

GPS2Aperture

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What is GPS2Aperture?

GPS2Aperture is a simple application for geotagging your Aperture images and for viewing the positions of tagged images, with the help of Google Earth.

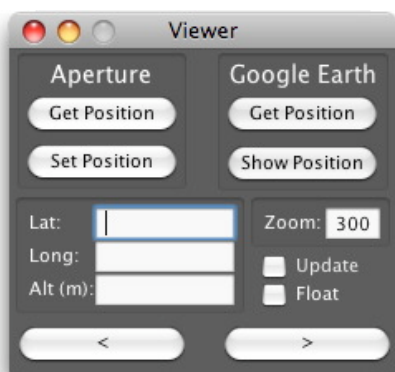
What is Geotagging?

Geotagging means adding location information to your images, usually the latitude, longitude and altitude, but potentially also information such as the nearest settlement and country.

GPS log files

The paid for version of GPS2Aperture allows you to geotag multiple images at a time using log files from your GPS device. Currently, GPS2Aperture will only read GPX files. If your GPS device and software will not save files in this format, you can use the free GPSTBabel software (<http://www.gpsbabel.org/>) to convert the files.

The Viewer Window



The Viewer window in GPS2Aperture can be used both to view the position of a tagged image in Google Earth, and to manually tag an image with the current position shown in Google Earth.

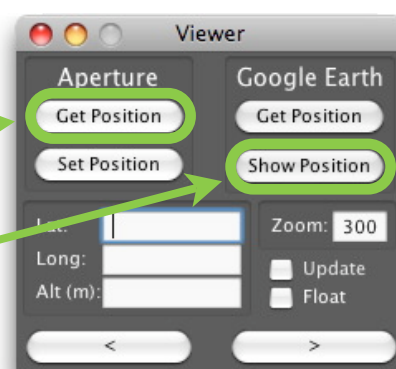
All the functions of the Viewer window are free, and do not require a registration code.

Viewing Positions in Google Earth

Select a tagged image in Aperture.

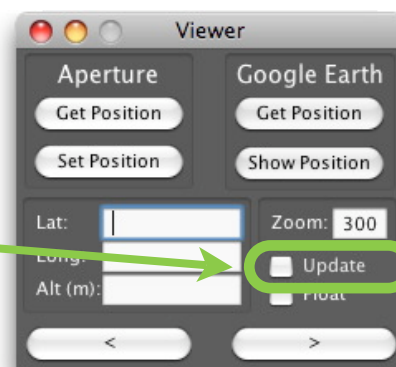
In the Viewer window, click 'Get Position'.
The latitude, longitude and altitude of the tagged images will appear in the lower half of the Viewer window.

In the Viewer window, click 'Show Position'.
Google Earth will then move to the latitude and longitude shown in the lower half of the window, with an eye height (in metres) shown in the 'Zoom' field.



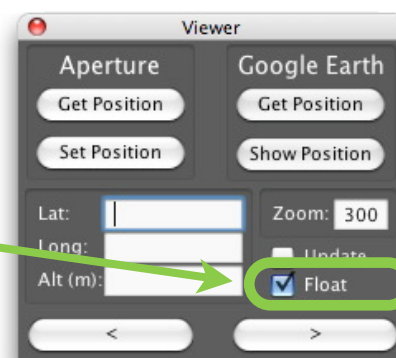
Automatic Updating of Google Earth

Checking the 'Update' checkbox will make Google Earth automatically pan from location to locations as you move from image to image in Aperture.



Floating the Viewer Window

Swapping between applications will normally cause the Viewer window to go into the background. If you check the 'Float' checkbox then it will float above other windows, no matter which application is active.

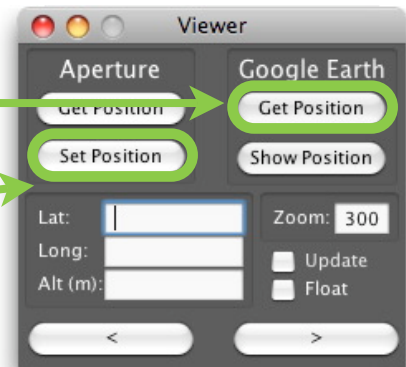


Tagging From Google Earth

To manually tag the position of an image, navigate to the right location in Google Earth.

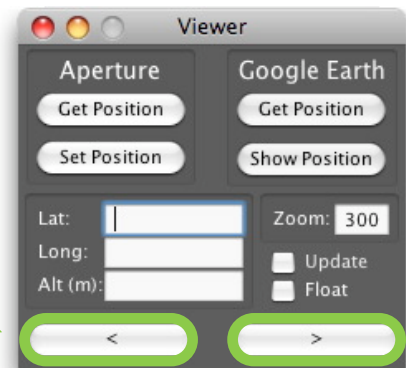
Click the right 'Get Position' button. The co-ordinates of the current Google Earth location will appear in the bottom half of the Viewer window.

Click 'Set Position'. GPS2Aperture will now embed those coordinates in the Master image file and tell Aperture to update it's GPS information from the file. Note that the master file has to be online for this to work - you can't tag referenced images which are offline.



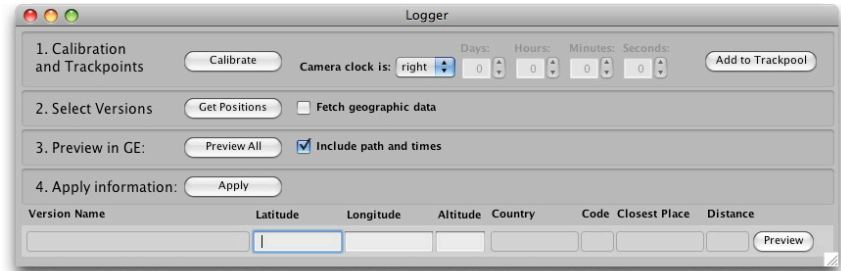
Navigating Through Images

You can navigate from one image to the next from the Viewer window, without having to swap back to Aperture all the time, by clicking on the left and right arrows at the bottom of the window.



The Logger Window

The Logger window lets you tag multiple images at once from your GPS log files. Applying the information from the Logger window works for a fifteen day trial period, after this you need to purchase and enter a valid registration key.



Adding Log Files to the Trackpool

Before your log files can be used by GPS2Aperture, they need to be added to the trackpool - the collection of timestamps and locations that GPS2Aperture uses to work out where your photographs were taken.

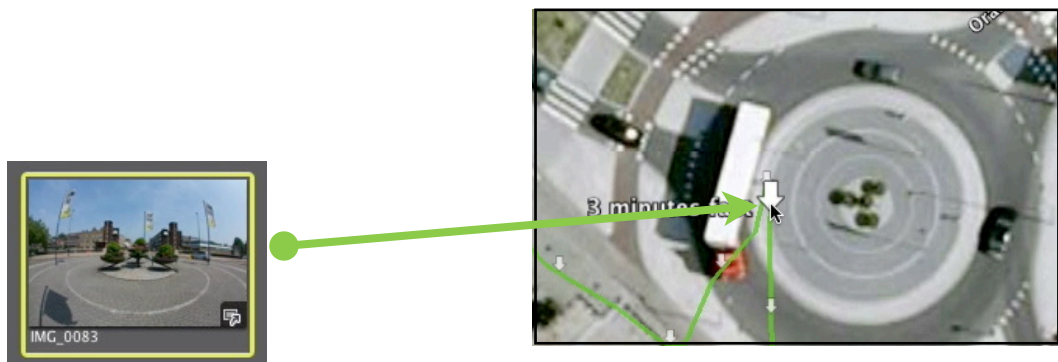
Click the 'Add to Trackpool' button or use File>Add GPS to Trackpool... This will bring up a dialog box where you can select one or more log files. Each log file only needs to be added to the trackpool once, after that GPS2Aperture will remember those locations and times.

Calibrating the Camera Clock

GPS2Aperture will allow you to visually discover if your camera clock was set correctly.

Select an image in Aperture. For the best results, pick an image where it will be easy to tell if the correct location is being shown in Google Earth - for instance, don't pick an image where you stood in one place for a time and took several similar shots.

Go to the Logger window and click 'Calibrate', or Logger>Calibrate Clock. A thumbnail of the image should appear in Google Earth, plus a timeline of your movements before and after the image was taken. If the image is clearly in the wrong place, look along the line for the place the photo was taken and look at the nearest time arrow.



Go back to the Logger window and enter that time in the clock section.



If you hit 'Calibrate' again, you should now see the thumbnail appear in the correct place in Google Earth.

Getting Image Positions

Once you are sure that you have the correct time offset for this batch of photos, go to Aperture and select all the images you want to tag.

Go to the Logger window and click 'Get Positions' or Logger>Get Positions. GPS2Aperture will look at the timestamps of all the selected images and compare them to the trackpool, listing the coordinates of all the images that have a relevant timestamp.

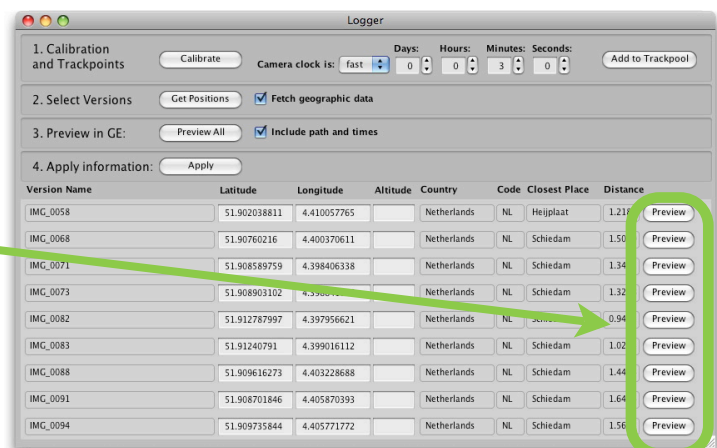
Note that if you change the time offset, you will need to click 'Get Positions' again.

Geographic Data (Reverse Geotagging)

Checking 'Fetch geographic data' will use the geonames.org server to look up the country, country code and nearest habitation to the image location.

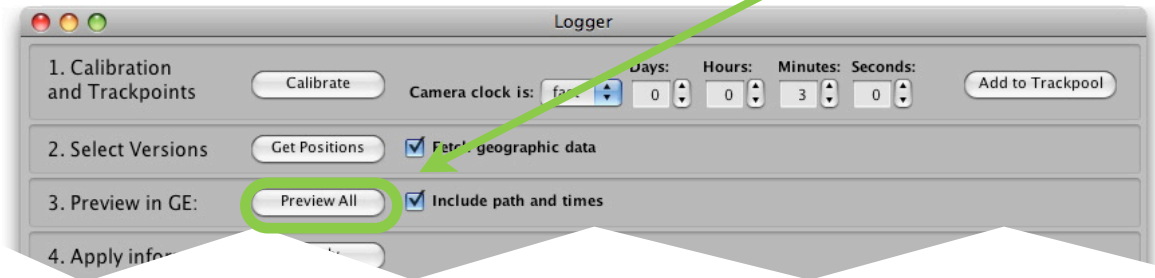
Previewing Single Image Positions

You can check the position of individual images by clicking the 'Preview' button at the right end of that line. This will make Google Earth pan to that location.



Previewing Multiple Image Positions

You can also preview the positions of all the current images by clicking on the 'Preview All' button or Logger>Preview All. This will load up a path and thumbnails in Google Earth, showing the images and your movements between those images.



Deleting Calibration and Preview Paths

The camera calibration and preview paths will stay visible in Google Earth until you delete them or quit Google Earth. To delete them, go to My Places in the Places tab, Right/Control-click on the path (either named 'Camera Clock Calibration' or 'Preview Path') and choose 'Delete'.

Tagging Images

The final step is to tag the images. To do this, click 'Apply' or Logger>Apply GPS. GPS2Aperture will now embed the coordinates in the Master image file and tell Aperture to update it's GPS information from the file. Note that the master file has to be online for this to work - you can't tag referenced images which are offline.

If geographic data was retrieved, this will be added to the relevant IPTC metadata tags for the images.