

Using Explore and Tripmanager together with the XT

Personally I have never used Explore together with the XT(1), only for some basic testing. Since I wanted to know how it works together with TripManager I connected my XT to Explore and tested the basics.

The results were actually quite good. Although the normal Explore quirks still remain.

Summary:

- All Explore functionality keeps working.
- Automatic syncing is appealing. Especially using 3rd party tools like Kurviger or MRA.
- Using collections you can/must select which tracks to show on the map.
- Additionally using TripManager you can:
 - o Add tracks with 10.000+ points.
 - Notes:
 - These will not get synced to the Explore Website. Not desirable, because the Sync keeps trying.
 - The limit seems to apply to the Points in a GPX, not to the limit of individual tracks.
 - Sometimes, with large tracks, the sync seems to stall.
 - o Send trips directly, from a GPX. By passing the need to 'Convert a Track to a Trip'. The trips are not synced back to Explore.

Possible Workflows

1. If you have GPX with only a track. Way points optional.
 - Using Explore:
 - Import the track/way points in the Explore Website.
 - Let it sync.
 - On the XT 'Convert the track to a trip'
 - Using TripManager:
 - Use Send to, only Check tracks/way points.
 - On the XT 'Convert the track to a trip'.
 - The track/way points will be synced to Explore, the Trip not.

2. If you have GPX with a route. Tracks/way points optional.
 - Using Explore:
 - Create a track from the route, using BaseCamp, or have MRA create a track.
 - Import the track/way points in the Explore Website.
 - Let it sync.
 - On the XT 'Convert the track to a trip'.
 - Using TripManager:
 - Use Send to, Check Trips. Optionally tracks/way points.
 - the trip will be available on the XT, no import needed, fixed for RUT.
 - The track/way points will be synced to Explore, the Trip not.

Some very disappointing things when using Explore.

- There is a hard limit of 10000 track points. More will not sync.
- The tracklogs lose the time, only the coordinates are kept.
- When you connect/disconnect to/from Explore be prepared that you lose your waypoints, tracks etc. Back them up before trying.
- Support for routes is so minimal, that you could say it is not available at all.
 - o In the explore website you only see straight lines.
 - o When synced to the Zumo, all Via/Shaping points are lost

Break the connection

To break the connection with Explore this is the method I used.

- Uninstall the Garmin Drive App. (I have an Android)
- On the XT Reset the Explore DB, by opening the Hidden developer menu.
 - o Click on Speed Bottom-Left
 - o Hold the (almost) Circle on top for approx. 10 secs.
 - o Select 'Developer Tests and Tools'
 - o Scroll down to 'Reset Explore Database' and click that.
 - o Hold the power button until the device asks you to 'Turn off the Device' and click 'Off'
- After rebooting the XT, Install the Garmin Drive App again. But DON'T enable Garmin Explore.