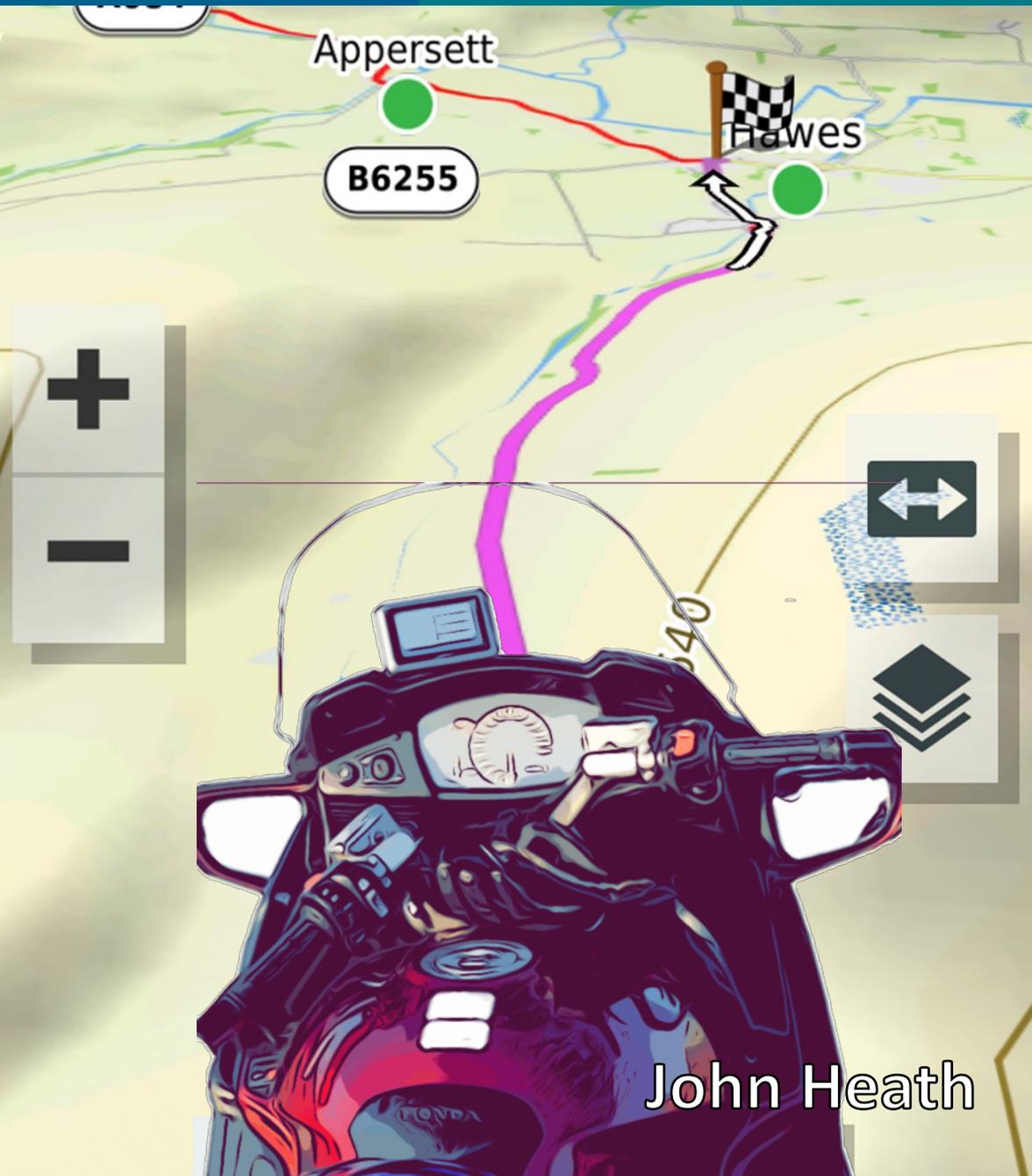


Navigating with a Zūmo



John Heath

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Navigation with Zūmos

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Key Terms - Route Planning

Route

A plotted (magenta) line which the Zūmo or computer has calculated in order to visit a sequence of route points in the order that you have specified.

Route Points

A non-specific term that is used to refer to any point that forms part of a route.

Waypoint

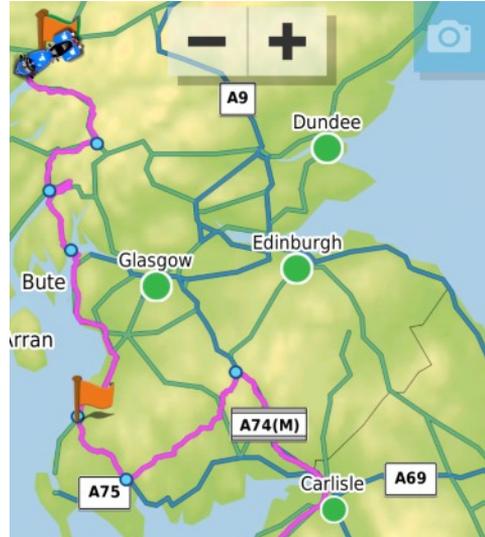
- A special location that has been created and saved for future use.
- Waypoints have additional properties - eg comments, address, phone number, map symbol - which make them particularly useful for stopping places.
- Waypoints are set as either Shaping or Via Points when added to a route.
- Waypoints are saved in Zūmo 'Favourites'.
- Waypoints keep the name you give.

Via Point

- Sometimes called 'Destination', 'Stop', 'Announcing' point.
- Via Points are shown on the Zūmo as flags
- The Zūmo will announce as you approach a Via Point and again as you arrive.
- Usually, if you miss a Via Point, or if the Via is wrongly positioned, the Zūmo will continue to navigate back to it.

Shaping Point

- Zūmos show Shaping Points as small discs.
- If you miss a Shaping Point, the Zūmo will attempt to navigate back to it.
- If you rejoin the route's magenta line after missing one or more Shaping Points, It doesn't matter. You have rejoined the route and the Zūmo will navigate you to the next route point. It will 'forget' about the shaping points that you have missed.



A Route Map
Captured from Zūmo Screens

| | |
|--|---|
| | Fort William N 56°49.0100' W 005°06.6579' |
| | 001 X Fort William N 56°48.5832' W 005°07.4845' 0.8 mi. / 1 min |
| | The Green Welly Stop A82 Tyndrum, Perthshire FK20 8 |
| | 073 Inveraray N 56°13.9090' W 005°04.4441' |
| | Hunters Quay, Argyll |

A Route List or Itinerary
showing the most northerly route points.
3 of them were created as Waypoints.

Navigation - Normal Behaviour

Via Points



- Announce as you approach and arrive - "In a quarter of a mile, approaching Aberford on the left".
- Magenta line highlights the next section as you enter it.



If you miss a Via Point

- The Zūmo will find a way to visit it.
- After 3 attempts it will ask if you want to 'Skip' the missed Via Point. If you 'Skip' the Via Point, the route will be recalculated. It will visit the remaining route points in the correct order but the route will be plotted using the Zūmo's algorithm and avoidances.
- After skipping, the XT route seems to behave differently if you subsequently deviate from the plotted route.



*Going straight ahead at the roundabout will miss this Via point. Problems - Esp. XT.
Skip will work, but recalculates entire route.
For an optional stop, use a Shaping Point.*

[See RUT behaviour on P14](#)

Shaping Points



- Are silent as you approach and arrive.
- The magenta line highlights the current section of route, which changes brightness as you pass the route point.

If you miss a Shaping Point

- Shaping points will always guide you to visit them....
- but if you join the magenta route after missed point(s) - it will continue navigating the route ahead.

This feature makes Shaping Points useful for marking optional stop off places. You can by-pass the shaping point, ignore the instructions to go back knowing that they will stop when you rejoin the magenta line.



Optional Stop to the right. If I don't turn right, the Zūmo will navigate on the left hand route.



Optional Cafe. If I take the green road, the Zūmo will re-route me, but when I join the magenta route ahead, the Zūmo will not take me back.

Placing Route Points

Waypoints

Remember - a Garmin Waypoint is a location that has been created and saved before building the route. It isn't just any route point. In later Zūmos (595, XT) Waypoints are the only route points that will always keep their given names.

Consider adding day / sequence / mileage to the name of a Waypoint - especially in places that are unfamiliar.

eg 01 123 Café Stop

When using Basecamp, it can be helpful to first create a simple route initially, just using the Waypoints. Multi-select the points, right click, create route. Done. Then insert additional points as required.

Via Points

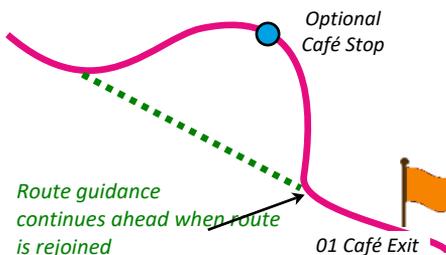
Via points must be visited if you want a trouble free route. Use Vias only for places that you will definitely pass through.

If you want the Via to have a useful name, it must be created as a Waypoint. (XT, 595).

A named Via Point is useful for

- marking the road *after* a coffee stop
- showing Trip Data
- Skip or route edit

See the diagram below.



Start Point

You will probably create this as a Waypoint. Make sure that it is positioned on the road that you will ride *after* you have set off.

End Point

You will probably create this as a Waypoint. It needs to be placed at the point where you will park your bike. Use satellite images and street view to find the car park for your accommodation.

Shaping Points

If you miss Shaping Points the satnav will stop trying to make you visit them as soon as you rejoin the plotted route, providing that you have not missed any Via Points.

Use Shaping Points to force the route along particular roads. Place them thoughtfully - it is rarely necessary to have one every mile - unless there is a main road nearby.

Divide sections of road that are near main roads into thirds - place one Shaping Point at $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way, another at $\frac{2}{3}$. This may prevent the route from doubling back to the main road.

Avoid placing route points on or near junctions. The route will often double back after visiting a point near a junction.

Shaping Points are useful to mark optional coffee stops. Combine it with a Via Point as described above.

Route Behaviour & Ghost Points

Ghost Points

Some mapping programs use **gpxx** route point extensions. I call them 'Ghost Points'.

Hundreds of Ghost points plotted close together are sent to the Zūmo in the gpx file as part of the route.

This means that the Zūmo does not calculate the route for itself. It just joins the dots.

If the route *is* recalculated, then all of the ghost points are discarded, and the Zūmo creates a new route. The recalculated route will always visit the original Via and Shaping points.

Routes can be recalculated accidentally.

Eg Recalc when navigating

- Map on Zūmo is different from map used to plan the route. Zūmo recalculates.
- Go off route & auto-recalc. is allowed.
- Press 'Skip' or 'Edit Route'
- Change route preferences
- A misplaced via point makes the Zūmo think you have gone off route.

Eg Recalc due to Planner Settings

- Is the route a direct route - straight lines - if so, it will not have ghost points.
- In Basecamp, 'Always Match Route' is set.
- Some planning software removes shaping points - only the ghost points are present - which are lost on recalculation.

Eg: Planning Software

MyRouteApp: Has a number of export formats.

- Gpx v1.1 had only Shaping and Via points.
- Gpx v1.2 plotted the route with ghost points, but removed all Shaping Points.

Kurviger:

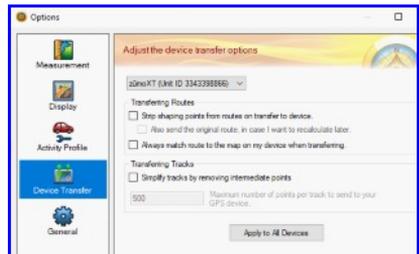
- No ghost points were created - Only Shaping and Via points.
- All route points were sent as Waypoints.



BC map detail, showing how closely the ghost points are packed.



BC. A route with just two Via Points. It is held in place by ghost points. Any recalculation, the route will change to one that goes in the direction of the arrow.



BC again. The device transfer options which can cause havoc if any boxes are ticked. Apply to all devices.

If relying on the route being identical to the one that you planned, then un-tick 'Off Route Recalculation' and Traffic.

The Zūmo will not suggest a new route if you stray and will stay silent until you rejoin, but the route is likely to stay intact.

Use Vias sparingly. If you miss via points, navigation will not resume when you rejoin.

Zūmo Settings for Routes

Settings - Planner to Zūmo

Route Planning programs send a variety of information to the Zūmo.

Basecamp sends:

- All route points, Via and Shaping.
- An exact plot of the planned route with thousands of 'ghost points'.
- All saved Waypoints - which are transferred to Zūmo's Favourites
- All tracks that have been created.

It also sends two key pieces of Info:

- Transportation mode - eg Motorcycle
- Route Preference - eg Faster Time.

Basecamp does not :

- appear to send any of the avoidance settings from Basecamp (see image).

If BC planned a route and the setting to avoid Ferries was checked. Then the Zūmo would receive the route to avoid ferries, and you would be navigated by the Zūmo without using ferries.

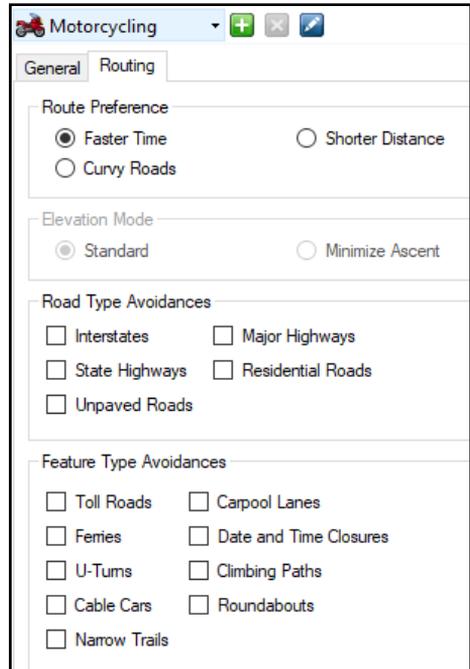
However, if you cause the route to be recalculated, the Zūmo does not seem to know about the Ferry Avoidance so the new route may well take one.

The Zūmo will use its own avoidances for the vehicle (eg motorcycle) and it will use the the routing preference (eg faster time) that is named in the route. The Zūmos avoidances may include ferries. But not all avoidances are offered on the Zūmo

The Zūmo defaults to using 'Motorcycle' and 'Faster Time', if the route doesn't specify.

As always, it makes sense to display the track of the original route, as well as the route.

[See 'Show Tracks on Map' - P11](#)



The following settings are sent to the Zūmo:-

Profile Name - Motorcycling

Route Preferences : 'Faster Time'

I leave all of the others un-ticked.

The Zūmo does not get to see the boxes that you have ticked. I leave everything un-ticked and use carefully selected shaping points.

I have seen two machines 590 and 595, running an identical route at the same time, recalculate the route for no reason that was obvious.

Once bitten

With practice, you can predict how the Zūmo may change your route, and place points to suit.

I avoid too many shaping points. Off route, the Zūmo will head for a missed one. But which ???

I display the track. If the Zūmo wants to go a different way, I follow the track. The Zūmo should adjust according my position.

XT - see RUT behaviour P14

Building a Foolproof Route (1)

Example using Basecamp

Save the Waypoints.

Identify start, end and (say) 3 stopping places. Create the Waypoints. Name them - eg 00 Start, 10 Am Stop, 20 Lunch, 30 Pm Stop, 40 End

1. Create a direct route using those 5 points. Drag each point to its approximate location. Set the date for the first point. So we have 5 named Waypoints created and saved. But no route yet!

Customized Routes

2. Set the activity profile to Motorcycling, then select the option to customise route options. un-tick all avoidance. Fig 2 shows the route created with just 5 Waypoints.
3. You can now select each section of route and insert additional route points to pin down the route. Fig 3.

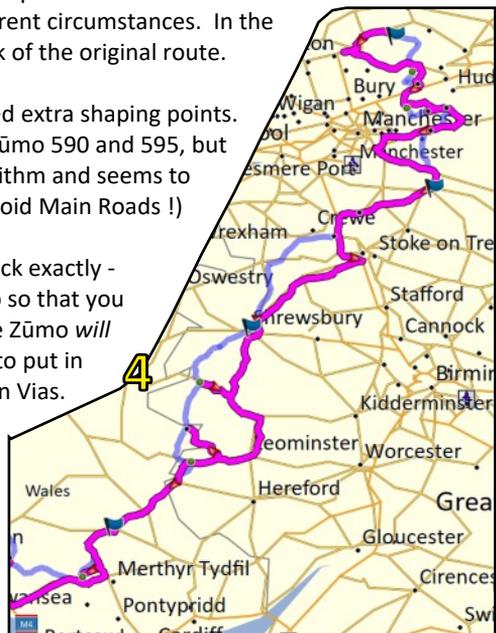
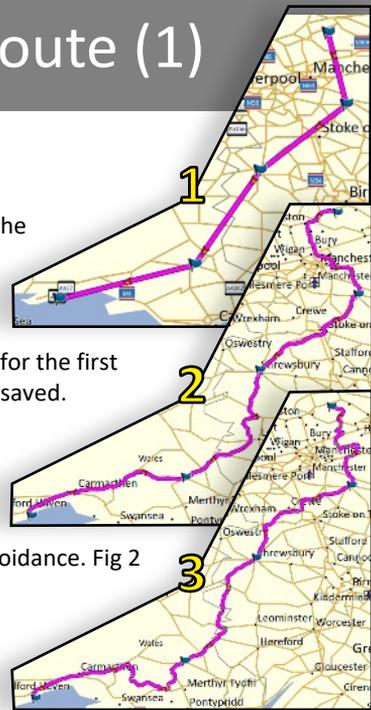
4. Create a track from the finished route. With a Customized Route, any changes that you make to avoidances will instantly affect just this route. You can experiment to see how well your route remains in place in different circumstances. In the image, the blue line represents the track of the original route.

Map 4 is an indication that you may need extra shaping points. BC is pretty close to the routing of the Zūmo 590 and 595, but the XT uses a completely different algorithm and seems to head for main roads. (So don't set BC avoid Main Roads !)

The route doesn't have to match the track exactly - display the track and route on the Zūmo so that you can see where you intended to ride. The Zūmo will recalculate. It should not be necessary to put in more than a few shaping points between Vias.

In map 4, I placed my additional points in towns.

That wasn't sensible: it gives the Zūmo far too many options. Place the points on the roads that you want to travel between the towns.



Building a Foolproof Route (2)

Position of Route Points

The Start Point

This needs to be moved away from where you get on your bike. This is so that when you set off, you know that you will definitely ride though the Start Point.

I will often place it a couple of miles away - beyond the ring road of a town that I have just stayed in. (nb For the Zūmo 660, it is better to have the start behind you so that you are already on the route !)

The End Point

This needs to be moved to exactly the location where you will park the bike for the night. Check out Street View so that you can spot any odd road signs and recognise where you are heading.

The Coffee Stops

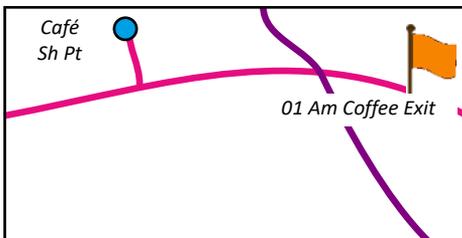
I use 2 route points for coffee stops.

Find the place you want to park, and place a **new** route point at that location. This will become a Shaping Point.

Then find the road that you will be riding after coffee, and move the Waypoint that you created to that location.

Call it something like **01 Am Coffee Exit**.

This ShPt/Via Pt pair allows the Via to appear in trip data, but the ShPt gives the option of not stopping..



Set Via / Shaping Status

In BC route properties, select all route points except the start and end, and set them all as non alerting (shaping points). Then change each of the Waypoints created at the start to be Via Points.

Set any other points to Vias - as you wish.

Remember:

- Shaping points are easier to ignore
- Via points are harder to ignore.
- Try to avoid using Skip on XT
- Zūmos 595 and XT may change the names of route points.
- Use a Waypoint to keep the name, then set it as Via or Shaping

Check Every Route Point

Basecamp has a feature that makes this easy - 'Centre Map' at the bottom of the Route Properties dialog box. The map will Zoom in on the point that you select from the Route list.

Check for route points in fields, on the wrong side of a dual carriageway, the wrong exit of a roundabout.....

Create a Track of the Route

.. and send it to the Zūmo with the route.

XT: 'Re-Save' the route

To avoid the XT 'RUT' issue ([Described P14](#))

In quoting examples using Basecamp, I am not suggesting that you must use Basecamp to plan your routes.

I am just describing what is possible in order to give the Zūmos what they need.

Other routing programs may be able to achieve the same thing in a different way.

Using Tracks - Different Methods

Convert a Track to Trip

Creates a magenta line that gives turn by turn instructions, without any route points. After conversion, the 'Trip' is stored in the Trip Planner App.

Deviating causes a new route section to calculate to a convenient point on the magenta line.

Care needed with circular routes, out and back routes, 'figure of eight' routes and routes which start near to the finish. The Zūmo could find the wrong part of the route. Split such routes into two sections - 'Out' and 'Back'.

Route and Track together

If the route is recalculated, the track doesn't alter, and it suddenly becomes very visible.

It is up to you then, which line to follow. Once you start following the track, the route should recalculate (eventually) probably to match the track.

If it doesn't, [see the RUT issue, P14 !!](#)

The width of the track can be altered by editing the theme file. [P11](#)

The track shows on top of the route -
- except the XT where it is underneath.

XT: Navigate a Track → Go!

No instructions. Track doesn't move. The distance off course is shown; the map plots a dotted straight line to nearest point.

Beware !

The Zūmo may delete Tracks that are placed in **Internal Storage** after they have been imported. They cannot be imported again.

It may be safer to put them on the **SD card**, if you like to be able to just import tracks one day at a time.

Convert a Track to Trip



*Trip-Track: Bike heading south on A1 (black),
Deviated to right to join A19. Zūmo keeps
looking for routes west to rejoin A1*

Display Route and Track Together



*Track and Route displayed together on the XT.
If the XT route is recalculated, the track is
revealed to show the original route.*

Load a Track and select Go ! (XT)



*The original route - solid magenta
Distance shown in the bottom right
No road, but direction shown by dotted line*

Tracks and EXPLORE

Show Tracks on Map

All Zūmos without 'Explore':

Apps→Tracks→Select Tracks→Spanner



You can choose colour and width and whether or not to show it on the map.

The same applies to the XT - but if you have set up Explore, then it is slightly different.

Zūmo XT with 'Explore'

Where To? → Explore → Spanner

Explore introduces Collections so tick that.



You can show everything in one collection by ticking the appropriate box on the XT.

No Collections ? - Select "Unorganised".

You can set the width and colour for the tracks in that collection in a similar screen to the one shown at the top of this column.

XT - Remove Garmin EXPLORE

This restores your use of Waypoints, tracks and routes back to how it was when you first got your Zūmo.

Phone:

Delete the Garmin Drive App. Delete it - don't just disable it.

Reset the Explore database.

- Home -> View Map → Speed Button
- Hold Circular Speedo (10 secs)

Diagnostic Page:

- Developer Tests and Tools → Click
- Reset Explore Database → Click.
- Turn the XT completely off:
- Hold the power button >5 secs
- Select 'Off' & Restart
- Select Where To ? → Explore to check.

Phone:

- Reinstall Garmin Drive.
- Do not set up Explore.

Is Explore Active ?

Select Where To? → Explore - you will get one of the screens below:



How To - Zūmo Storage

Zūmo Internal Storage / GPX

From Basecamp:

Routes, tracks, Waypoints, Shaping Points and Via Points are all transferred via USB cable to a single file called **temp.gpx**

A new **temp.gpx** is created each time you connect the USB cable and transfer data.

Other methods (eg using a file explorer; Via the Drive App; email; Zūmo sharing) will put separate GPX files in the same location.

Any GPX file can be saved in the same place.

Waypoints are auto-saved to Favourites.

On some Zūmos, Tracks are automatically imported and the data is removed from the gpx files. If this happens, tracks cannot be imported again. So if you delete a track on these Zūmos, you cannot get it back.

SD Card / Garmin / GPX

In many ways, putting data onto the SD card is a more robust solution.

Basecamp transfers separate files for Routes and Waypoints to this location.

In this case, **temp.gpx** is not used.

You can place any GPX file here.

The Zūmos do not delete or alter any data in gpx files stored on the SD Card.

Other forms of transfer cannot access the SD Card for storage. eg:

- Data shared between Zūmos
- gpx files transferred using Drive

Favourites / Waypoints cannot be imported unless it has one in Internal Storage. The system reports that it cannot find any.

Find Missing Favourites

If you delete all Waypoints from your Zumo's memory, then it should be possible to import them again. However, the Zumo has a 'feature' which reports not being able to find any.

Here's how to help the Zumo to find them:

View Map → Tap anywhere on the map.

The map changes view.

You may need a 2nd Tap. A flag will appear.

If so tap the name bar at the bottom.

Click Save.

You have stored a Waypoint / Favourite.

Now try to import your Favourites.

The Zūmo will be able to find them all.

Archive your Trip Data

Active Logs Keep a record of your trips in the form of tracks which can be displayed on maps. Turn On/Off at:

Settings → Device → Travel History

Active Logs are stored in:

Internal Storage/GPX/CurrentTrackLog.gpx

Internal Storage / GPX / Archive Folder.

Only 20 log files are kept. Older logs are deleted to make space for newer ones.

CurrentTrackLog.gpx - most recent trips.

Archive contains the previous 20 logs.

If you wish to keep these logs, copy the Archive folder and CurrentTrackLog.gpx every couple of months.

The XT has a slightly different system. It updates the last few logs. Copy all 20 to the same location as before. Let the computer over-write the previously stored files with the newer versions.

How to - Various Zūmo Snippets

Restart the Zūmo Mid-Route

Load the route. Load the preview map.

The map shows your position. Identify the next route point on the map (count). If it is a shaping point, edit the trip list and make it a Via Point.

- Count how many via points are behind you. If it is 2, the next Via is the third.
- Start the route and select the third Via as the next destination.
- XTs have Closest Entry Point - which is easier. Check the result on the preview map.

Alter the Track Width.

Warning. Changing system files can be risky.

Copy a theme file from: Internal Storage/Themes/Map to your computer disk drive. Rename it. eg **JFH-UnitedKingdom.kmtf**

Edit the file with a text editor - eg Notepad - Near the top of the file change 3 lines:

```
<TITLE>JFH-United Kingdom</TITLE>
<DESCRIPTION>JFH-Theme for United Kingdom.</DESCRIPTION>
<locale>JFH United Kingdom</locale>
```

Any of one these lines near the bottom, change the scale = "1.00" to 2.00 or 3.00

```
<STYLE field = "MAP_TRK_CLR" scale = "3.00" border = "1.00" > (595)
<STYLE field = "MAP_TRK_CLR" scale = "2.00" > (XT)
<STYLE field = "MAP_TRK_SAVED_CLR" scale = "2.00" border = "1.00" > (XT)
```

Different values / different themes. Make a few copies and use a different value. Then load each one.

Save the file. Copy to Internal Storage/Themes/Map

You can play with other MAP_TRK scale values. Change one at once to see the effect.

XT Note - The track width setting on the XT screen affects all tracks and routes. It is best to select your preference before altering the themes.

Clear Out Your Zūmo

Step 1: From the Zūmo Screen:

Tracks: Apps-Tracks→3 bar menu→Delete →Select All

Routes: Apps→Trip Planner→3 Bar Menu→Delete→Select All

Favourites / Waypoints: Where To? → Favourites → 3 bar menu → Delete Favourites

History: Where To? → History → 3 Bar menu → Clear

Step 2: Connect Zūmo to computer with the USB cable.

With a File browser, navigate to Internal Storage / GPX

Delete Current.gpx

Delete Temp.gpx

Delete any gpx files that you have placed there if you no longer need to import them.

Do the same for any files in the Garmin/GPX folder on the SD card.

Do not Delete: CurrentTrackLog.gpx; Position.gpx; Archive

Let the Zūmo Restart when you unplug the cable. It will create an empty **Current.gpx**

Zūmo XT - RUT Behaviour

What is RUT Behaviour ?

In certain circumstances the Zūmo XT seems to get 'stuck in a rut', of repeatedly asking for a U-Turn.

When Does it Happen ?

It only happens with imported routes, never on a route created entirely on the XT. It seems to be initiated when the XT recalculates the route. eg when using 'Skip'

Subsequently, RUT behaviour happens if I deviate from its route. It seems to want me to return to where I first left the route.

Note that repeated demands for U turn do not by themselves indicate RUT behaviour. But if it continues, when the way ahead is clearly the best way to the next route point, then it seems likely. There are other symptoms that can prove it.

Avoid RUT:

- Do not use 'Skip' or 'Edit Route'.
- Do not allow the route to recalculate.
- Plan routes on the XT

The above avoid the problem - they do not prevent it from happening.

How to Prevent RUT behaviour (PC):

- Use the solution posted here:
www.javawa.nl/triprepair.html

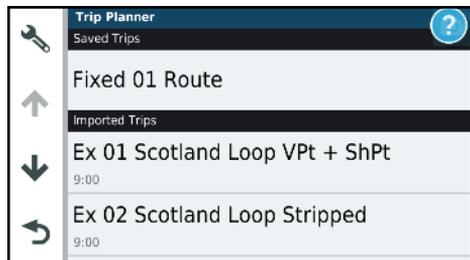
How to Prevent RUT behaviour (XT)

- On the XT load the route → **Go!**, select the start point → **Start**
- Re-open the trip planner and select the Active Route.
- Save with a new name. This adds the current position as a new start point.
- Load the new route → **Go!**
Select the original start point → **Go!**

The latter method can be used on the road, and the route behaves perfectly - as if it had been created on the XT itself.



RUT Behaviour - Deviated (E) from A1 (red circle). Now at green flag, 5m to destination. XT plots a 25m route (N, W, S, E) via old 'turn back' loops.



The re-saved route now appears under 'Saved Trips'



The re-saved trip adds a new start point. Select the original start (00 Skipton) for the 'Next Destination'

Route Planning Apps

MyRouteApp.

Very popular and provides a very good solution. Possible issues for the Zūmo user :

Gpx v1.1

Track, Via Points and Shaping Points. No Favourites. Zūmo has to calculate route - it may end up being very different.

GPX v1.2

Track and Via Points. The plot of the route is also transferred so the roads travelled are identical to those plotted on the MRA map.

However, if the route is recalculated, it has only the Via Points to work with. None of the shaping points are transferred.

If you use this format, it is important not to do anything that would make the Zūmo recalculate the route.

Turn off Auto-Recalculate !

No Favourites are transferred to the Zūmo.

Kurviger

Many people like this. I have limited experience, but I tried it for a couple of hours and observed the following:

I could not find a way for the plotted route to be transferred to the Zūmo. The Zūmo had to calculate my routes.

All of my route points were declared as Waypoints, and all showed up in Favourites - so Zūmo did not change the name !

I'm sure it must be possible, but I didn't find a way to allocate my own name to a point.

Shaping and via points were all correct.

Well worth further investigation.

The notes on this page are personal observations. Many on-line route planners are in constant development and their facilities changes. These note could be out of date by the time you read them - but they may give a clue as to what to look for.

Basecamp

MRA impressed me and I bought life time membership, but I rarely use it. Not being able to export a route with both Via and Shaping points AND the original plotted route seems odd to me.

Most of the software produced for route planning is generic - designed to work with as many satnavs as possible.

Basecamp is designed to work with Garmin Products.

It uses identical maps.

It sets Via and Shaping points correctly.

The use of the terms Waypoint and Favourites are consistent - Waypoints are transferred to the Zūmo as Favourites.

The route calculates and sends the data to the Zūmo so that the Zūmo does not have to calculate it on transfer or Import.

Basecamp can read the data that is on the Zūmo, and load and analyse the Active Track logs.

Can produce GPX and KML files

Does not use a web based interface.

Has an undo button !

Takes a little getting used to, but it is not difficult.

It is old, but it still works perfectly well.

Quick Reference Guide

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| White Rose Tours | www.whiterosemotorcyclertours.co.uk www.motorcyclertours.co.uk |
| ZumoUserForums | www.Zumouserforums.co.uk |
| Yorkshire based m/c Touring Club | www.nprclub.co.uk |
| Zūmo | (* Some of these are risky !!) |
| Complete Power Off | Long press Power button > 5 seconds |
| Recover from Failing to start | Very long press power button - 30 sec to 1 minute. |
| System Diagnostic Screen * | Long press Circular Speedo - 10 secs. |
| Mass Storage (59x) | Zūmo is given disk drive letter(s) - like on a PC . Needs to be ejected before disconnecting cable. .System folder can be made visible in this mode. 'One Time Only' means it resets itself to what it was. This setting is on the System Diagnostic screen. |
| MTP Mode | Media Transfer Protocol - like a mobile phone. No need to eject before pulling the cable. |
| XT PreBoot Menu * | From OFF. Hold in Power 2 secs, release and hold until logo appears. Release and press again |
| Zūmo Test Screens * | Hold battery icon - 5-10 secs until screen changes. Buttons Exit, Back, Next are not visible on all screens. |

Navigating with a Zūmo © John Heath January 2024

A set of notes to accompany a workshop for White Rose Tours

Written and Produced by John Heath

All contents are derived from my own observations. They represent things that I have found out at different times, the techniques that I use and my reasons for working this way.

But software changes, new things are found out. These notes are a snapshot and are not hard and fast rules. Whatever works for you is usually the best way !