

## Using additional POIs

One of the great advantages of the Navigator Plus and Navigator Professional is the ability to import databases. These can either be your own information or downloaded from the internet.

The amount of information available from the internet is staggering. So much so, that actually finding what you are looking for is more like searching for a particular needle in a field full of haystacks!

Points of Interest come in a number of different formats. The most common are Microsoft Autoroute .AXE files and TomTom .OV2 files. Unfortunately they're not directly compatible with Navigator but a few dedicated individuals have emerged to help in making sense of what is out there.

One of the best utilities available is PoiEdit which you can download from [WWW.POIEDIT.COM](http://WWW.POIEDIT.COM). This program is currently free but the author would welcome donations. Even if it was chargeable we'd still be recommending it. Essentially this program pulls together all of the websites offering Points of Interest and allows you to manage the download and synchronization of the data from one interface.

Another incredibly useful program is POIConverter from <http://rjdavies.users.btopenworld.com/>. Another talented individual who has developed a program allowing data stored in Autoroute .AXE (amongst others) files to be exported into .OV2 or .CSV files.

The only output format from PoiEdit that can easily be imported into Navigator is a .CSV for comma separated values. Before you can use a .CSV file with Navigator you need to set up an ODBC Data Source.

It simplifies matters considerably if you create a single directory for all of your Points of Interest.

## Where to find what

### ***Speed Cameras***

These are best accessed from within PoiEdit. Go to the [www.pocketgps.co.uk](http://www.pocketgps.co.uk) site. Select the United Kingdom from Maps/Countries. You'll see categories for every type of camera arranged by speed limit and all speed limits.

### ***LPG***

The best source of LPG sites is from Nik Ives website [www.lpgmap.co.uk](http://www.lpgmap.co.uk). I'd recommend downloading Lat/Long Coordinates - TXT File. This version includes the telephone number of the service station.

### ***Camping Club and Camping and Caravanning Club Sites.***

So far the best source of these locations is from <http://www.jollyinteresting.co.uk>. Click on Autoroute pushpins on the left hand side menu. This loads a page with various options. Once you have downloaded the information onto your computer you will need to convert the Microsoft Autoroute .AXE file into a .CSV or .XLS file. The best utility I've seen for this is PoiConverter.

## **French Aires.**

Again these can be found with PoiEdit. Goto the [www.gpspassion.com](http://www.gpspassion.com) site. Select France from Maps/Countries. Select auto-moto and camping car from the group list. They've listed a number of different categories as you move your cursor over each one it will describe the contents at the bottom of the screen.

Another source is [www.motorhome-list.org.uk](http://www.motorhome-list.org.uk) where you can download an Excel Spreadsheet which can be imported straight into Navigator. You will need to subscribe before you can download the file.

## **German "Stellplatz" or "WohnmobilePlatz"**

1. <http://poiplace.oabsoftware.nl> you will need to register with the site to gain access to the poi's. When you get access click country and select "Germany" in the next window. Then click "category". When list comes up find and click "leisure". Then click "traveling" and finally click "camper parking". Then download. This downloads a TomTom .OV2 file which you'll need to convert into either .XLS or .CSV before you can input the data into Navigator.
2. From PoiEdit select [www.poihandler.com](http://www.poihandler.com) from the sites. Select Deutschland from the maps/countries. You'll find a massive list of points of interest groups. Step through the groups until you find "motorhome parking". Click this and you'll get the categories shown on the right.

## **Spanish Aires de Services**

We've been told about website, [www.lapaca.org](http://www.lapaca.org), that gives information (in Spanish) of several aires de services opening across northern Spain. It's at times like this that the Google toolbar with its translator built-in becomes invaluable!

## **Food**

A category that has been recommended is on the <http://www.pocketgps.co.uk/> site. Select this site from PoiEdit, Select United Kingdom from the Maps/Countries and scroll down the categories until you find the one called 'Pub Grub'. This POI lists about 400 pubs which are reputed to do good food.