Using Google Earth
A 3D interface to our planet

It's a globe that sits inside your PC. You point and zoom to anyplace on the planet that you want to explore. Satellite images, aerial photos and local facts zoom into view.

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What is Google Earth?

Google Earth is a free-of-charge, downloadable virtual globe program. It maps the earth by superimposing images obtained from satellite imagery, aerial photography and GIS over a 3D globe. NEW! Version 6 has many more layers, including OCEANS!

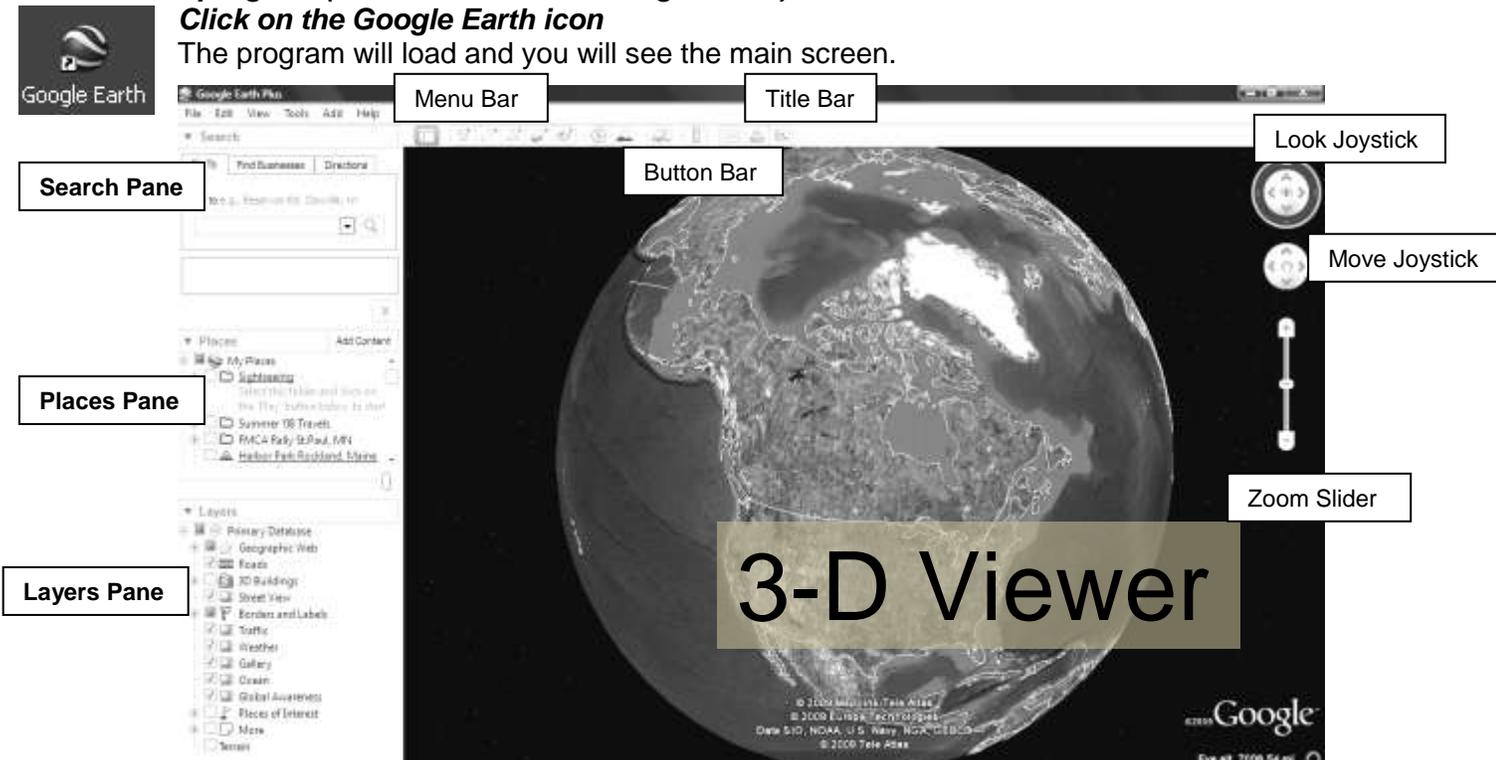### How do I get Google Earth?
http://earth.google.com/

This is the home page for Google Earth. You will find a wealth of information about the program here. Download the program to your computer. I recommend getting the newest version.

Start the program (see Video: Intro to Google Earth)
Click on the Google Earth icon
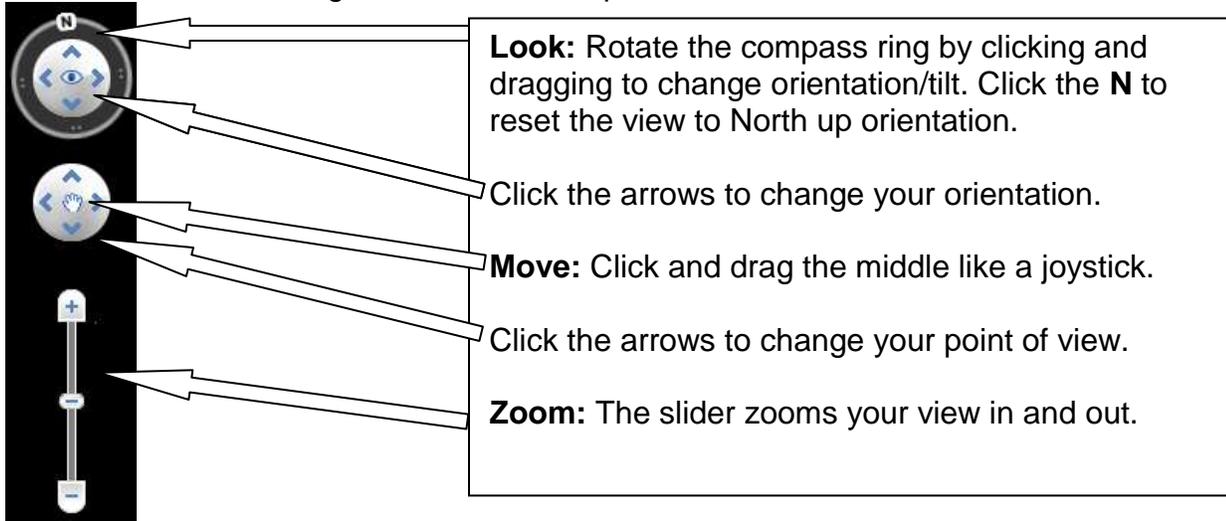The program will load and you will see the main screen.

Spend some time exploring the main screen.

Right-click is your friend! Try right-clicking on things and see your options. E.g. right-click on a place to add it to "My Places".

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Navigation

Use these tools to navigate around the map.

Look: Rotate the compass ring by clicking and dragging to change orientation/tilt. Click the **N** to reset the view to North up orientation.

Click the arrows to change your orientation.

Move: Click and drag the middle like a joystick.

Click the arrows to change your point of view.

Zoom: The slider zooms your view in and out.

Mouse navigation is another way to change your views.

Click and drag the map. The curser will change from an open hand to grab the screen.

Press and hold the scroll wheel to rotate and tilt the view of the map.

Use the scroll wheel to zoom in and out. Holding the right mouse button and moving up and down also zooms the view.

Double-click to zoom in on a location. Double-right-click to zoom out.

Button Bar

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |

1. Show/Hide Sidebar
2. Add Placemark
3. Add Polygon
4. Add Path – a multi-point line
5. Add Image Overlay
6. Record a Tour
7. Show Historical Imagery
8. Show sunlight across the landscape
9. Switch between Earth, Sky, and other planets
10. Show Ruler
11. Email
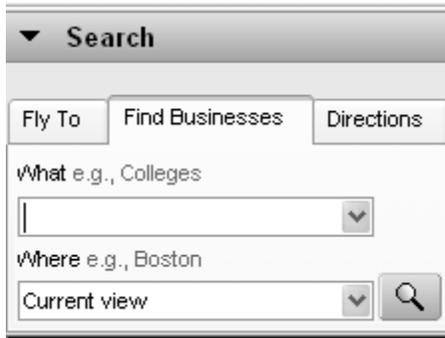12. Print
13. View in Google Maps

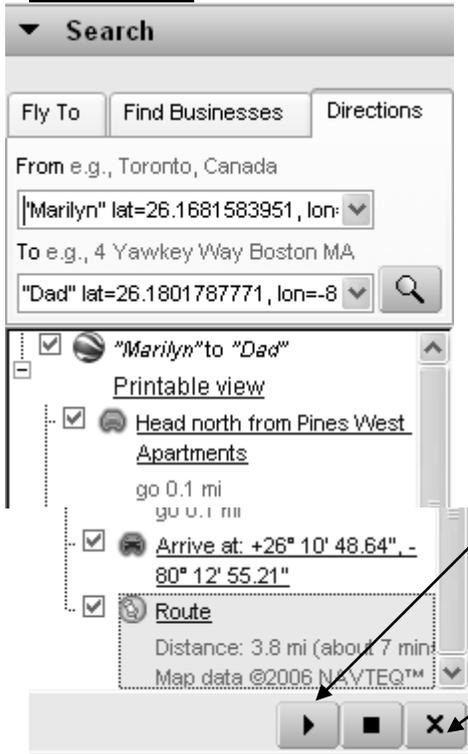## Search Pane

Fly To

> **Fly To** *- Type an address or a place and click on the magnifying glass.*
> *Google Earth will zoom you there.*
> *e.g. Georgia National Fairgrounds or 1980 NW 33 st Fort Lauderdale, FL or White house, Washington DC*
> *Note: if it finds multiple options, you can then choose from a list.*

Find Businesses *– Look in the area for any category of business. e.g. "RV Service and supplies" or "Walmart" Notice that it will look in the 'current view', unless you change it.*

> **Note**: *watch the video tutorial 'Trip-Planning with Google Earth'*

Directions – Pick a "To Here" and a "From Here" Google Earth will create driving instructions.

> You can type in or right-click a placemark for the *From* and *To* locations.
>
> The program will generate a turn by turn route.
>
> Click on the "play" button for a tour.
>
> This works best with short, around town, directions.
>
> To clear all the directions, click on the X.

Places

You can save the places you visit here.
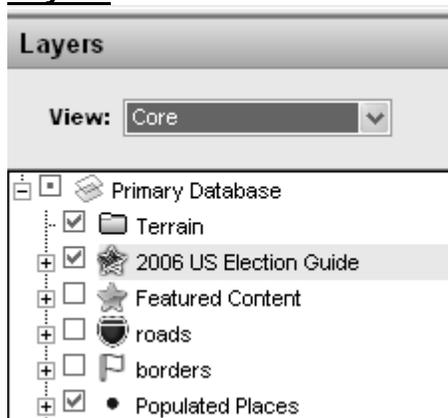
Organize them into folders.

Change the order by dragging and dropping.

The checkbox determines if it is showing on the map.

Expand and collapse the groups with the plus/minus.

Double-click the icon to fly to that place.

Layers

Turn layers on and off with the check boxes to view only the content you want to see.

Speed is an issue here. The more you display, the longer it takes to do anything. Not to mention screen clutter.

Expand and collapse the layers with the plus/minus.

More Resources

Sign up for our free newsletter at www.GeeksOnTour.com, and watch the video tutorials.Google Earth 'Show-Me' videos are included on the Tutorial Videos DVD as well as on our website.
Here are some web links in no particular order
http://www.gearthblog.com/ Probably the first GE blog
http://earth.google.com/userguide/v4/ The official GE manual
http://www.ogleearth.com/ A more focused blog by writers for Google
http://google-latlong.blogspot.com Blog of the Earth and Maps teams

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