

SBV FSA
Technology and Innovation



MYWAY PRO 2.0+

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Overview

MyWay Pro is an orientation and navigation app that provides unique acoustic and sensory support for blind and visually impaired people. The app helps you discover nearby places, calculate and follow walking routes, record your own routes, and download accessible routes in Switzerland. There are four main tabs that we present in this document as well as the navigation:

1. Explore: discover nearby places of interest
2. Plan: calculate a route between two addresses or browse accessible routes.
3. Navigation: How the navigation works
4. Routes: view, start, edit and share your routes under My routes.
5. Settings: configure navigation announcements, route recording behavior and your personal preferences.

MyWay relies on your current location to work to the full extent. Allow location access during the app start and it will tell you if the GPS accuracy is too low. VoiceOver users can access the same named controls, lists, swipe actions, and context menus described below.

1. Explore

Explore shows a list of nearby places in a circle around your location. MyWay Pro tells you the direction and distance to each of these points from your current position.

- Toggle the button *Explore nearby places* at the top left to enter or exit the Observation mode
- Use *Choose categories* to choose which types of places appear: Changing categories
- Use *Map* to open the map and see the points around you on a map: Using the map
- Tap a place in the list to read additional info such as the category, address, contact information and opening hours.
- In the detail sheet, tap *Navigate* to calculate a route from your current position. That opens the view of a Calculated Route.
- Pull down on the list to refresh the list. It will do so automatically while you are moving around.

These points come from [OpenStreetMap](#)**Fehler! Linkreferenz ungültig.**, an open-source map provider, where users annotate coordinates with information about businesses, restaurants, public spaces etc. MyWay Pro does not guarantee the accuracy of this information.

Observation mode

While in observation mode, you can turn your device facing a direction to scan. If we detect places straight ahead relative to the device orientation, it will be announced by a speech pattern, telling you the category, distance and direction. Only the categories you selected are considered here too.

Changing categories

Choose from the available categories: You can select or deselect all of them or select by single category. Most are grouped under a parent category, for example *Tourism*. For any group, you can use swipe actions to select and deselect all sub-categories (or use the buttons after navigating into the group). Once you are done, simply dismiss the sheet or tap *Done* on the top right. After changing the category selection, the list of nearby places automatically reloads.

Using the map

In this view you can see your position and red pins for the nearby places around you. Select a marker to open the place details. The map controls let you change map type, return to your position, focus on all nearby places, or close the map. You can also pan and zoom normally.

2. Plan

In this tab you can plan a route. You can calculate a route between two addresses and navigate to your destination. You can also use the *Take me home* shortcut here. Alternatively, you can choose from predefined routes under *Accessible routes*.

Choosing a destination address

The Navigation tab shows your current address and two text input fields. When your current address is available, MyWay Pro uses it as the initial start address. To input an address, follow these steps:

1. Tap *Start* or *Destination* address.
2. A sheet opens to select an address by text search, your current address, a recent search, or choose an address from Contacts. Contact access is requested the first time you use that option. Once you select an address, that sheet automatically closes.
3. You can use *Swap addresses* to reverse the route (change start and destination addresses).
4. Tap *Calculate route*.
5. Review the point list in the *Calculated Route* view.

Take me home

As a shortcut to get to your home, you can tap the button *Take me home* on the top right.

- If you have a home address set, MyWay Pro immediately calculates a route from your current address.
- If you have not set a home address, a sheet opens to do that. Choosing an address here persists until you choose a new one under Settings > Home Address.

Calculated route

Navigating to a nearby place, to an address or opening an external route (accessible route or imported), presents you with the calculated route view. The list of points appears similar to viewing one of your *Personal routes* but is only a temporary route. Here you have four options:

1. *Cancel* to discard this temporary route.
2. *Save* to add this route to your personal ones. An alert will tell you if that was successful.

3. Tap *Map* to see the navigation points on a map.
4. Tap *Start* to enter the navigation mode.

Accessible routes

We provide accessible routes from partners in Switzerland that you can download:

- *SchweizMobil routes*: search the catalog, open a route for its description and accessibility details, then tap *Download*. Once loaded, you will see it in the *Calculated route* view.
- *sbv routes*: browse routes grouped by region and tap a route to download it.

These routes are not initially saved directly under “My Routes” either. A local copy is created only when you save the route. It is then available offline and can be edited.

3. Navigation

During navigation, MyWay Pro tracks a current route point and gives you navigation info to help you orient (distance and direction). Navigation hints also work while the phone is locked and, if you allow it, display it as a live activity.

There are three modes to start navigation:

1. Forward - Point A to Z
2. Backwards - Point Z to A. Description to the points are usually made for the forward mode only.
3. Point observation - The point ahead is selected as the current one and can change while turning and moving. This mode has no start or end.

Navigation actions

If you need to exit the navigation, you can restart it from the point closest to you and if needed, change the current point. What you can do in the navigation view:

- In *Options* you can switch between the simple view and full point list.
- *Map* displays the complete route. You can change the map type, focus on your location or on the route points and inspect the individual points with their description.
- Tap *Stop* to end navigation.

In the simple view you can change the current point by tapping the buttons on the bottom. In the list view you can use a swipe action to set a point as the current one.

Point switching

To switch between points and to play audios, we differentiate between ranges to the current point. The ranges are:

- Far
- Close
- Immediate (teal color)
- Reached - Depending on the GPS accuracy (green color)

If you come close to a point (immediate) and then get farther, it is considered missed. The app then asks you if you want to keep it or continue with the next

point; this behavior can be changed in the settings. If you have another setting enabled, the points are colored. The current point is displayed in inverted colors.

Announcements

Navigation announcements are there to remind you about the current point: How far and in what direction it is. MyWay Pro announces at different kinds of events:

- Reaching a point and changing to the next one (or ended the route)
- Approaching a point (eg. change from far to close proximity)
- While in far proximity, reminding about the current point (repeating announcements)
- Shaking the device for a reminder announcement

You can turn off point changing and/or repeating announcements, you can use a time based mode instead of the default distance based for the repeating announcements and you can disable the direction in the announcement.

The announcement texts are synthesized and use the voice and parameters you have selected under the app settings. Navigation speech and VoiceOver may occasionally overlap. Locking the phone can reduce competing VoiceOver announcements while background navigation continues.

4. My Routes

In the tab *Routes* select *My routes* at the bottom. There you get the list of your personal routes.

- Your routes can be searched by name
- Sort by name, ID, creation date, or favorites with the button *Sort*.
- Tap the button *Add route* to enter the screen for *Creating or editing* a route.
- Tap a route to see its points. In there you can start a navigation, view the points on a map and perform *Route actions*.

There are three useful swipe actions in the route list:

- Swipe a route from right to left to *Start* it.
- Swipe from left to right to *Delete* it or *Edit route data* (name and description).

Route actions

Tap *Route options*. The available actions are:

- *Edit*: open the full route editor.
- *Favorite*: add or remove the star. Use the "favorites first" sort order to group starred routes at the top.
- *Share*: export the route to share as a GPX file
- *Duplicate*: save a separate route copy that you can edit independently.
- *Optimize*: create a new route with redundant recorded points removed and intermediary extra points for long stretches without points; the original is preserved.
- *Delete*: permanently remove the route after confirmation.

Creating or editing a route

First, to create a route, you enter a title and optional description, then confirm. A new route starts empty and opens in the route editor. Because every new point is captured at the phone's current GPS position, we recommend creating points while physically following the route.

In the editor toolbar:

- Use *Options* to toggle *Shake to add point*, *Auto record*, or time-based auto recording. Automatic recording can add points as you move; these settings are linked to the defaults under Settings > Route creation.
- Use *Map* to check point placement and order.
- Tap *Save* to persist changes. Disabled if there are no changes.
- *Cancel* warns before discarding unsaved changes. A route cannot be saved without at least one point.

Below you can read the route information (name and description) and have additional controls:

- Edit the route title or description with the button *Edit route data*.
- Tap *Add point* to manually add a point, enter a unique title and optional instruction, then *Save*. The current position becomes that point's location.
- Tap *Info* to get information about your position, GPS signal and metrics since the last recorded point.

Automated recording

While the setting *Auto record* is enabled, MyWay Pro automatically generates points while you are walking. There are two modes to record points:

- Distance: Create a new point every 30 meters from the last one.
- Time: Create a new point every X seconds. You can set the time interval yourself under Settings > Route creation.

Editing points

Swipe a point row, or open its context menu, to access its actions:

- *Edit*: Change the point title or description.
- *Set to current position*: replaces the point coordinates with your present GPS position.
- *Add point before*: create a new point and insert it before the selected one.
- *Move up / Move down*: change the point order.
- *Delete* removes the point after confirmation.

Point names must be non-empty and should be unique. If a point name already exists within the route, you are warned before creating it. If the GPS accuracy is poor, MyWay Pro also shows a validation warning; move to a clearer location when possible, or choose *Use anyway* if you accept the reduced accuracy.

5. Settings

Settings are grouped by purpose:

- *General:*
 - Home address
 - Nearby-places: choose the observation radius and categories
 - Voice: choose a voice, the speed and volume and preview it
 - Display units: distance and direction units.
- *Routes:*
 - Navigation: configure point-change announcements, repeated announcements, shake-to-repeat, starting from the closest point, automatic handling of missed points, distance colors,
 - Route creation: automatic route-point recording, shake-to-add, recording vibration,
 - Sounds & vibrations
- *Info:*
 - Manage your subscription
 - Inspect GPS position and accuracy, share or save your current location
 - Support: Access the manual and tutorial
 - About: contact Support, and view SBV contact information.

Use *Reset defaults* to restore to the app default settings. For reliable spoken guidance, also check the iPhone's system volume, VoiceOver speech volume, location permission, and Sounds & Haptics settings.

Appendix

Disclaimer

The „MyWay Pro“ app was developed to help blind and visually impaired people get directions and find their way in public places. The data used for this purpose come from third parties or are user-generated. The Swiss Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBV) assumes no responsibility for the validity, accuracy or completeness of the information and data provided in the “MyWay Pro” app. It is not a replacement for a white cane or a guide dog! The app must not be used with peripheral devices that impair the acoustic perception of the environment!

By installing and using the „MyWay Pro“ app, you agree to SBV's terms of use. Any liability claims against SBV which refer to material or immaterial damage caused by using or not using the information provided and/or by using incorrect or incomplete content are expressly excluded. This applies if there is no evidence of deliberate or gross negligence on the part of SBV.

All services are non-binding. SBV expressly reserves the right to change, supplement, delete or temporarily or permanently cease publication of parts of the app or the entire service without further notice.

Privacy policy

No personal data are collected or passed on to third parties during installation or use of “MyWay Pro”. SBV has no influence regarding the completeness or accuracy of the map data used or other data sources; therefore, users should not rely solely on this app for navigation. In addition, the strength and accuracy of the GPS signal can vary greatly, depending on the weather, shade, etc. Using GPS in the background can significantly shorten the battery life of your smartphone. “MyWay Pro” uses the following data sources: OpenStreetMap, Apple Maps and Opentransportdata.swiss.