RB Explorer
English manual

Introduction

RB Explorer is the Roadbook System application for planning off-road routes for excursions with 4×4 vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles.

It works alongside RB Editor when preparing itineraries: you can explore the terrain on the map, identify points of interest and create routes to use later when producing a roadbook.

You can let the program calculate the route, guide it by adding intermediate via points or draw some sections manually. The available car and bike profiles let you steer the calculation towards asphalt, mixed or predominantly unpaved routes.

Routes can be exported in GPX format for subsequent reconnaissance and roadbook preparation using the tools in the Roadbook System suite.

RB Explorer is a planning tool. It does not replace a navigation device during an excursion or the need to check the route on the ground.

The application lets you view outdoor maps and satellite imagery. Itinerary calculation is handled by GraphHopper, which processes OpenStreetMap (OSM) data to build a network of roads, tracks and paths used to find routes.

A road visible on the map or in satellite imagery is not necessarily usable by the routing system.

The presence of a section in a calculated route does not guarantee that it is passable, accessible or suitable for your chosen vehicle. The available data may be incomplete or out of date, especially for paths and unpaved roads.

Routes suggested by the bike profiles may also be interesting for 4×4 vehicles, even though they can include rougher sections. Do not rule them out: in my tests, they have often proved particularly suitable for off-road excursions. You must still check their passability and suitability for your vehicle on the ground, as well as any access restrictions.

Before using an itinerary, consult the **Route limitations and checks** section.

Requirements and first launch:

RB Explorer is intended for Windows computers. The RAM, processing power and free disk space required depend mainly on the geographical area to be prepared: small regions require fewer resources than entire countries or continents. To begin, choose an area limited to the region you want to explore.

An Internet connection is required to display Mapbox maps, search for places and download OSM data. Once processed, the routable network is stored on your computer.

The program includes a Mapbox token, so you do not need to enter one when first using it. You can configure a personal token under Preferences → Personal Mapbox token; see the relevant section for instructions.

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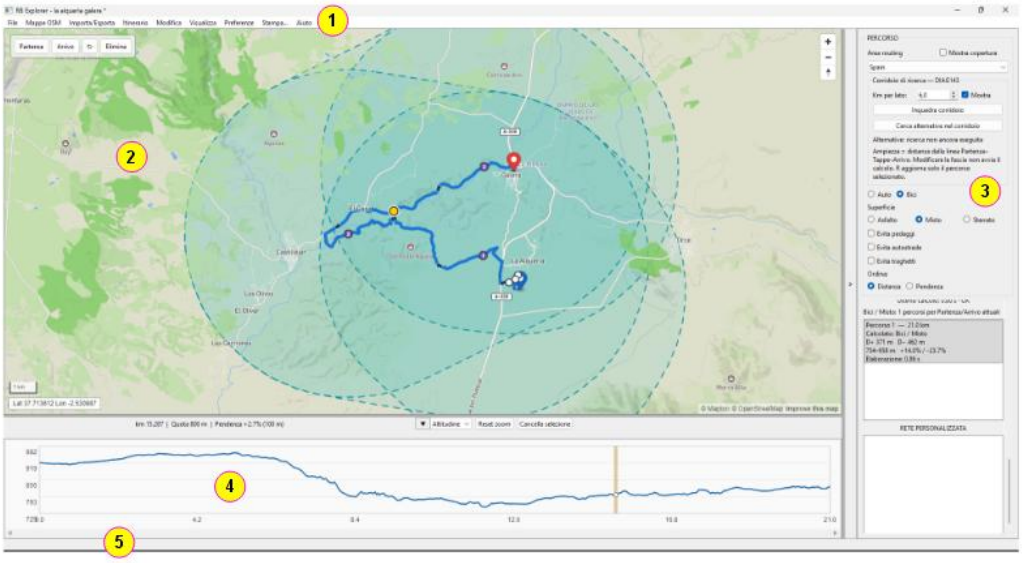
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Main window overview



The main window is divided into five areas:

1) Menu bar
At the top of the window, it provides access to the application's functions, including some operations not available through keyboard shortcuts or the context menu, which opens with the right mouse button.

2) Map area
This occupies the left-hand side of the window. You can switch between the outdoor view (Ctrl+1) and satellite view (Ctrl+0). Here you can set the start, via points and finish, add local roads and mandatory sections, and define areas with access restrictions.

3) Right-hand side panel
This contains the calculation options and profile settings, along with a summary of the routes, via points and any local network added by the user.

4) Bottom panel
This contains the interactive graph for the selected route, with information on elevation, surface type and gradients. It lets you explore the elevation profile and analyse the local gradient calculated over a distance of 100 metres.

5) At the bottom of the window, the **status bar** displays messages about the application, including the startup status of GraphHopper

The functions of each area are described in the manual sections.

Preparation

After launching the application, wait until the status bar at the bottom displays "GraphHopper ready".

If necessary, select your preferred language from those available under Preferences → Language.

When you first launch RB Explorer, you need to prepare it for route calculation by choosing the geographical area you want to explore: a region, a country or a continent.

Preparation includes downloading the OSM data, processing it and activating the routable network. The time required depends on the size and amount of data in the chosen area, your Internet connection speed and your computer's performance.
The prepared routable network is stored on your computer and reused in subsequent sessions, without having to repeat the processing.

Preparation from the start point

You can begin the procedure by setting a start point directly:

- Press the Start button, enter the name of a country, a town or the coordinates, press Enter and confirm the desired result with Choose.
- Alternatively, use Itinerary → Set start.
- Or right-click a point on the map and select Start here.

When the area needs to be prepared, the application displays a window to download, process and activate the data for the area around the start point.

Before confirming, check that the proposed area covers the entire region in which you want to create the route, including any via points and the finish.

If the proposed area is too small, choose a larger one through OSM maps → Download area from world catalogue. For example, if the route crosses several regions of the same country, you can select the entire country.

Waiting for preparation

The preparation window stays open throughout the operations and shows download and processing progress.

When processing is complete, the area is activated and the status bar displays a confirmation message for a few seconds.

Preparation is complete.

Before continuing, zoom in on the map and check the start position.

To move it, select the point, press **M**, move the cursor to the desired position and click. Place the point precisely on the road you want to start from, then set the finish point.

The point's position can determine which road the route connects to.

To create a circular route, see **Advanced functions → Circular routes**

Note:

If the download or preparation is interrupted, either deliberately or because of an error, consult the FAQ section.

For more information on choosing, preparing and managing areas, consult the OSM maps section.

Finish point

Press the Finish button, enter the destination name or coordinates, press Enter and confirm the desired result with Choose.

- Alternatively, use Itinerary → Set finish.
- Or right-click a point on the map and select Finish here.

As with the start point, zoom in on the map and check that the point is on the desired road. If necessary, move it using M.

Your first route

In the right-hand panel, select the vehicle type (Car/Bike) and preferred surface (Asphalt/Mixed/Unpaved).

Start the calculation using one of the following commands:

- Press R on the keyboard.
- Press the Recalculate button, identified by the circular arrow between the Start and Finish buttons.
- Use Itinerary → Recalculate itinerary.

If the calculation finds a route compatible with your chosen settings, a blue track is drawn on the map.

If several routes are found, the alternatives appear in grey. Click one to select it: it will turn blue and the previously selected route will turn grey.

Finding alternatives

If you are not satisfied with the route or want to explore other possibilities, press Find alternatives in corridor.

The corridor is the area highlighted in light green on the map within which alternative routes are sought. The search may find new alternatives, but does not guarantee that there will be any.

For information on configuring the search area, see Corridor.

You can also change the vehicle and surface preferences, try the different combinations and run the calculation again. Depending on the available routable network and selected profile, the program may suggest different itineraries; some combinations may produce the same route.

See also Route limitations and checks.

Undo and redo

You can undo recent operations with **Ctrl+Z** and redo undone operations with **Ctrl+Shift+Z**.

These functions let you undo or redo:

- Adding, moving, deleting and reordering via points.
- Adding or deleting a local road.
- Adding or deleting a mandatory section.

They cannot:

- Undo the activation of a map.
- Recover operations older than those retained in the undo history.

The number of stored operations is limited: save the project before making major changes.

Adding the start and finish points is not recorded as a separate operation that can be undone. Moving these points can, however, be undone when a route model already exists.

Modifying the route

Adding, moving and reordering via points, and recalculating.

The calculated route may not pass through all the places or roads you want to explore. You can guide it by adding intermediate via points, including to obtain a longer itinerary.

Use Itinerary → Add via point, or right-click the map and choose Add via point here.

You can add as many via points as needed. They are numbered in the order they are added: the first will be number 1, the second number 2 and so on. This order determines the sequence in which they will be visited.

To move a via point, select it, press M and click its new position on the map.

If you add a via point that you want to visit before others already present, use Reorder via points. This command is available in the map's context menu and in the via point list's context menu in the side panel; both open with the right mouse button.
From the via point list in the side panel, you can automatically zoom in on each via point by clicking its name.
To delete a via point, select it on the map or click its name in the summary, then choose Delete from the context menu or press DEL.

After changes, recalculation may occur automatically. If it does not start, press R or use one of the other recalculation commands already described.

By adding, moving, reordering or deleting via points, you can adapt the itinerary to your needs and also create circular routes. For these, see Advanced functions → Circular routes.

Access restrictions (blocked sections)

You can exclude sections of road from the calculation by adding a block. This is useful, for example, to mark chains, barriers or access prohibitions.

The block applies to all profiles for the affected route: it cannot distinguish, for example, between a ban on cars and access permitted to bicycles.
To add a block, position the cursor precisely on the road section to exclude and choose **Block section** from the context menu. A red point will appear; click a second point on the same road, **before the end of the prohibited section**, to define the block.

Once added, the block prevents the calculation from using that section, regardless of the selected profile.
Each block has a numeric identifier. To display and centre it on the map, click its entry in the Custom network section of the right-hand side panel.

Blocks cannot be moved. To remove one, use Delete block from the context menu, which you can open near the block on the map or on its entry in the side panel.

Local roads

The network used to calculate routes is derived from OpenStreetMap (OSM) mapping data processed by GraphHopper. Some roads may be missing from this data or visible on the map but unavailable for calculation.

The Add local road tool, available in the context menu, lets you extend the routable network by drawing a connection.

For the connection to be usable in calculations, its ends must connect to roads already present in the routable network.

To begin, position the cursor precisely on the road where the connection will start and choose Add local road from the context menu.
A message near the cursor will guide you through drawing and completing the road.

Once the track is complete, you can give it a name, specify whether it is usable only by bikes or also by cars, and set the surface type.

The local road can be used in subsequent calculations according to its characteristics and the selected profile. Its presence does not force the route to use it.
Local roads cannot be moved. To delete one, open the context menu near the road and choose Delete road_name, or use the context menu for its entry in the Custom network section of the side panel.

Mandatory sections

You can force the route to follow a track you draw yourself using Add mandatory section, available in the context menu.

If you invoke the command near the selected track, that position is used as the start of the mandatory section. If the program asks you to choose the start, click the desired point on the track. Each subsequent click adds a segment. To complete the track, open the context menu and choose Finish mandatory section here.

The route must follow the drawn section, regardless of the selected profile. Unlike a local road, which provides a connection that the calculation can use, a mandatory section forces the route to follow that track.

To delete it, use Delete manual section in the context menu.
Mandatory sections belong to the individual route, rather than to the general network used for calculation. For this reason, they do not appear in the **Custom network** section and are managed directly on the map.

Summary panel

Scroll down in the side panel to find information about the start point, each via point and the finish point.

Further down is a summary of the selected route, showing:

- Total distance in kilometres.
- Profile used for the calculation.
- Elevation gain and loss in metres.
- Maximum and minimum elevation.
- Maximum and minimum gradient.
- Time taken to process the itinerary.

If there is more than one itinerary, you can select them by clicking their names in the panel or directly on their tracks on the map. The information shown refers to the selected itinerary.

You can sort the itineraries in the list by distance or gradients.

Bottom panel (Graph)

The bottom panel shows a graph of the active route, highlighted in blue on the map.
You can choose to display elevation, surface type or gradients.

As you move the cursor over the graph, a yellow point on the map shows the corresponding position along the route.
To explore the graph, you can:

- Use the mouse wheel to zoom in or out.
- Hold down the left mouse button and drag to scroll.
- Double-click to restore the full view.

You can also select a section of the route to view its information:

- The first click on the graph sets one end of the section.
- A second click sets the other end. The selected section is highlighted on the map with a semi-transparent yellow overlay.
- A third click clears the selection.

You can select the ends in either order, starting from the beginning or the end of the section you want to examine.

The information shown for the point being examined or the selected section depends on the chosen display type: elevation, surface or gradients.

The local gradient is calculated over a distance of **100 metres**: it therefore describes the slope of the route over that distance, without representing every brief change in the terrain.

Printing

Press Ctrl+P or select Print from the menu bar to create a PDF document containing information about the active route only.

A window will open where you can choose the information to include. Press Preview and print to view and check the document, then use Save PDF in the preview window to save it.

The graph included in the document shows only the elevation profile. A summary of the percentages of the different surface types along the route is also provided.

Saving and reopening a .rbex project

You can save your project in the **.rbex** format, including all alternatives, via points and mandatory sections, by choosing **File → Save project** or pressing **Ctrl+S**.

To reopen a project, press **Ctrl+O** or choose **File → Open project**.

The previously saved alternative routes, settings, via points and mandatory sections will be loaded.

GPX export

You can export the selected (active) route in .gpx format by pressing Ctrl+G or choosing Import/Export → Export GPX with waypoints.
The exported waypoints include the start and finish, available road junction nodes along the itinerary, even where the route continues without turning, and any connections to local roads. If you use the GPX to prepare a roadbook in **RB Editor**, consider which notes to keep and delete those that are not useful for navigation.

You can choose the folder in which to save the file. The exported route can be used for subsequent reconnaissance and roadbook preparation using the tools in the Roadbook System suite.

Import GPX

To use a track as a reference for building a route or finding alternative itineraries, choose **Import/Export → Import GPX** or press **Ctrl+X**.

The imported track is displayed on the map as a dashed purple line. It cannot be edited: it serves as a visual reference.

You can use it as a guide to build a new route that follows its track or to explore possible variations.

Corridor

Search area width and interpreting results

We have seen how to search for alternative routes in the corridor: a semi-transparent green band overlaid on the map that defines the search area.
You can increase or decrease its width and choose whether to show or hide it.



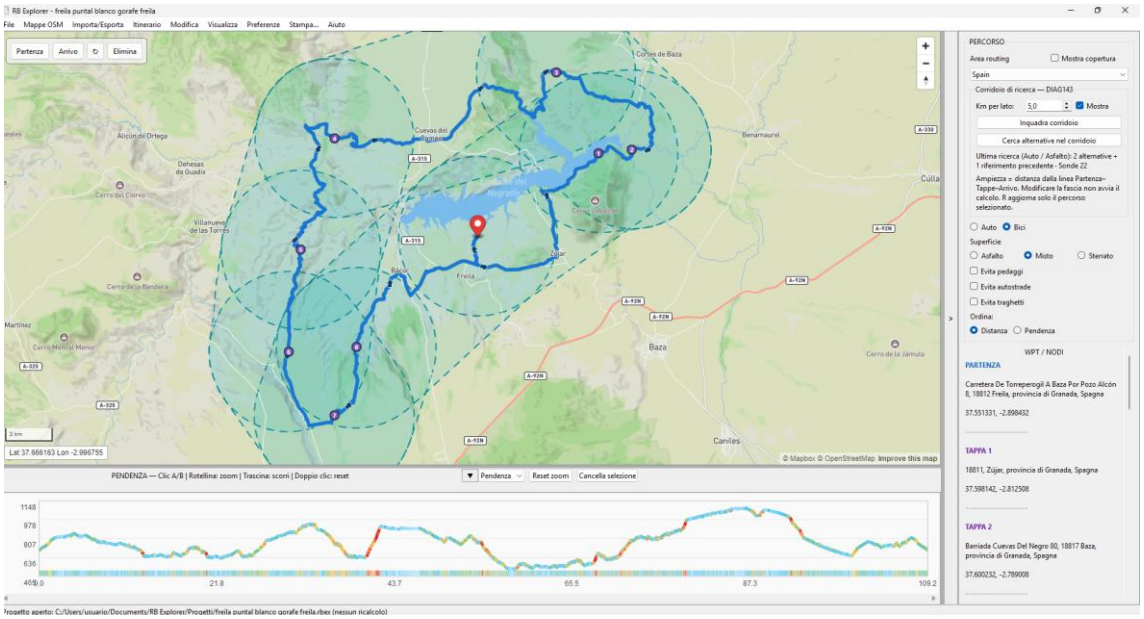
To change its width, use the increase and decrease buttons or enter a value directly in the field.
A corridor wider than the default **5 km** may help find more alternative routes, without guaranteeing that any will be found.

Expanding the search area can significantly increase calculation time, as the application has to examine more possibilities.
Increasing or decreasing the corridor area also changes the calculation area around the via points.

If the search ends without new alternatives, it means none were found with the available settings and time: it does not necessarily mean that no other itineraries exist.

Advanced functions

Circular routes:



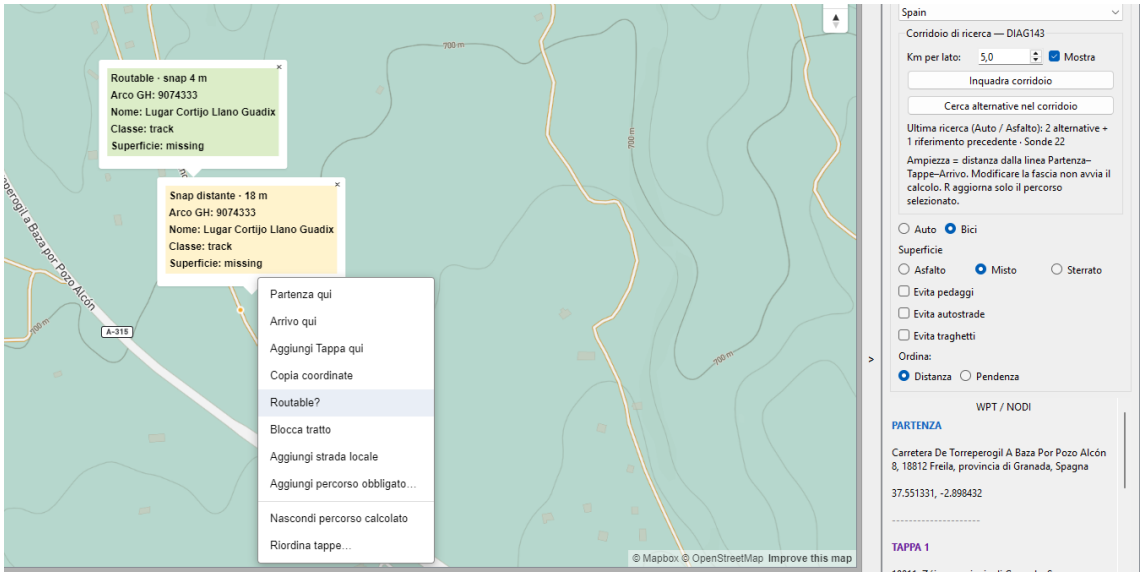
Circular routes require careful planning.
First set the start point, then place the finish nearby, leaving enough distance to distinguish and select the two points separately.

Next, add the via points without starting the calculation. Arrange them in a sequence consistent with the desired circuit, including those needed to guide the return section towards the finish.
When you have finished adding them, press **R** to calculate the route.

If there are no mandatory sections, you can also try **Find alternatives in corridor**. Any alternatives must still respect the via points you have set.
If the result does not follow the desired circuit, add intermediate via points and adjust their sequence with **Reorder via points**, then recalculate.

Route limitations and checks

Routable? — Checking the routable network



Route calculation on the OSM network is based on OpenStreetMap information processed by GraphHopper and is therefore limited to the available data. Local roads added by the user extend this network, blocks exclude certain sections, and mandatory sections impose a track on an individual route.

A road visible on the map or in satellite imagery is not necessarily present in the network available for calculation.

You can check whether it is usable with **Routable?**, available in the context menu. Position the cursor on the road you want to examine and invoke the command.

The result appears in a box whose colour indicates how precisely the point snaps to the network:

- **Green:** the queried point is very close to the identified road.
- **Cream:** the queried point is further from the identified road.

A small dot indicates the position where the point connects to the network (*snap*); the box also shows the distance from the queried point.

The colour refers to the snap position; it does not guarantee that the road is usable. Always zoom in on the map and check that the result refers to the desired road, especially where roads are close together or parallel.

Influence of the profile

Whether a road is usable also depends on the selected profile.
However, routes suggested by the bike profiles may also be interesting for 4×4 vehicles, even though they can include rougher sections. In my tests, they have often proved particularly suitable for off-road excursions. You must still check their passability and suitability for your vehicle on the ground, as well as any access restrictions.

If the route avoids a road you would like to follow, query it with the **Routable?** command. For example, a road marked as *unpaved* (not paved) may be excluded by the Asphalt profile.

Try selecting Mixed or Unpaved, recalculate with **R** and repeat the query at the same point. The result may change depending on the profile settings.

This check helps explain why the calculation avoids certain sections.

A road usable by the routing system is not necessarily passable on the ground, legally accessible or suitable for your vehicle. Check the actual conditions through reconnaissance on the ground and establish whether there are any prohibitions or required permissions.

MENUS:

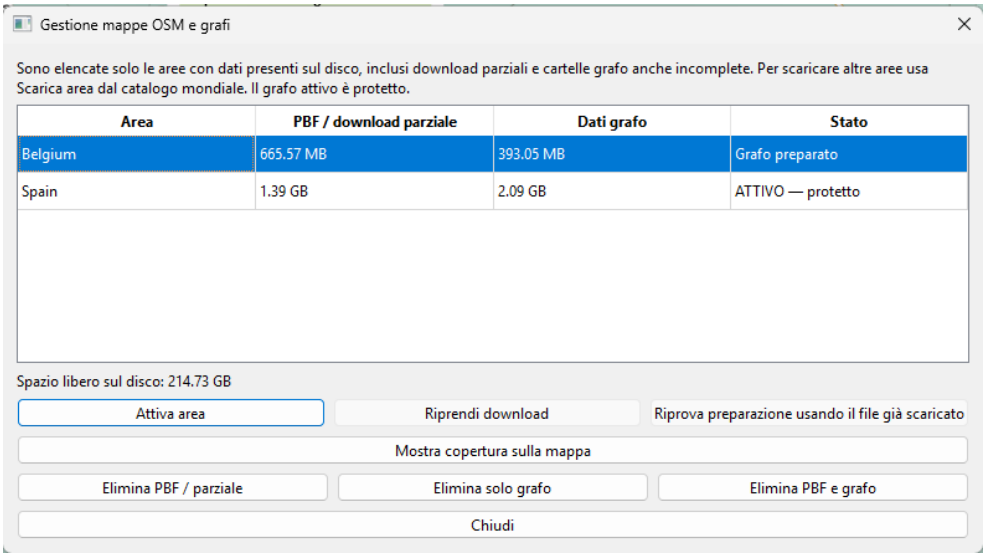
File:

- New project (CTRL+N): starts a new project. If the current project contains unsaved changes, it asks for confirmation and lets you save them before continuing.
- Open project (CTRL+O): opens a previously saved project. If the current project contains unsaved changes, it asks for confirmation and lets you save them before loading the other project.
- Save project (CTRL+S): saves the current project in the **.rbex** format.
- Quit (CTRL+Q): closes the program. If the current project contains unsaved changes, it asks for confirmation and lets you save them before quitting.

The OSM maps menu

The menu for managing OSM maps contains:

Manage maps and disk space:



This window shows the areas stored on your computer: ready to use, partially downloaded or awaiting processing.
Select an area in the list to use the buttons below it to:

- **Activate the area**, making it available for route calculation. Activation is proposed or performed when you set the start point, but you can also activate an area manually from this window or from the **Routing area** field at the top of the side panel.
  You can also show the area's coverage on the map, represented by a polygon with a purple border. In the side panel, you can show or hide it.
- **Resume an interrupted download.**
- **Retry preparation using the downloaded file.** The **.osm.pbf** file contains the OSM mapping data; processing produces the routable network, shown in the window as a **graph**, which GraphHopper uses to calculate routes.
- **Delete data**, choosing from three options: only the PBF file or partial download, only the graph, or both.

The active graph is protected against deletion. To delete it, you must activate another area first. You can, however, delete only the PBF file, retain the prepared network and continue using it for calculations.

You can close the window with the **Close** button or the **X** in the top corner.

Update Geofabrik world catalogue

This command updates the catalogue of areas available for download and their coverage information. It does not update OSM data already downloaded or routable networks already prepared, and does not notify you of updates to the active map.

To also update the entries in the menus for manually selecting areas, restart the application.

Download area from world catalogue

Here you can choose and download any area in the catalogue of available maps.
You can also use this command to choose a larger or smaller area than the one proposed when setting the start point: for example, an entire country or a single region, according to your needs.

Import/Export

- **Import GPX (CTRL+X):** imports a track displayed on the map as a dashed purple line. It cannot be edited: it serves as a visual reference.
- **Export GPX with waypoints (CTRL+G):** exports the selected (active) route in .gpx format for subsequent reconnaissance and roadbook preparation using the tools in the Roadbook System suite.

Make sure you use the latest versions of the programs in the Roadbook System suite to ensure compatibility with the exported files.

Itinerary:

- **Set start:** opens a window to search for the start point by name, address or latitude and longitude coordinates. You can also choose to place it directly on the map.
- **Set finish:** opens a window to search for the finish point by name, address or latitude and longitude coordinates. You can also choose to place it directly on the map.

- **Add via point:** opens a window to search for a via point by name, address or latitude and longitude coordinates. You can also choose to place it directly on the map**.**
- **Recalculate itinerary (R):** starts recalculating the route. Use it after changing a profile or modifying a project when recalculation does not happen automatically. You can also use it after reopening a project if you want to recalculate it.
- **Reverse itinerary (Ctrl+I):** reverses the direction of the itinerary while retaining its track, preserving mandatory sections and reversing the order of the via points. Reversal does not check directional restrictions such as one-way roads: to check these, you must recalculate the route, which may then change.

Edit:

- **Undo last change (CTRL+Z)**
- **Redo last change (CTRL+SHIFT+Z)**
- **Delete selection (DEL)**
- **Move selected point (M):**

View:

- **Outdoor map (CTRL+1)**
- **Satellite map (CTRL+0)**
- **Show/Hide routes panel**
- **Show/Hide graph panel**
- **Show/Hide calculated itinerary**

Preferences:

Language:

- **Italiano:**
- **Español:**
- **English:**

Personal Mapbox token:

RB Explorer includes a Mapbox token provided by Roadbook System, allowing you to display maps without any initial configuration.

As this access is shared among users, using a personal token is recommended: requests will be associated with your account and will not depend on other users' activity.

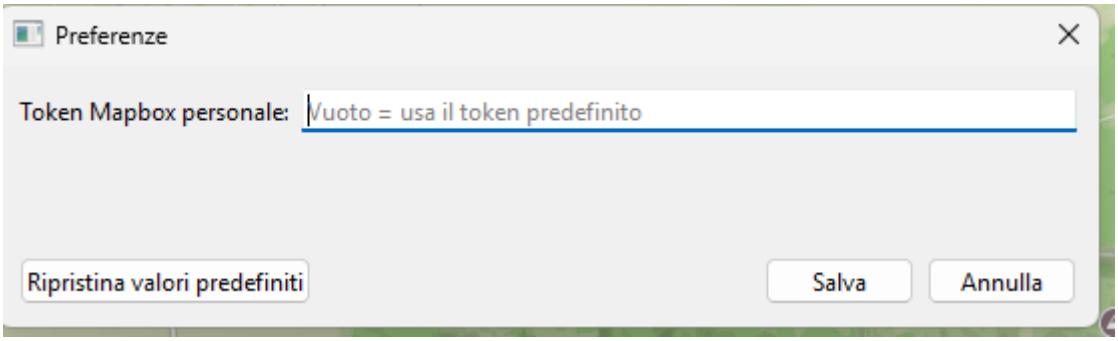
Registration and the token are free. Mapbox offers free usage allowances; you can consult their limits and conditions in your account.

How to obtain and enter a token

1. Go to the registration page for Mapbox and create an account. You can start without a payment card by choosing **Start without a card**, if available.
2. Confirm your email address.
3. Sign in to the Mapbox console and open **Access tokens**.

4. Copy the available public token, normally labelled **Default public token**, which begins with **pk.**
5. In RB Explorer, open **Preferences → Personal Mapbox** token, paste the token and confirm.

After saving your personal token, restart RB Explorer to apply the change.

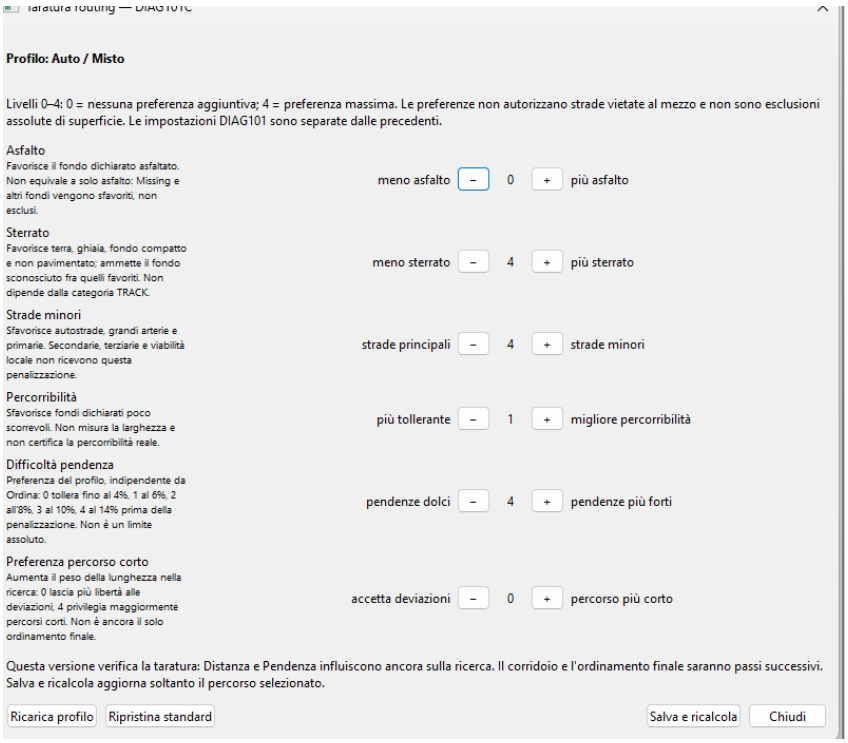


Note: access without a card has trial limits. If you decide to switch to the pay-as-you-go plan, check the terms: usage beyond the free allowances may incur charges.

Routing tuning:

The **Preferences → Routing tuning** function lets you customise the preferences used to calculate routes.

The window indicates which profile you are editing. Settings are stored separately for each profile and reused in subsequent calculations.



Each parameter can be adjusted from **0 to 4**, according to your preferences:

- **Asphalt:** increasing the value favours roads whose surface is recorded as asphalt.

- **Unpaved:** increasing the value favours unpaved surfaces such as dirt and gravel. Surfaces of an unknown type are also favoured.
- **Minor roads:** increasing the value discourages motorways and major roads in favour of minor roads.
- **Smoothness preference:** increasing the value discourages surfaces described in the data as rougher or harder to travel over.
- **Gradient difficulty:** lower values favour gentle gradients; higher values make the calculation more tolerant of steep gradients.
- **Short route preference:** increasing the value gives greater importance to reducing distance. Lower values allow more freedom for detours.

These settings guide the calculation: **they are not absolute prohibitions or guarantees**. Their effectiveness also depends on the information available in the routable network.

There are four buttons at the bottom:

- **Reload profile:** retrieves the values previously saved for the profile.
- **Restore defaults:** returns the controls to their default values.
- **Save and recalculate:** stores the settings and recalculates **only the selected route**.
- **Close:** closes the window without saving changes that have not yet been applied.

To also apply values restored with **Restore defaults**, press **Save and recalculate**.

Routing tuning changes the search criteria; sorting by distance or gradient in the side panel changes the order in which the results are listed.

Printing:

Press Ctrl+P or select Print from the menu bar to create a PDF document containing information about the active route only. A window will open where you can choose the information to include. Press Preview and print to view and check the document, then use Save PDF in the preview window to save it.

The graph included in the document shows only the elevation profile. A summary of the percentages of the different surface types along the route is also provided.

Help:

Italian manual: opens the Italian manual

Spanish manual: opens the Spanish manual

English manual: this manual

Check for updates:

Opens the RB Explorer page on the Roadbook System website, where you can check for new versions and download updates.

About RB Explorer:

Opens a window with information about the program, including the installed version.

Context menu:

Right-click the map to open the context menu. The available commands depend on the cursor position, the selected item and the data present:

- **Delete block / local road / mandatory section**
- **Start here**
- **Finish here**
- **Add via point here**
- **Copy coordinates**
- **Routable?**
- **Block section**
- **Add local road**
- **Add mandatory section**
- **Hide/Show GPX**
- **Hide/Show calculated route**
- **Reorder via points**
- **Move** (selected point)
- **Delete** (selected point)

FAQ: Frequently asked questions

- **The map is not displayed. What can I do?**
  Check your Internet connection. If you have entered a personal Mapbox token, check that it was copied correctly and that the associated account is active. See also the **Personal Mapbox** token section.

- **I have downloaded an area but cannot calculate a route.**
  Downloading is only the first step: the data must be processed and the routable network activated. Check the area's status under **OSM maps → Manage maps and disk space** and the messages in the status bar.
  Also check that the start, finish and via points are within the active area.

- **The download was interrupted. Do I have to start again?**
  Open **OSM maps → Manage maps and disk space**, select the area and use **Resume download**, if available.

- **Area preparation failed.**
  Check the error message and available disk space. Larger areas require more memory and processing time.
  You can try again with **Retry preparation using the downloaded file**, or choose a smaller area that covers the desired route.

- **A road is visible on the map but the route does not use it. Why?**
  It may be missing from the routable network, excluded by the profile or subject to restrictions recorded in the OSM data. The calculation may also prefer another road.
  Zoom in on the map and use **Routable?**, checking that the snap point corresponds to the road you want to examine.

- **The route takes a detour or doubles back near a via point.**
  Check the via point's position: it may be connected to a nearby road, a different carriageway or a section with no usable onward connection. Also check the order of the via points.
  If necessary, move the point with **M** and recalculate with **R**.

- **The corridor search finds no further alternatives.**
  There is no guarantee that new alternatives will be found. The result depends on the available network, profile, via points and other constraints.
  You can widen the corridor or change the preferences, bearing in mind that a larger area may require more calculation time.

- **I have added a local road but the route does not use it.**
  A local road provides an additional connection: it does not force its use. Check that its ends connect to the routable network and that its characteristics are compatible with the chosen profile.
  To impose a track, see **Mandatory sections**.

- **Why can I not delete an area's graph?**
  The active graph is protected. Activate another area first, then delete the one you no longer need.

- **Does updating the catalogue also update downloaded maps?**
  No. The command updates the list of available areas and their coverage information. It does not update OSM files already downloaded or networks already processed.

- **What is the difference between saving a project and exporting a GPX?**
  The **.rbex** file lets you resume work in RB Explorer, restoring alternative routes, settings, via points and mandatory sections.
  The **.gpx** file contains the exported route with its waypoints and is intended for use in other programs. It is not a substitute for saving the project.

The warning “Incomplete road junction data” appears during export. What does it mean?
Some routes saved with earlier versions may not contain all the junction data. You can recalculate the route with R to collect this information, check the result and then export it again. If you choose to export anyway, the GPX will contain the track and the available waypoints.

- **Can I edit an imported GPX track?**
  No. The dashed purple line is a visual reference. You can use it as a guide to create a new itinerary with a start, finish and via points.

- **Is a calculated route guaranteed to be passable?**
  No. Calculation depends on the available data and selected settings. Check conditions and suitability for your vehicle on the ground, and establish whether there are any prohibitions or required permissions.

Data organisation and storage

RB Explorer stores data in different locations according to its purpose.

Projects, via points and mandatory sections

The **.rbex** files contain the start, finish, via points, mandatory sections, alternative routes, reference GPX track and project settings.

The suggested folder for saving projects is:

Documents\RB Explorer\Progetti

You can choose another folder if you prefer.

Local roads and blocks

These are saved automatically in **.json** files, grouped by geographical area, in the folder:

Documents\RB Explorer\local_network

This data is stored separately and **is not included in the .rbex** project. If you transfer the project to another computer and want to reuse the same custom network when recalculating, you must also transfer the corresponding files.

OSM maps and processed networks

These are stored in the folder:

%LOCALAPPDATA%\RB Explorer

It contains:

Folder	Contents
Maps	Downloaded OSM files in the .osm.pbf format, and any partial downloads.

GraphCache	Routable networks processed by GraphHopper.
Config	Calculation configurations, area catalogue and coverage information.
Logs	Logs useful for diagnosing problems.

To open this location, press **Win+R**, enter **%LOCALAPPDATA%\RB Explorer** and press **Enter**.

This data is not embedded in projects in .rbex format.

Profiles and personal preferences

The standard profiles are defined in the program. Customisations made through **Routing tuning** are stored separately for each profile in the user settings.

On Windows, settings are stored in the system Registry under the key:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Roadbook-System\RB Explorer

Preferences such as the language and personal Mapbox token are also stored here. These are not external files to manage manually.

Exported GPX and PDF files

Exported files are saved in the folder chosen at the time of export.