

# Setting up an Itinerary for TomTom GO

## Background

Whilst this tutorial is designed for TomTom GO users the general principles should be able to be adapted for other portable SatNav systems.

For day to day navigation, if you click 'navigate to' the main choices are 'fastest', 'shortest' or 'avoid motorways'. That's fine for most occasions but you will have little control over the route taken. You could use some of the inbuilt options like 'Travel via' or 'Avoid part of route' but these can appear more trouble than they are worth.

However, there is an inbuilt facility within TomTom where you can plan an itinerary and pick the route you wish to take. This could be useful if you are planning a vacation or are touring around a particular area or just want to go from A to B via a series of points on a map.

The manual which came with your TomTom explains how to use Itinerary Planner but I've found a better and more enjoyable way.

## General Principle

These instructions are not meant to cover every possible variation or combination but meant more as a general principle which you can build upon yourself.

When planning an itinerary, each point you select can be a '**waypoint**' or a '**destination**'. The itinerary can contain any combination of 'waypoints' and 'destinations' depending upon your planned trip or route.

A simple itinerary could look like :-

- waypoint (road A)
- waypoint (road B)
- waypoint (further along road B)
- destination (stop for lunch)
- waypoint (coast road C)
- waypoint (further along coast road C)
- destination (arrived at final location)

During the planning process you would choose 'waypoint' if you wanted your vehicle to pass over an invisible point on the map. Once passed, the vehicle would continue to the next point in the itinerary (without notification) until it eventually reaches a 'destination'. If you select your point to be a 'destination' the SatNav will announce that you have "arrived at your destination".

The 'destination' may be a stop for lunch, a particular viewpoint or some other point along the route where you wanted to stop. A 'destination' will also be the end of the journey of course.

Once a 'destination' has been reached you will need to go into Itinerary Planning and mark the appropriate destination as 'visited' otherwise it might keep trying to get you to "Turn around when possible".

## Software Requirements

You don't need any additional software to plan itineraries with TomTom. However, using the small TomTom GO screen is not the best thing in the world so I would recommend using a copy of Microsoft AutoRoute which is relatively inexpensive and you get a much better feel of your intended route and its relationship with the surrounding area.

When you've planned your route you can save it as a .AXE file.

To convert the .AXE file into a format which TomTom (and many other SatNav machines) can read you'll need to download a FREE copy of ITNConv from <http://benichougps.blogspot.com/>. Unless you can speak French you might want to select the Union flag on the top right of the screen.

Download and install the software.

### **Methodology**

1. Launch **AutoRoute** and size the map to the area you want as the FIRST waypoint or destination.
2. Click on **Route > Route Planner**
3. Highlight the first waypoint and click **Add to Route**
4. Move the map to the next area, click on the road you want then click **Add to Route**
5. Continue this procedure until you have 'mapped' your route
6. Click on your final destination and click **Add to Route**
7. You should now see a Start point coloured GREEN (*this is not where you currently are but your first waypoint*). The waypoints will be coloured YELLOW and the final destination point will be coloured RED
8. Save the itinerary with a suitable file name
9. Launch **ITNConv** and click on **Open**
10. Select the file you just saved
11. Make sure that **TomTom 3, 5 & 6, Rider, GO, ONE (\*.itn)** is selected in the bottom window
12. Click **Export** and save the converted file (e.g. test.itn)
13. Copy the itinerary file to your GO's **ITN folder**
14. Launch **TomTom GO**
15. Go to **Main Menu (3 of 4)** and select **Itinerary Planning**
16. Select **Options > Load Itinerary** and select your chosen itinerary