



OS Locator™

User guide

OS Locator

User guide

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Preface

This user guide (hereafter referred to as the guide) is designed to provide an overview of OS Locator™ (hereafter referred to as the product) and it gives guidelines and advice on how a customer might derive the maximum benefit from the product. It assumes a general knowledge of geographic information. If you find an error or omission in this guide, or otherwise wish to make a comment or suggestion as to how we can improve it, please contact us at the address shown below or complete the product and service performance report form at [annexe A](#) and return it to us.

Contact details

Our Customer Service Centre will be pleased to deal with your enquiries:

Customer Service Centre
Ordnance Survey
Adanac Drive
SOUTHAMPTON
United Kingdom
SO16 0AS

General enquiries (calls charged at local rate): +44 (0)8456 05 05 05

Dedicated Welsh Language HelpLine: 08456 05 05 04

Textphone (deaf and hard of hearing users only please): +44 (0)23 8005 6146

customerservices@ordnancesurvey.co.uk

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

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If there is any inconsistency between the terms of the licence and this guide, the terms of the licence prevail.

Purpose and disclaimer

This guide is provided for guidance only and does not constitute any warranty, representation, undertaking, commitment or obligation (express or implied) about the product or its suitability for any particular purpose. It is your responsibility to ensure that this product is suitable for your intended purpose.

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Trademarks

Ordnance Survey, the OS Symbol, Code-Point and OS Street View are registered trademarks and OS Locator, Meridian and Boundary-Line are trademarks of Ordnance Survey, the national mapping agency of Great Britain.

Adobe and Acrobat Reader are registered trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated.

Back-up provision of the product

You are advised to copy the supplied data to a back-up medium.

Using this guide

The documentation is supplied in portable document format (PDF) only. Free Adobe® Acrobat Reader® software, which displays the guide, incorporates search and zoom facilities and allows you to navigate within. Hyperlinks are used to navigate between associated parts of the guide and to relevant Internet resources by clicking on the blue hyperlinks and the table of contents.

Chapter 1 Introduction

OS Locator is a fully searchable national gazetteer designed for use with Ordnance Survey's range of mid-scale raster products. It is derived from a number of Ordnance Survey datasets. These include the roads database which contains information on road names and road numbers and is the latest generation of Ordnance Survey's sophisticated and highly detailed geographic data.

The data can be used as a table to run searches or can be loaded into a geographic information system (GIS).

When used within a GIS, OS Locator enables users to identify and find specific locations. This enables users to make searches on road names by a combination of criteria, including: locality, settlement, local authority and county. OS Locator can be used in location finding applications, such as customer service centres and for use on the web, in conjunction with 1:10 000 Scale Raster, 1:25 000 Scale Colour Raster and OS Street View.

Data is available for Great Britain national cover and is updated at six-monthly intervals.

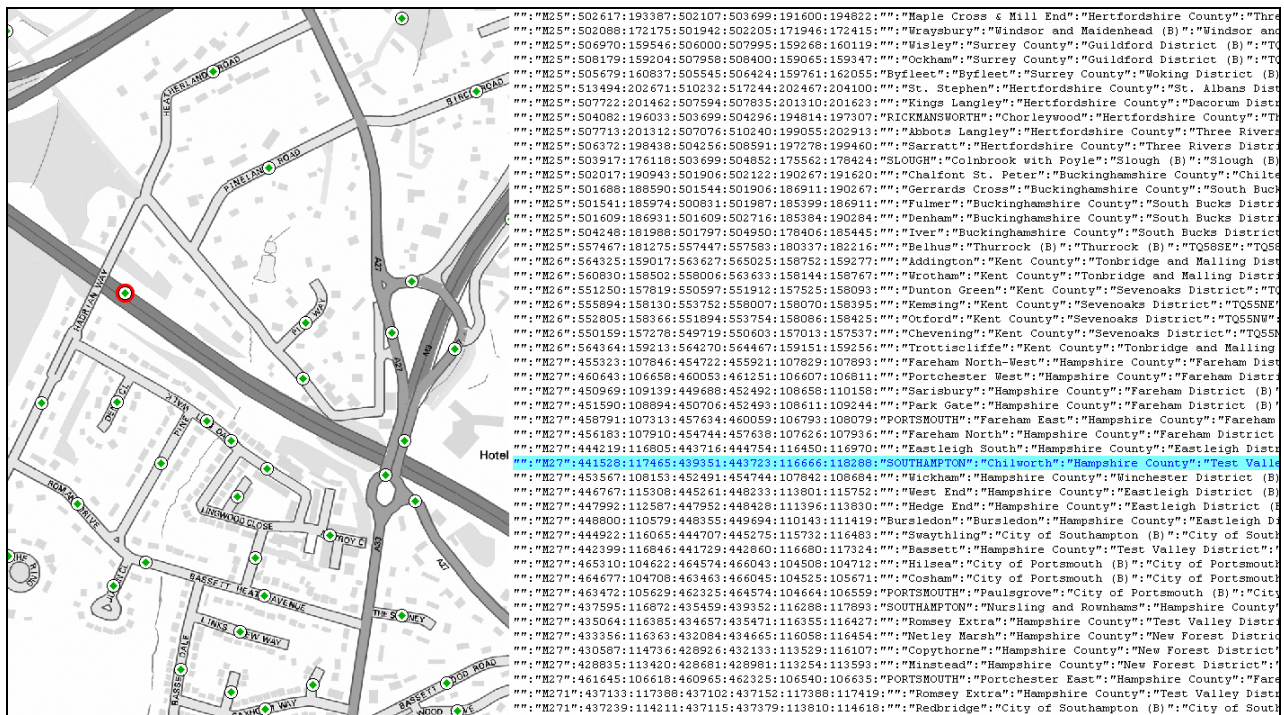


Figure 1: OS Locator overlaid on OS Street View® as backdrop mapping.

Chapter 2 Technical specification

Specification	OS Locator
Data sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meridian™ 2 • Roads database • Boundary-Line™ • Locality dataset
Data attribution, searches can be refined using the following fields	<p>Town, Locality, County/Unitary Authority, Local Authority area. 1:10 000 or 1:25 000 scale tile. (It is recommended that a fuzzy search is used as opposed to a Boolean type to take account of regional variations in name depiction.)</p>
Availability	Great Britain (GB)
Resolution	National grid x and y coordinates for the object extent and centre are stored at a one-metre resolution.
Data structure	ASCII text file, colon separated. (ASCII: American Standard Code for Information Interchange)
Storage volumes	One CD, approximately 119 MB.
Update frequency	Six-monthly intervals.
	<p>Objects</p> <p>A road name and/or road classification. This is an example of an object included in the data in colon separated format, in this instance a road name; it could be a road number. Each object holds the attributes listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Features are stored in alphabetical order according to 'Name' field. • Where 'Name' field entry is the same 'Settlement' field is used as a second qualifier. • Where 'Name' and 'Settlement' field are the same, features are ordered using the 'Locality' field. • Where a classified road has no name the feature is stored by classification in alphanumeric order, and where two field entries are the same by Settlement and then Locality as above. • Records for classified roads with no name will be found before/after the records for named roads.

Data specification format table

Subject to translating the data supplied into a suitable database, spreadsheet or geographic information system, information within OS Locator is separated into the following fields or columns of data.

Please note that 'Field Name' header information is not supplied as part of the data.

	Field Name	Format	Example	Description
1	Name	A	ALRESFORD ROAD	Feature name
2	Classification	A	B3404	Road Number Classification
3	Centx	I6	449590	X coord for Centre point of road object
4	Centy	I7	129430	Y coord for Centre point of road object
5	Minx	I6	448797	X coord for SW corner of the road object box
6	Maxx	I6	450392	X cord for NE corner of road object box
7	Miny	I7	129422	Y coord for SW corner of the road object box
8	Maxy	I7	129510	Y coord for NE corner of road object box
9	Settlement	A	WINCHESTER	Town in which the centre of the object falls
10	Locality	A	St. John and All Saints	Dataset with a description for the point at the centre of the object
11	Cou_Unit	A	Hampshire County	County or Unitary Authority in which the centre of the object falls, according to the latest Boundary-Line dataset
12	Local Authority	A	Winchester District	Local Authority in which the centre of the object falls, according to the latest Boundary-Line dataset
13	Tile_10k	A6	SU42NE	1:10 000 scale tile reference for the centre point of the object
14	Tile_25k	A4	SU42	1:25 000 scale tile reference for the centre point of the object
15	Source	A	Roads	Source of information

Example records

:A18:480186:410032:473919:480863:409833:410051:Belton:North Lincolnshire:North Lincolnshire:SE81SW:SE81:Roads

ALRESFORD ROAD:B3404:449590:129430:448797:450392:129422:129510:WINCHESTER:St. John and All Saints:Hampshire County:Winchester District:SU42NE:SU42:Roads

BEATTIE COURT::351275:615796:351242:351309:615794:615798:HAWICK:Burnfoot and Mansfield:Scottish Borders:Scottish Borders:NT51NW:NT51:Roads

BURNHOUSE ROAD::304192:671020:304112:304266:670965:671070:Dechmont:Oatridge:West Lothian:West Lothian:NT07SW:NT07:Roads

DUBDALE BROW:A595:317585:485165:317257:317772:485103:485436:Millom without:Cumbria County:Copeland District:SD18NE:SD18:Roads

FISHERWOOD

ROAD::239030:681817:238991:239064:681731:681900:ALEXANDRIA:Balloch:West Dunbartonshire:West Dunbartonshire:NS38SE:NS38:Roads

GIPSY LANE::431163:529241:430986:431319:528883:529647:Bradbury and the Isle:Durham County:Sedgefield District:NZ32NW:NZ32:Roads

LITTLEDALE ROAD::354144:461680:353315:356552:461614:464548:Caton with Littledale:Lancashire County:Lancaster District:SD56SW:SD56:Roads

Chapter 3 OS Locator supply

Supply unit

OS Locator is supplied as a single ASCII list in table format comprising a 16-column, colon (:) separated file.

Supply options

Supply is for full GB coverage only.

Transfer format

OS Locator is supplied as a single text file.

Media

OS Locator is supplied on one CD.

Data supply structure

|_Data

| |_OS_Locator_2009¹_2².txt

|_Doc

| |_licence.txt

| |_EcoDisc.txt

|_readme.txt

¹ The year of release.

² The release version of the year stated at ¹.

Update

OS Locator is updated at six-monthly intervals.

Chapter 4 Managing OS Locator files

Performance

In order to obtain maximum performance of the product within a GIS, it is suggested that you create a subset of the data supplied by selecting out the records within your particular area of interest.

Annexe A Product and service performance report form

Ordnance Survey welcomes feedback from its customers about OS Locator.

If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please print a copy of this form and when completed post or fax it to the address below.

Your name:

Organisation:

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Quotation or order reference:

Please record your comments or feedback in the space below. We will acknowledge receipt of your form within three (3) working days and provide you with a full reply or a status report within 21 working days.

If you are posting this form, please send it to:

OS Locator Product Manager, Ordnance Survey, Adanac Drive, SOUTHAMPTON, SO16 0AS.

If you wish to return it by fax, please dial +44 (0)8450 990494.

Any personal information that you supply with this report form will be used by Ordnance Survey only in the improvement of its products and services. It will not be made available to third parties.