



GPtraX

User's Guide

Version 1.0.0, November 2014

Table of Contents

Welcome.....	3
Overview.....	3
What’s New in 1.0?	3
Notes on Tracking	3
Conventions	4
Contacting Us	4
Starting GPtraX for the First Time	4
Listing Tracks	5
Creating a New Track.....	6
The Map View	8
Editing the Active Track	8
Editing a Collected Track	9
Exporting Tracks	12
Happy Tracking!	12
About clever tangerine software	13
Revision History & Release Notes	13

Welcome

Overview

GPtraX allows you to collect your real-time location information into tracks. These tracks can be edited and manipulated in the application or exported as GPX files for use in other applications. For example, you can use GPtraX to generate GPX files for use with your photo processing applications as a source of location information for geotagging your pictures.

Tracks created by GPtraX can be saved as GPX files to your Dropbox or accessed through the iTunes application on your Mac or PC. GPX files are a standard supported by many devices that collect location information such as GPS receivers.

GPtraX relies on iOS Location Services to provide location information through GPS, cellular network, WiFi, or other data sources.

GPtraX requires an iPhone^a, iPad, or iPod[™] Touch running iOS 7.1 or later. Although it does not include an interface optimized for the larger screen on an iPad, like most iOS applications, it will run fine on an iPad.

We hope you enjoy GPtraX.

What’s New in 1.0?

The major new features in GPtraX 1.0 include:

- ◆ Everything, it’s the first release...

For more information on these features, see the remainder of this user’s guide. A detailed change log for each release can be found at the end of the guide.

Notes on Tracking

Privacy is important.

By its nature, GPtraX collects position information from your device using the iOS Location Services. iOS gathers this position information from a number of sources such as GPS, cell, or WiFi. To effectively do its job, GPtraX needs access to location information even while the app is suspended – specifically, this allows the application to continue collecting a track while the application is not active.

GPtraX only collects position information while you have requested it to save your position information into a track.

The track information GPtraX collects is not shared with CleverTangerine or any other third party. The will, at your direction, save the GPX file to a folder in your Dropbox or allow it to be accessed through the iTunes application on your Mac or PC.

Conventions

This guide uses the following notation to indicate a point of interest; for example, to explain a point further or bring attention to differences with a prior release.

 *GPtraX 1.0 can now easily spin the black circle.*

To describe GPtraX, this guide relies on screen shots of the interface with callouts that point out features.

 *All screen shots in this guide show the application running under iOS 8. The interface may look slightly different when running on other versions of iOS.*

The GPtraX interface is built around standard iOS widgets and views and should be familiar to anyone who has used iOS in the past.

Contacting Us

We welcome your feedback. Many new features started as user suggestions. You can visit us on the web at <http://www.clevertangerine.com> for our blog and product information or contact us over email at support@clevertangerine.com. Links can also be found on the information page that is reached by tapping the “i” icon in the lower right of the tab bar.

If you like the application, be sure to leave a review. If you do not like the app, talk to us before you post a review – we may have already addressed your concerns.

Starting GPtraX for the First Time

When starting a new version of the application for the first time, GPtraX will display a welcome alert that gives you the opportunity to view the release notes. You can also access the release notes at any time from the information page for the application that can be accessed from the track list (see below).

To operate, GPtraX asks you to authorize it to use

- ◆ Location Information –GPtraX needs location information at all times while it is gathering a track. See above for more information.
- ◆ Notifications – when in the background, GPtraX may use notifications to inform you of various events such as losing the location fix and so on.

These requests are handled through a standard iOS permission alert,

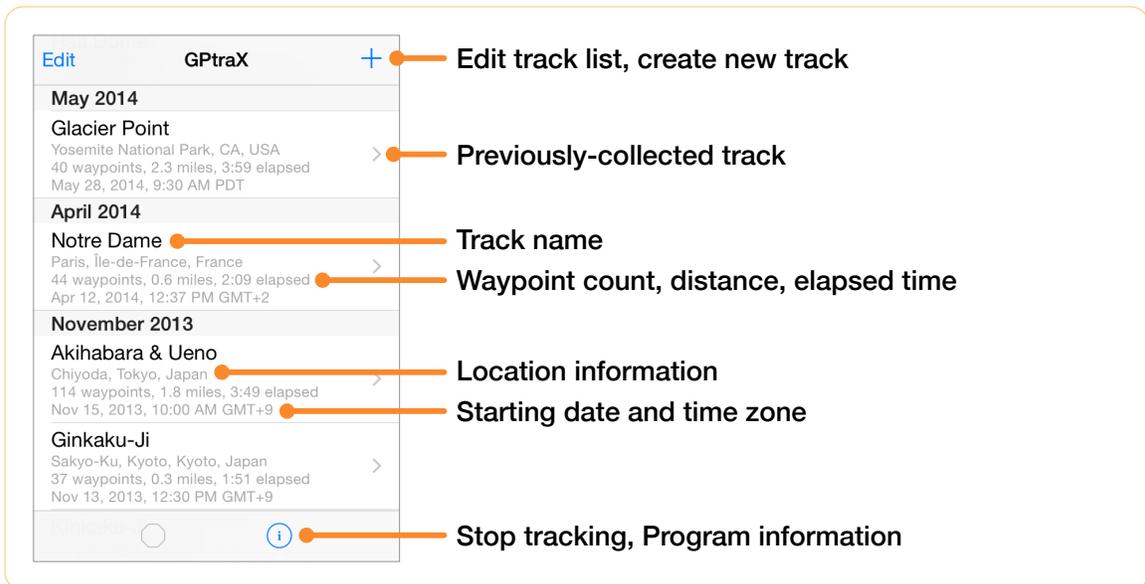


You can also grant or deny permissions through the settings page for GPtraX that can be found in the iOS settings app. After launching Settings, scroll down until you find the GPtraX row, tapping that row will take you to the app’s settings page where you will find a section titled “Allow GPtraX to Access” that accesses the location and notification permission settings.

Note that if GPtraX is unable to access your location, it will not be able to create new tracks.

Listing Tracks

The main screen of the interface is a list of tracks that GPtraX have collected. After you launch GPtraX, this list is presented as shown below.



A row corresponds to a track you have collected. Each row displays information on the name of a track, its length, date, and duration. The rows are organized by their starting month and year. The navigation bar at the top of the view has two buttons:

GPtraX – User’s Guide

- “Edit” – enters edit mode to allow you to delete tracks.
- “+” – starts collecting a new track.

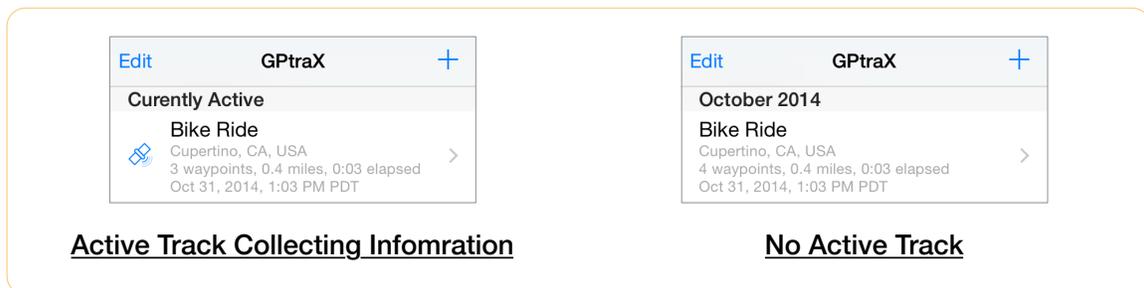
The tab bar at the bottom of the view also has two buttons:

- Stop sign – stops collecting location information for the current track. This button is only enabled while GPtraX is collecting a track.
- “i” – displays information on the application.

Each row lists information on the corresponding track including

- Track name – the name of the track set when the track was created.
- Track location – the location of the track. This information is only shown once GPtraX obtains geocoding information from the network.
- Track duration and length.
- Track date, time, and time zone.

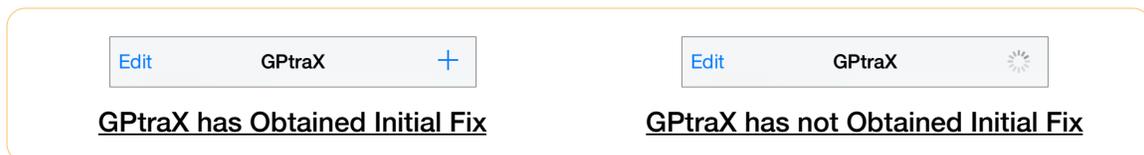
The track that is actively being updated with location information is shown with a satellite icon at the left edge of the row. The currently active track is always listed first in the list of tracks.



Tapping a row takes you to a map view that allows you to edit the track.

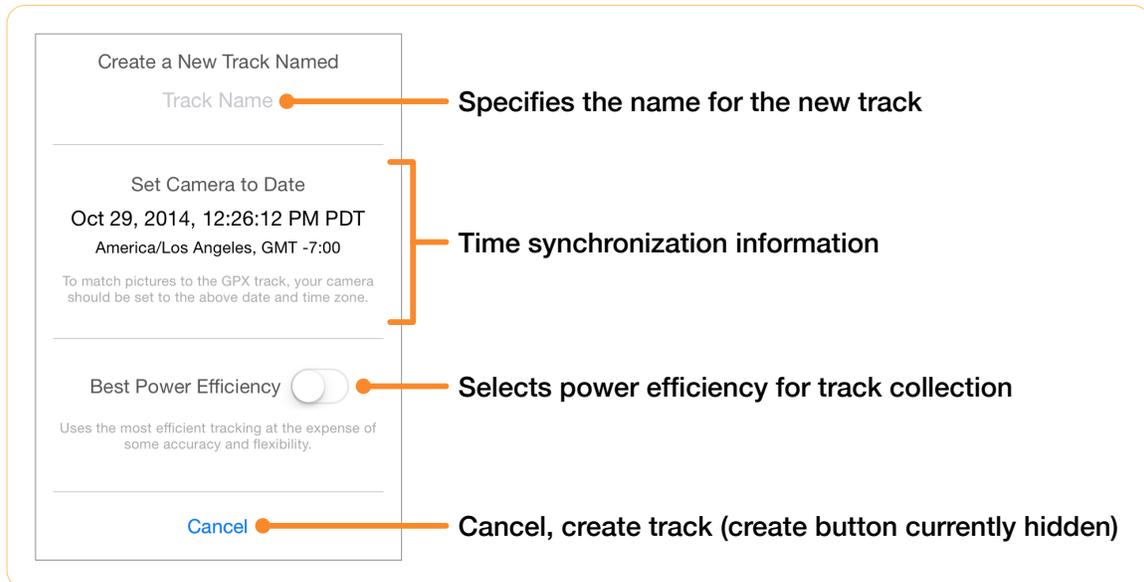
Creating a New Track

To start a new track, GPtraX must have an initial fix on your location. If the application is attempting to acquire this initial fix, the “+” button on the right side of the navigation bar will be replaced with an activity indicator.



If it is unable to acquire a fix, GPtraX will alert you that it is failing to acquire a fix. You can ask the app to retry, or switch away from the app and switch back. If this happens, you may want to check to make sure GPtraX is authorized to use your location.

Tapping the “+” button in the navigation bar from the track list table view will create a new track and begin collecting location information. After tapping the “+” button, you are taken to a view where you can set the track name and other parameters

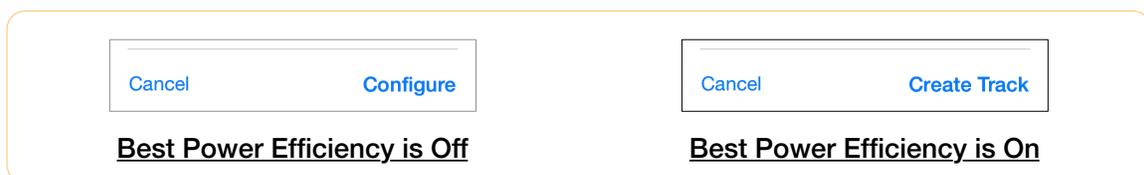


At the top of the page is a text field that allows you to specify the name for the new track. Tap in this field to bring up a keyboard that you can use to type in the name.

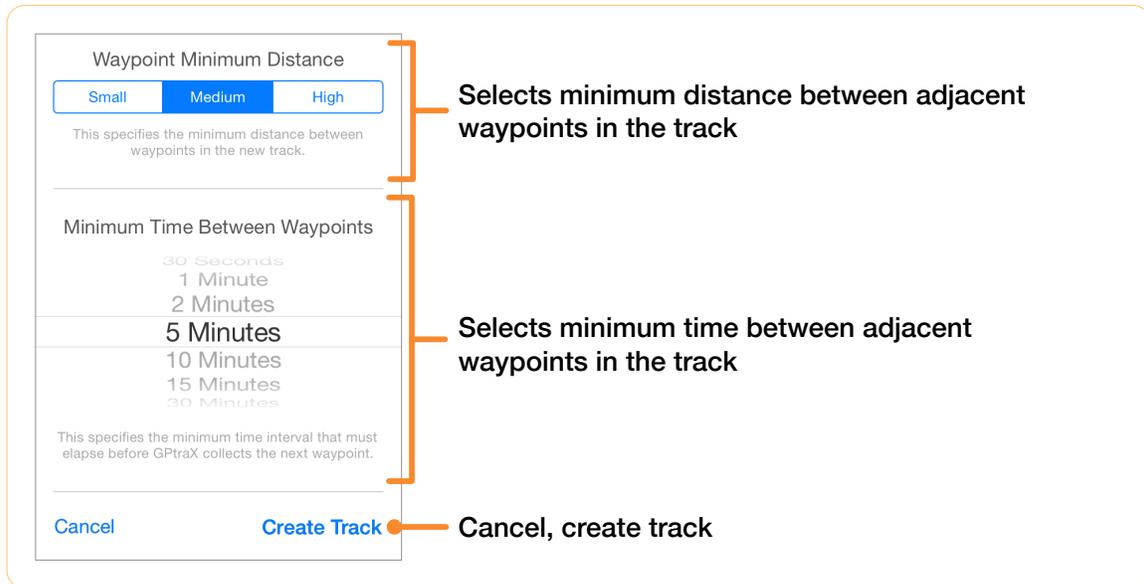
The Best Power Efficiency switch allows you to tell GPtraX how it should set up the location tracking. When selected, the app will attempt to request less accurate results from iOS location services. This trades off accuracy of location information in the track for power consumption while tracking.

The middle part of the view shows the current time according to your device. If you intend to use the GPX track you are collecting to provide location information for another stream of data (such as pictures you take on a camera that does not natively geotag photos), you should make sure to set the time on the other device to match the time shown here.

The buttons in the bottom part of the view depend on the state. The section will display a cancel button, which cancels the creation of a new track, until you type in a name for the track. Once you type a name, the bottom part of the view will also contain either a Configure button or a Create Track button depending on whether or not you have selected best power efficiency.



With efficiency on, tapping the create button will create the track and take you back to a map view with the track in progress. With efficiency off, tapping the configure button will take you to the next part of the track configuration process.



On this page, you can specify the minimum time and distance between waypoints. Waypoints are not collected until you have moved far enough from your last waypoint or long enough since the last waypoint. For example, if the minimum time is set to 2 minutes, waypoints will only be collected every two or more minutes.

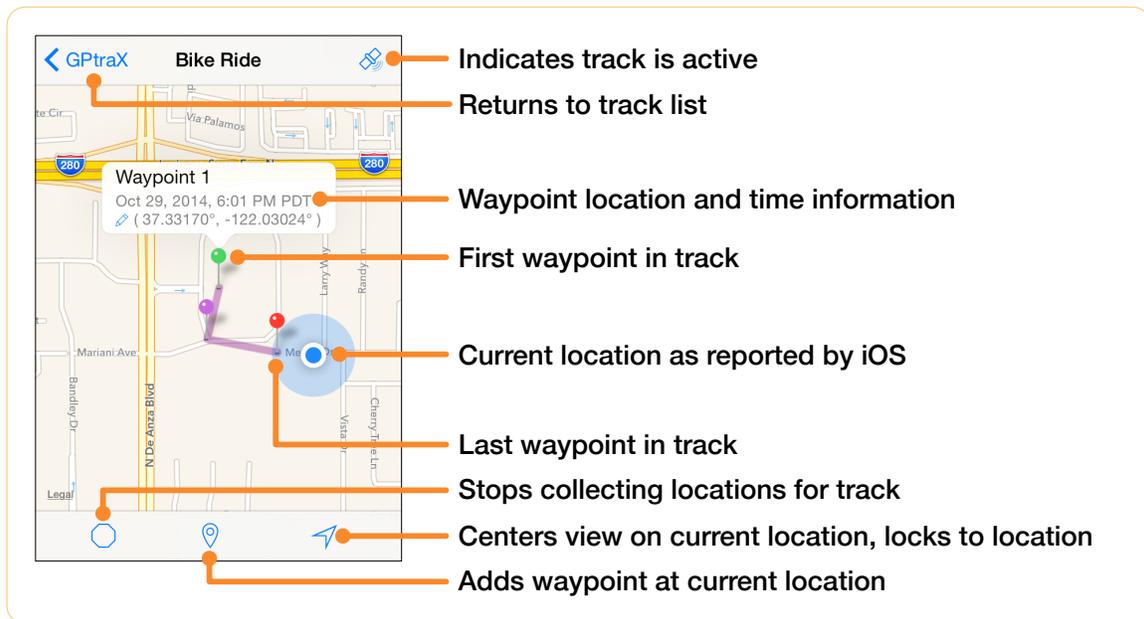
Once you create a track, you are taken to the map view for the active track.

The Map View

The map view is reached by tapping on a track from the track list. It is also automatically opened for the active track after you create a new track. This view consists of a map overlaid with pins showing each of the waypoints in the track. At the bottom of the view is a toolbar from which you can perform operations on the track or waypoints.

Editing the Active Track

When you select the active track (or create a new track), the map view displays the track as it is being built along with the current location as reported by iOS location services.



The satellite icon on the right of the navigation bar indicates that the track is actively being updated with location information.

Each pin in the view corresponds to a waypoint in the track with the first and last waypoints marked with green and red pins, respectively. Tapping on a pin brings up a callout that displays the waypoint, its latitude and longitude, and the date it was collected. You can reposition a waypoint by dragging it.

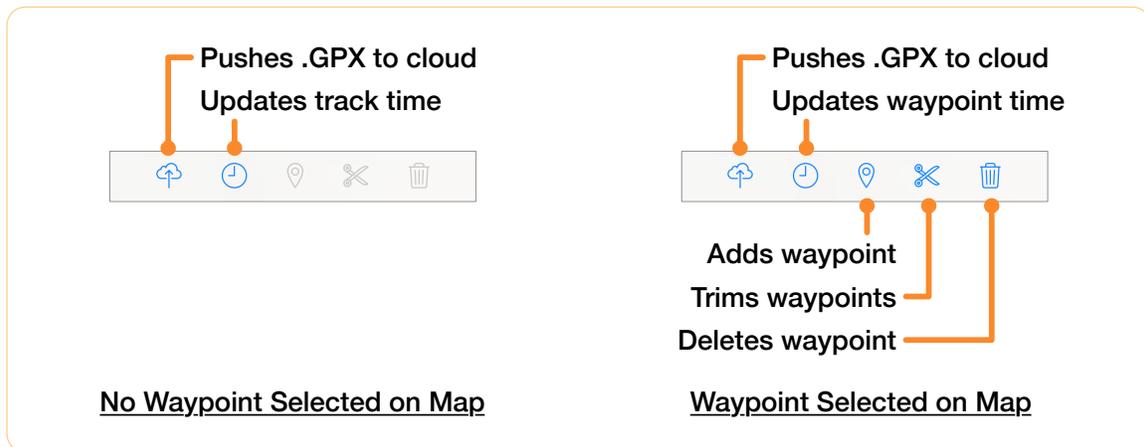
From left to right, the three buttons in the toolbar at the bottom of the screen allow you to stop tracking and complete the track, add a new waypoint at the current location, and center the view on the current location or lock the view to the location.

When ending the track, GPtraX will ask you to confirm that you want to finish the track.

Editing a Collected Track

When you select a track that has been collected, the map view displays the collected track using a map view similar to that used to edit the active track. Like that view, the map contains pins for each waypoint with a green pin for the first and red pin for the last waypoint. This view does not show your current location and the icons in the toolbar are different.

The toolbar allows you to operation on tracks or waypoints, depending on whether or not a waypoint is currently selected.



In all cases, the cloud icon on the left side of the toolbar will push a .GPX file for the track to your Dropbox¹. Tapping this icon will ask you to enter your Dropbox credentials. When saving to Dropbox, the .GPX file is saved to the /Apps/GPtraX folder on your Dropbox under a filename that is built from the name of the track and its starting date. GPtraX does not access any other part of your Dropbox.

When a waypoint is selected, the right-most three icons allow you to:

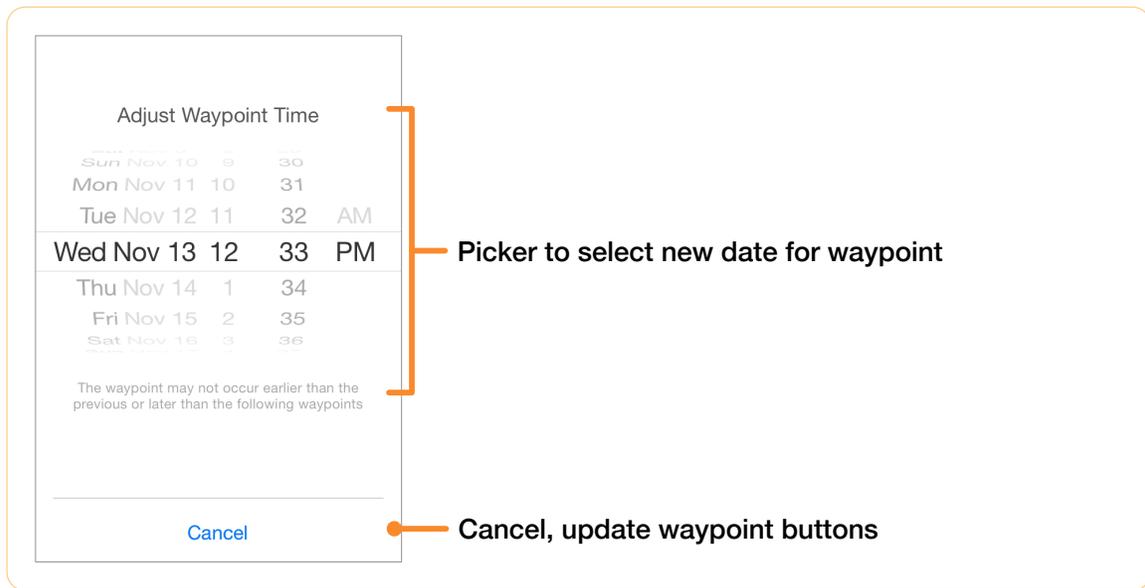
- ◆ Add a waypoint between the selected waypoint and the next waypoint².
- ◆ Trim the end of the track by deleting all of the waypoints starting at the selected waypoint and continuing through the end of the track from the track.
- ◆ Delete the selected waypoint from the track.

When deleting or trimming waypoints, the track must contain at least one waypoint after the operation completes. If the delete or trim does not meet this constraint, GPtraX will warn you with an alert and cancel the operation.

When a waypoint is selected, the time icon allows you to edit the time of the selected waypoint using a date picker.

¹ You can sign up for a Dropbox account at <http://www.dropbox.com> if you do not have an account.

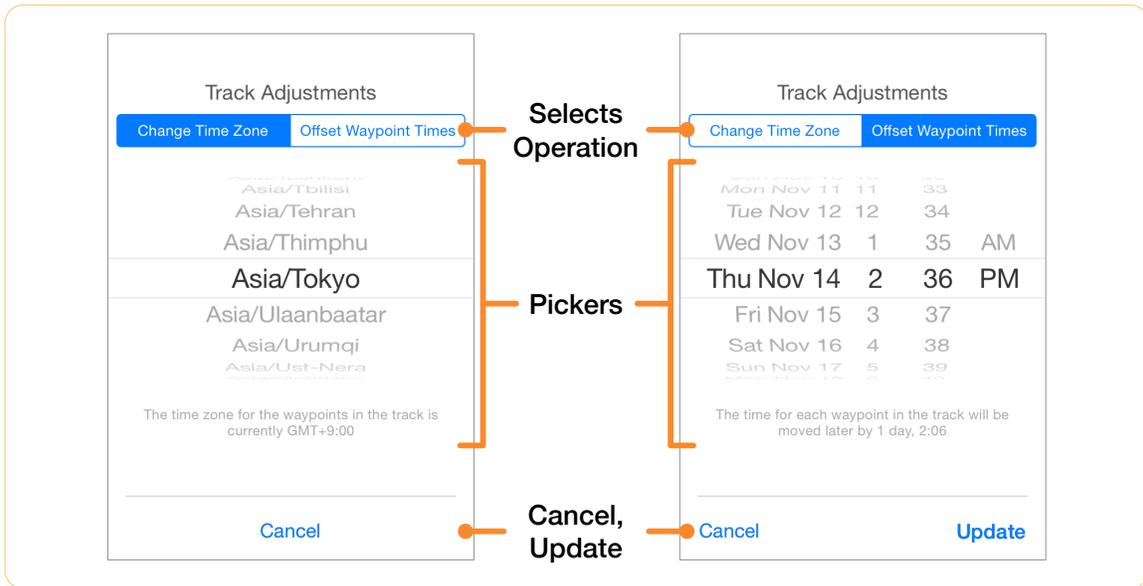
² If the last waypoint is selected, a new waypoint is added between the last and second-to-last waypoints.



The update button is only visible at the bottom of the screen if the picker has been changed.

To keep the waypoints in order, the time may not be changed to a date earlier than the preceding waypoint or later than the following waypoint. If there is no preceding or following waypoint (e.g., because you are editing the first or last waypoint in the track), there are no corresponding constraints on the waypoint’s time. The date picker will snap back to the earliest or latest possible time if you try to set the time to a value outside the acceptable range.

When a waypoint is not selected, the time icon allows you to adjust the time zone of the entire track or offset the times of all waypoints in the track by the same amount using a picker. The segmented control at the top of the view selects which operation you want to perform.



When offsetting the dates, the picker begins by showing the date and time of the first waypoint in the track. Changing that date will adjust the other dates in the track by the same amount as indicated in the text under the picker.

Note that the update button is only shown if the value selected on the picker would cause the track to change.

Exporting Tracks

The tracks that GPtraX collects can be exported in GPX files for use by other programs. As mentioned earlier, tapping on the cloud icon in the map view will save the track as a GPX file to the /Apps/GPtraX folder in your Dropbox.

In addition to Dropbox, you can also access the tracks from the iTunes application on your Mac or PC. When your device is connected to iTunes, select the Apps settings and then scroll down to the File Sharing section of the settings. In this section, when you select GPtraX the Documents pane to the right will list the tracks that GPtraX has stored. You can then use the Add or Save To buttons to move files between your Mac or PC and GPtraX.

Happy Tracking!

Thank you for purchasing GPtraX, we hope it proves a useful addition to your apps. We are constantly looking to improve GPtraX and welcome your feedback at support@clevertangerine.com or on the web at <http://www.clevertangerine.com>. We will even try to blog every now and then.

About clevertangerine software

clevertangerine software is a very small software company made up of crafty *Citrus Reticulata* who are committed to developing cool and useful software for the iOS. GPtraX sprung out of a desire to get a GPX application for geotagging photos that worked the way we wanted to work.

Revision History & Release Notes

1.0.0 – October 2008

- ◆ Initial release.

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