OttawaGuide User Guide

System Requirements

OttawaGuide is available for Android smart phones that run android OS 1.5 + higher. Here's how you can check the OS version of your phone: press the menu button on the home screen, select "Settings", then select "About phone".

Your android phone needs a camera, a GPS, and a compass to be able to use all the features of OttawaGuide. Most android phones come with the features. You must also have a data plan that gives you access to the internet.

Installation

OttawaGuide is free, and the installation is easy. Follow these steps to install OttawaGuide on your android phone:

Step 1: Launch the "Android Market" on your phone
Step 2: Search for "OttawaGuide"
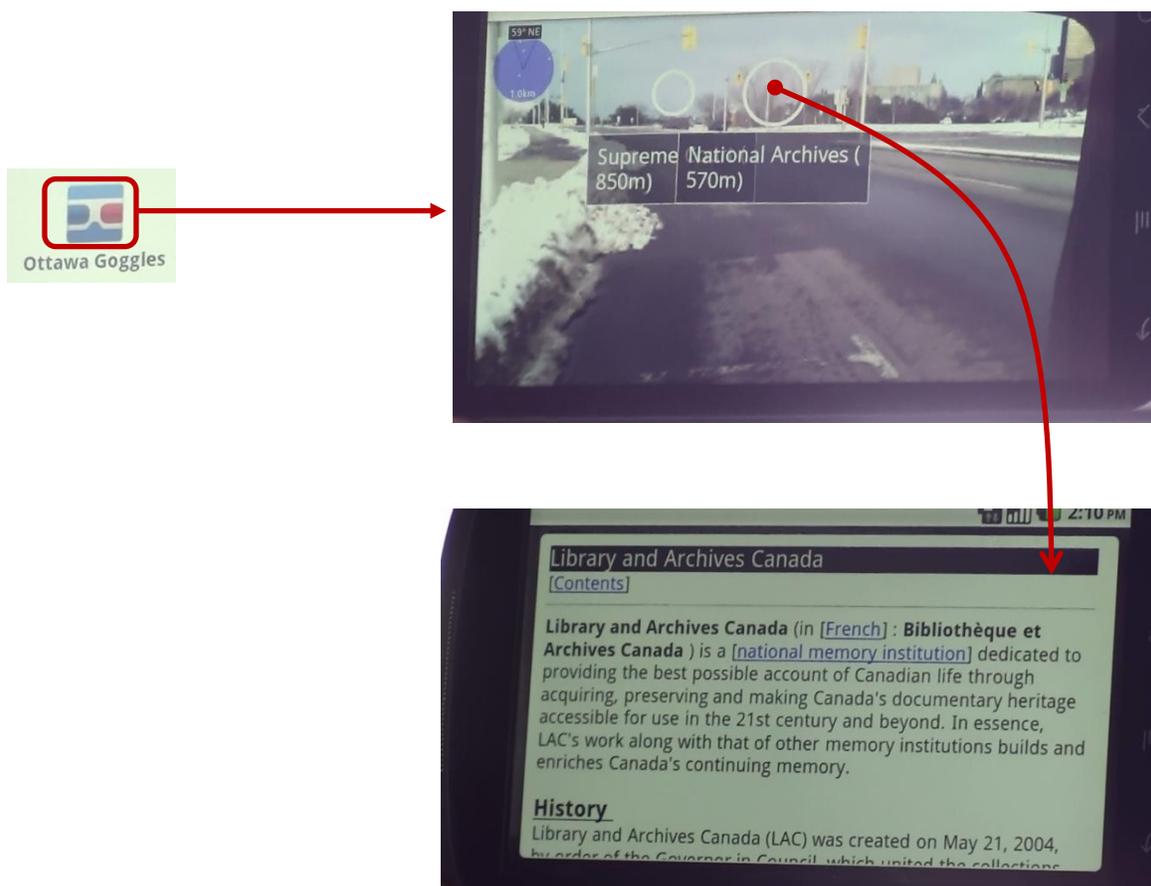Step 3: Select the "OttawaGuide" app, then select "Install"

Features

1. How do I start OttawaGuide?

Go to the list of applications; then select the OttawaGuide app, and you will be taken to the home screen of OttawaGuide.

2. How do I use the augmented reality feature of OttawaGuide?

The augmented reality feature of OttawaGuide is called "Ottawa Goggles". It displays Ottawa landmarks and attractions close to your current location using the camera view of your phone. Select the "Ottawa Goggles" icon to use the augmented reality feature. It may take a minute or more for the GPS to determine your current location; be patient. Hold your phone as you would to take a photo, then slowing do a 360 degree rotation to see the landmarks and attractions around you. ***Touching the circle takes you the Wikipedia page of the landmark.***

By default, "Ottawa Goggles" displays landmarks within a 20 km radius. You can reduce the radius (e.g., when there are too many landmarks in the view of the camera), or increase the radius to see further. To modify the radius, press the MENU key of your phone when in the "Ottawa Goggles" view, and selected "Modify Zoom Level".
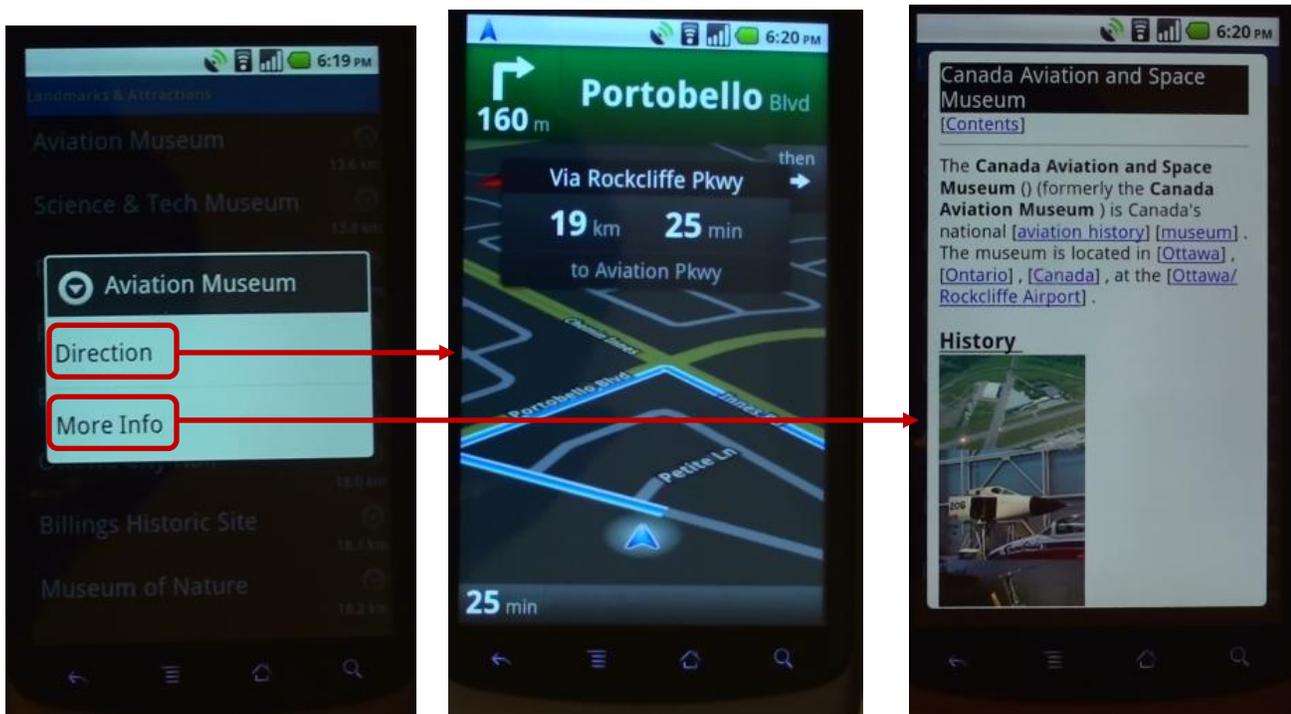
3. How do I see the list of festivals & events, restaurants, shopping centres, landmarks, entertainment spots, recreation (parks, golf courses, basketball, etc.) spots nearby?

Just select the icon of the appropriate point-of-interest and you will be taken a screen that shows the items nearby from that category.

4. How do I get more information about a given point-of-interest (POI), directions to a given point-of-interest, or make a call to a POI?

Press and hold the POI you need more information about, and you will be shown a menu from which you can select either "Direction" (to launch the GPS for turn-by-turn directions to the selected POI), or "More info" (to take you the Wikipedia page or website of the selected POI). Some POIs may not have the "More info" option either because there is no Wikipedia entry, or their website is not mobile-compatible (i.e., can not be displayed by your smart phone's browser).

PS. Turn-by-turn GPS direction is only available for android OS 2.0.1 + higher because that's when it was introduced by Google. We provide the traditional Google map directions for android 2.0 + lower devices, to compensate.
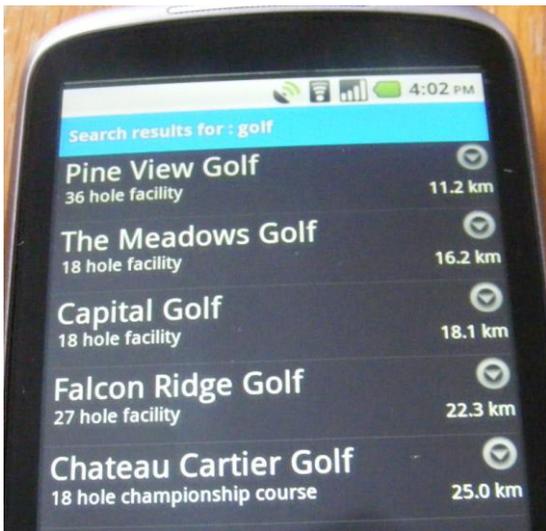
5. How do I perform a text or voice search of the POIs in OttawaGuide?

Press either the SEARCH or MENU key of your phone when in the OttawaGuide home screen to reveal the search box. Then, either enter a word (e.g., golf, pizza, events, etc.) in the search box for manual search, or touch the microphone icon for voice input (then say a word for voice search).

Enter a word; e.g., "golf"

Touch microphone icon

Say a word; e.g., "golf"

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