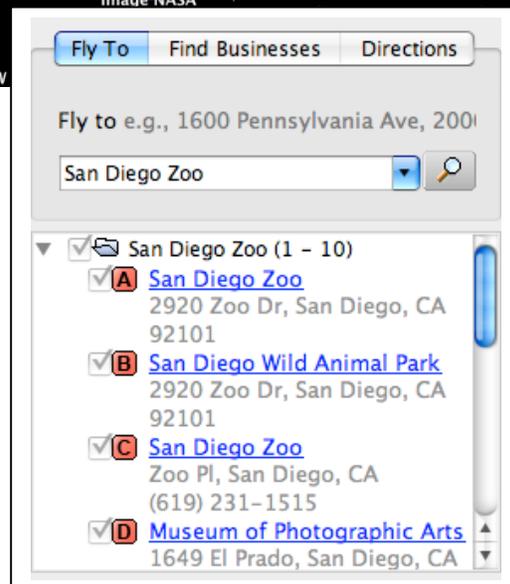


This will launch Google Earth's main window:



To find a specific place, type the location (such as a city, landmark, or address) into the "Fly To" box and then press enter. The globe to the right will begin to move and "transport" you to that location.

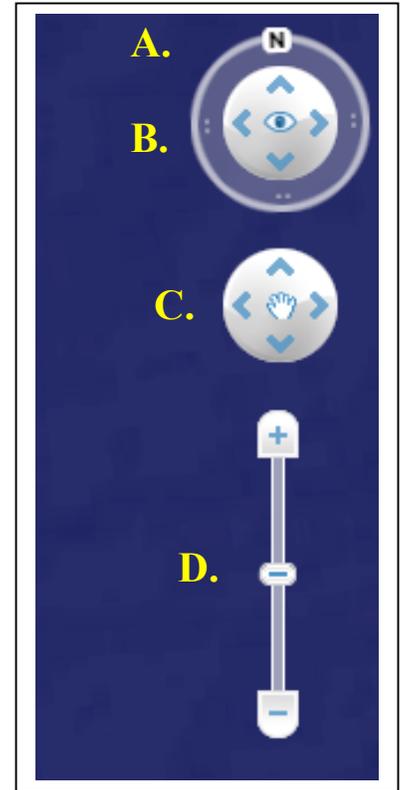
If multiple entries are found for your location, a list will appear under the search box allowing you to choose one or more entries by unchecking the irrelevant entries.



Navigating Google Earth:

Once you have found your location, you can zoom in and out, change the direction that you are looking from, and choose the angle from which you view the landscape by adjusting the tools shown to the right.

- A. Click and drag the “N” in a circle around the compass to rotate the your view and look from different directions.
- B. Use the up and down arrows in the compass to change your viewing angle in relation to the terrain (the horizon point).
- C. Use the second set of arrows to move across the location without changing your point of view or angle.
- D. Use the sliding handle on this tool to zoom in and out of the location.



When you are viewing a location, you may notice several different icons across the landscape. Each icon serves as a link to more information about the location.

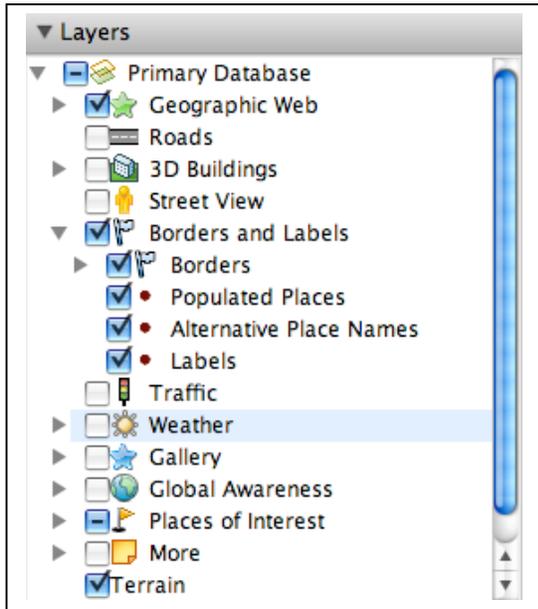


The tan note icon (1) indicates the presence of a notable location. By clicking on it you will open a window that explains that location’s significance. The camera icon (2) indicates that a picture is available of that location and the purple-outlined Wikipedia icon (3) indicates a link to that location’s Wikipedia page.

To turn off these features go to the “Layers” panel and uncheck the options under the “Geographic Web” heading.



Using layers and tools:



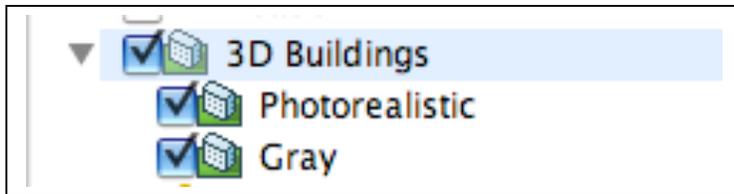
Along the left side of Google Earth's main window is the "Layers" panel. Layers can be turned on and off to help you navigate by showing roads, borders, landmarks, and more.

Under each main category of layers, such as "Borders and Labels," there are several sub layers that can be accessed by clicking on the triangle to the left of the layers. Turn layers on and off by checking and unchecking the boxes next to them.

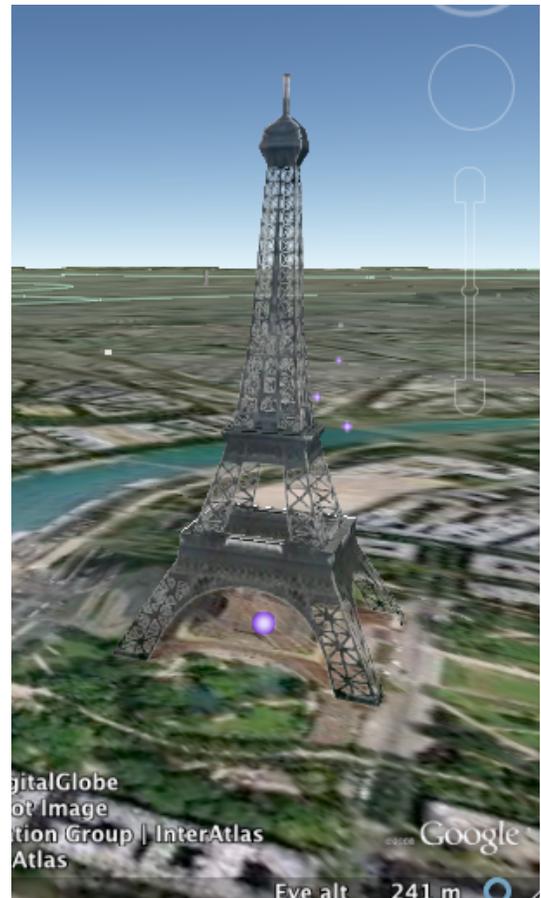
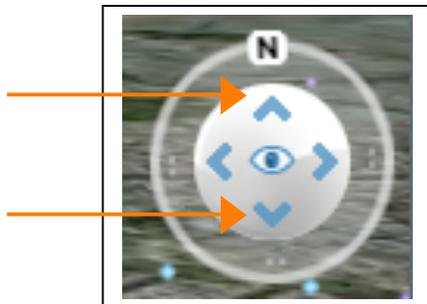
One of the unique features of Google Earth is its ability to show certain buildings and cities in three dimensions. To use this feature, first choose a well-known, large building or city, such as the Eiffel Tower, and search that location.

Tip: If you cannot see your location because it is covered in icons, use the "Layers" menu to turn off excess icons.

Once you have found your location, make sure that the "3D Buildings" box is checked, and choose "Photorealistic," "Gray," or leave both checked.



To adjust your angle with the ground and change your view, use the up and down buttons found on the compass.



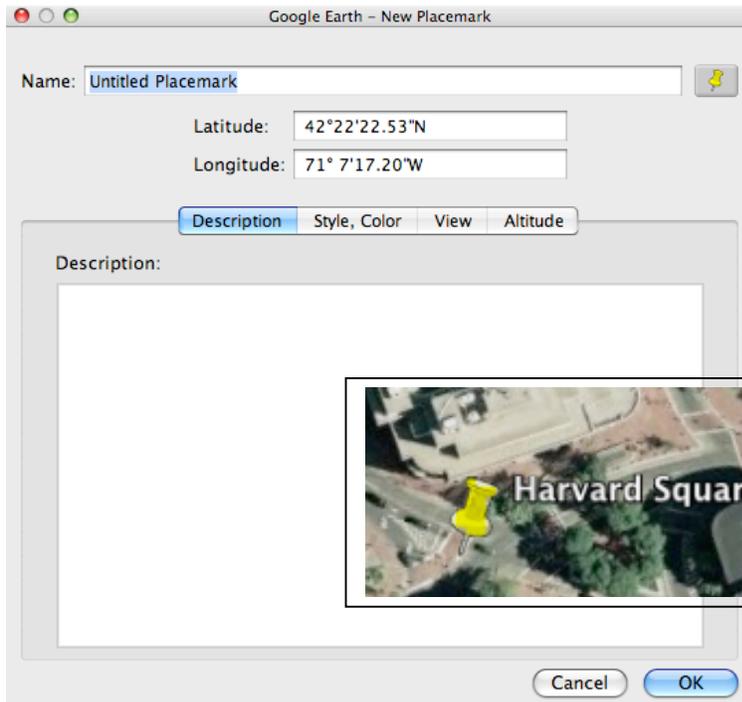
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Using layers and tools (continued):

In addition to the layers, Google Earth has provided many useful tools to explore and mark locations. The toolbar is located across the top of the main window and pictured below.

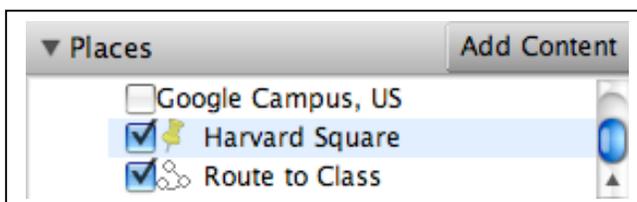
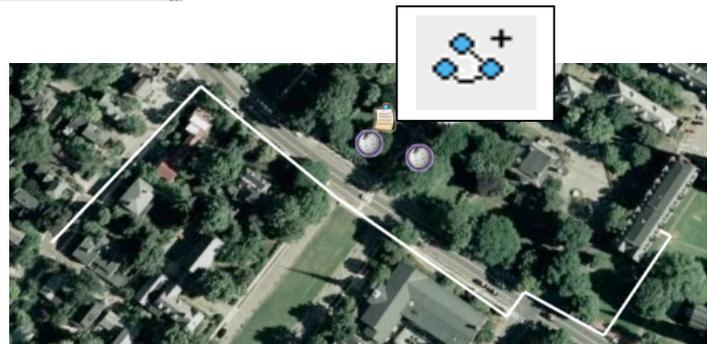


Inserting a place mark icon will save a location and put it in the “Places” section on the left panel. To mark a location, select the yellow pushpin in the toolbar. This will open the window below:



Type in a name for the location that you are marking and enter a description. You can also customize the marker by changing the style and color of the icon. Before clicking “OK” when you are finished, make sure that your marker is in the correct place on the map. If it is not, click and drag the pushpin to the proper location. After clicking “OK”, the pushpin will appear with the location’s name in the main window.

With the toolbar you can also mark a particular path by clicking on the “Add path” icon. This will open a window similar to the one used to create place markers. Type in the information to customize your path and then create the path by clicking from one place to another to create a trail, as seen at right.

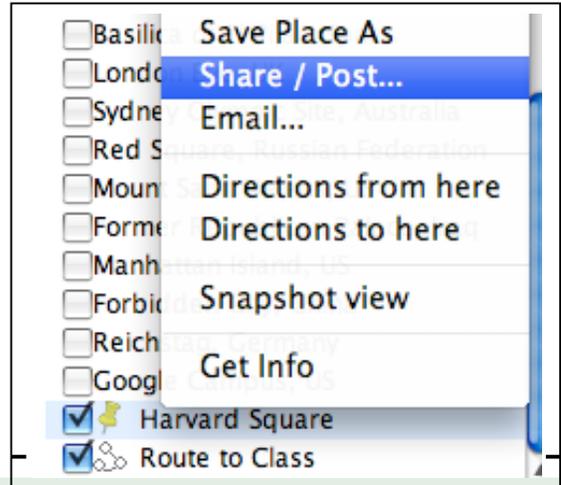


After adding place markers and paths to Google Earth, they will appear in the “Places” panel on the left edge of the main window.

Sharing your places:

After you have created a place mark, you can easily share it with others on the Google Earth Community BBS website. To do this, right click (control click on a Mac) on the place mark and choose “Share/Post...”

The Google Earth Community posting wizard appears in a browser window at the bottom of your screen. Follow the instructions on this web page to post information about this place mark on the Google Earth BBS.





Welcome to the Google Earth Community posting wizard

The [Google Earth Community](#) is an online forum where Google Earth users can find, share and discuss placemarks around the world. Anyone may read the posts and download placemarks, but to make entries you will first need to [register](#). Registration is free for all users.

Once registered, you will be able to use this wizard to post placemarks directly to one of the community forums. Click "continue" below and you will be able to select the forum. Simply click "continue", and then select the forum you would like to post to from the menu. Clicking "Post my placemark" will launch a new window with a preview screen, where you may modify your entry before posting.

(Note: you will need to have javascript enabled in your browser for proper functionality.)

CancelContinue »