



CanalPlan AC plug-in user guide

Version 2.0

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1 Installation and Configuration

1.1 System Requirements

Please make sure that your Wordpress installation meets the minimum following requirements:

- PHP 5 – with the fopen modules installed and access allowed to external sites.
- Wordpress 3.x running in either Single Blog (classic) or Networked Blog Mode
- MySQL 5

1.2 Installation

1. Download the CanalPlan AC Wordpress plug-in from the Wordpress repositories ([http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/CanalPlan -ac/](http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/CanalPlan-ac/))
2. Unzip the archive
3. Upload the plug-in into the plugins folder in your Wordpress installation
4. Go into Wordpress and enable the plug-in as normal. If you are running in Networked Blog mode you can use the Network Enable Option, however if you are planning to do this there are some Networked Blog mode configuration steps to carry out. Also as the plug-in creates a set of tables it is recommended that the plug-in is initially activated on a single blog and then network activated.

2 Configuration

Once CanalPlan AC is installed all the configuration can be carried out from the various CanalPlan AC Menu screens. However if you are running a blog network you will more than likely want to carry out the following steps

2.1 Enable Network blog support

If you are running in Networked blogs mode you will probably want to enforce Network wide settings. To do rename multisite.php.txt (in the root of the canalplan plug-in directory) to multisite.php

2.1.1 Set the Route Page slug

One of the features of the plug-in is a “trips” page which displays all the trips recorded in a blog and if you are running in Network Blog mode it displays all the trips recorded in all the blogs in the network.(Note that there is a limitation in that the “root” blog cannot contain trip posts) For this to

work ALL the blogs in the network must have a “trips” page with an identical page slug. This option allows you to set this sitewide slug.

3 Customisation

Once CanalPlan is installed and, if needed, edited the multisite.php file then you are almost there. You can now go through the various CanalPlan menus and complete the installation and customisation.

3.1 General Options

This menu allows you to get/update data from the main CanalPlan website and also to set a few other general options.

3.1.1 CanalPlan Data

To allow the plug-in to work properly you need to get some data from the main CanalPlan website. Click on the button to import the data from CanalPlan. Depending on the speed of your internet connection and your server this might take a few minutes. It is recommended that you revisit this option before you do any major blogging using the CanalPlan functionality and check how old the data is, and if needed click on the button to refresh it.

When first installed the plug-in contains no data and the CanalPlan Data section will look like this;

CanalPlan Data

You've not got any CanalPlan data, click on the button below to connect to the CanalPlan Server and get the data

Get Data

Note: The data used by this plugin is pulled from a copy of the Canalplan Database rather than the live copy. This means that the data being used by the plugin can be up to 24 hours old when it is pulled over. So if you've added a new place and want to blog about it (or include it in a imported route) then you need to wait until the next day before doing the import.

Clicking on the Get Data link will go to the live CanalPlan site, pull the data down to your server and then populate the tables. This could take a minute or so – depending on network speeds and server load. Once its completed you are shown a summary of the data:

CanalPlan Data

Table Name	Contained (Rows)	Now Contains (Rows)
Canalplan Aliases	0	710
Canalplan Places	0	15594
Canalplan Links	0	15645
Canalplan Waterways	0	560
Canalplan Polylines	0	472

All Done

CanalPlan data was last updated 0 hours ago - you cannot refresh it yet

Note: The data used by this plugin is pulled from a copy of the Canalplan Database rather than the live copy. This means that the data being used by the plugin can be up to 24 hours old when it is pulled over. So if you've added a new place and want to blog about it (or include it in a imported route) then you need to wait until the next day before doing the import.

You will notice that there is no button to get data – instead there is the statement “CanalPlan data was last updated 0.06 hours ago - you cannot refresh it yet”. As the plug-in pulls data from a backup

copy of the live CanalPlan AC Database the data can be up to 24 hours old so the plug-in won't let you do another data fetch for 12 hours. Once 12 hours have passed then the screen will look like this:

CanalPlan Data

CanalPlan data was last updated 1.38 days ago. Click on the button to refresh it

Refresh Data

Note: The data used by this plugin is pulled from a copy of the Canalplan Database rather than the live database. This means that the data being used by the plugin can be up to 24 hours old when it is pulled over. So if you've added a new place and want to blog about it (or include it in a imported route) then you need to wait until the next day before doing the import.

and you can then do a data refresh which should show any changes in the data:

CanalPlan Data

Table Name	Contained (Rows)	Now Contains (Rows)
Canalplan Aliases	710	711
Canalplan Places	15594	15596
Canalplan Links	15645	15651
Canalplan Waterways	560	560
Canalplan Polylines	472	472

All Done

CanalPlan data was last updated 0 hours ago - you cannot refresh it yet

Note: The data used by this plugin is pulled from a copy of the Canalplan Database rather than the live database. This means that the data being used by the plugin can be up to 24 hours old when it is pulled over. So if you've added a new place and want to blog about it (or include it in a imported route) then you need to wait until the next day before doing the import.

Multisite Note : There is only 1 set of data tables for the whole blog network and anyone who has the plug-in enabled can update this data, so don't be worried if you've not visited for a few days but the plug-in is telling you that the data was refreshed a few hours ago.

3.1.2 Distance Format

Traditionally distances on canals are measured in miles and furlongs but as CanalPlan itself now has details on canals outside the UK you have the ability to chose how distances are displayed by the plug-in. This is used as the default distance format for importing routes but it can be over-ridden during route import/modification.

Distance Format

This is the default format that will be used when importing routes from Canalplan AC. It can be overridden on a route by route basis:

Miles and Furlongs (2 miles , 2 ¾ ffg)

Save Options

3.1.3 CanalPlan API Key

To allow your blog to fully interact with the CanalPlan AC website you need to obtain an API key from CanalPlan . This is totally automatic. The first time you visit this screen you will see something like this:

Canalplan Key

This key allows Canalplan to link back to your blog posts.

API Key has been set to : `f07cd0b48fe7732590df42a8804064b080940e28befc19cc93e92cd722df83d2` and is valid for the blog titled: '**Scribblings from the Mintball**' on the following url : <http://blogs.canalplan.org.uk/mintball>

Save Canalplan Key

Click on Save to save the key – the screen should then change to this:

Canalplan Key

This key allows Canalplan to link back to your blog posts.

API Key currently set to : `f07cd0b48fe7732590df42a8804064b080940e28befc19cc93e92cd722df83d2` and is valid for the blog titled: '**Scribblings from the Mintball**' on the following url : <http://blogs.canalplan.org.uk/mintball>

Reset Canalplan Key

You don't need to do anything else.

If you ever change your website URL or title then you'll need to obtain a new API key by clicking on Reset CanalPlan Key which will go and obtain a new one.

Note : If you don't want CanalPlan AC to link back you your blog then you simply don't set the API key.

3.1.4 Route Page Slug

One of the main features of the CanalPlan plug-in is the “trip blogging” feature which allows you to basically create a cruising log for a trip. To fully enable this feature you need to create a specific page to support this. Once you've created the page enter the slug in here and save the settings. For example if your page is called Trips then the slug would be trips. If you are in a network and the administrator has enabled networked blog mode support then you will be told the url of the page that you need to create.

Route Page Slug

The Route Page Slug is the name of the page you are using for your Route Handling page. The page needs to contain the following code to work : `{BLOGGEDROUTES}`.

UNDEFINED!

Save Route Page Slug

Your current page slug for blogged routes is **currently not defined** so please set one

Enter the name of the page slug you plan to use in the box and click on Save Route Page Slug:

Route Page Slug

The Route Page Slug is the name of the page you are using for your Route Handling page. The page needs to contain the following code to work : `{BLOGGEDROUTES}`.

trips

Save Route Page Slug

Your current page slug for blogged routes is **currently not defined** so please set one

You should then see something similar to this:

Route Page Slug

The Route Page Slug is the name of the page you are using for your Route Handling page. The page needs to contain the following code to work : {BLOGGEDROUTES}.

Your current page slug for blogged routes is 'trips' so you need to make sure that <http://blogs.canalplan.org.uk/mintball/trips> exists

If you are running in networked blog mode and the administrator has set a slug then the option will look like this:

Route Page Slug

The Route Page Slug is the name of the page you are using for your Route Handling page. The page needs to contain the following code to work : {BLOGGEDROUTES}.

The Site Administrator has set the page slug for blogged routes to be 'trips' so you need to make sure that <http://blogs.canalplan.org.uk/mintball/trips> exists

You can see that the plug-in is telling you to make sure that the page on that url exists. If it doesn't then you need to create it and make sure that the page contains the following text:

{BLOGGEDROUTES}

You can add other text round this tag but for the plug-in to work correctly this tag must be present in the page

3.2 Home Mooring

The Home Mooring is always the first location on the list of favourites and it is always passed to CanalPlan as the start location when planning/importing routes. Rather than making you have to use the name from CanalPlan the plug-in allows you to basically create a local alias for the place.

When you go to the screen the following is displayed. If you have a current home mooring set then it is displayed at the top of the screen.

Set Home Mooring

Current Mooring

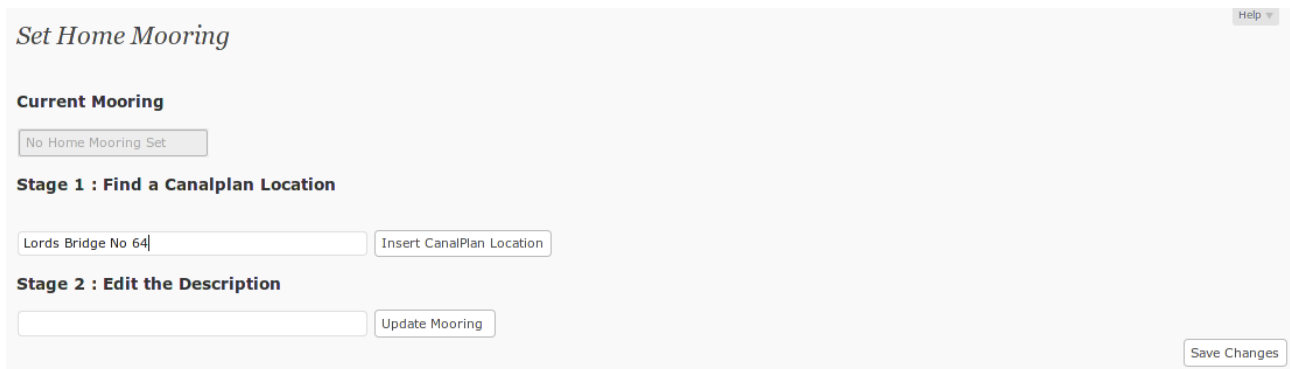
No Home Mooring Set

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

So to add/update you home mooring you click into the box in Stage 1 and start to type the name of the place you want to find. You'll probably recognise the way it works from CanalPlan itself and you'll soon have your home mooring listed in the box under Stage 1

Then click on “Insert Canalplan Location” which will populate the box under Stage 2.



Set Home Mooring Help

Current Mooring

No Home Mooring Set

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

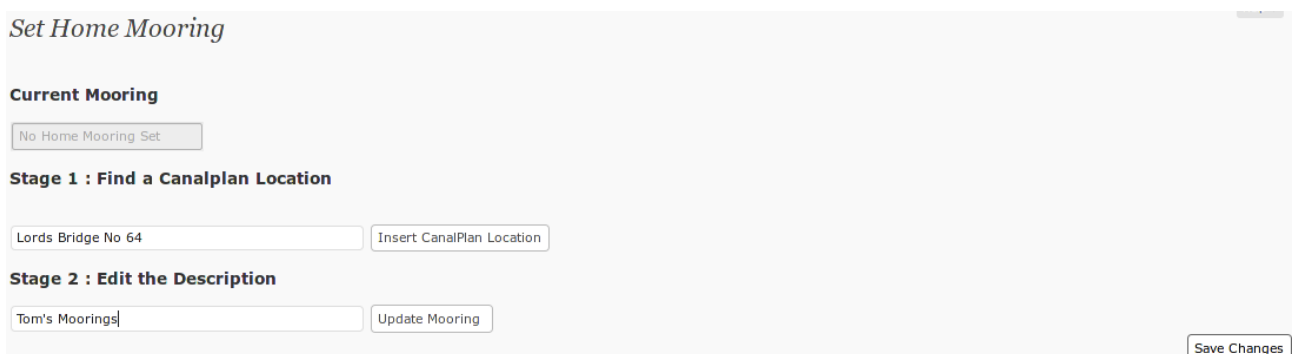
Lords Bridge No 64 Insert CanalPlan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Update Mooring

Save Changes

Mintball is moored by Lord's Bridge 64 on the Shropshire Union but we're moored on a set of moorings called “Tom's Moorings”. So we can type that into the box in Stage 2



Set Home Mooring Help

Current Mooring

No Home Mooring Set

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

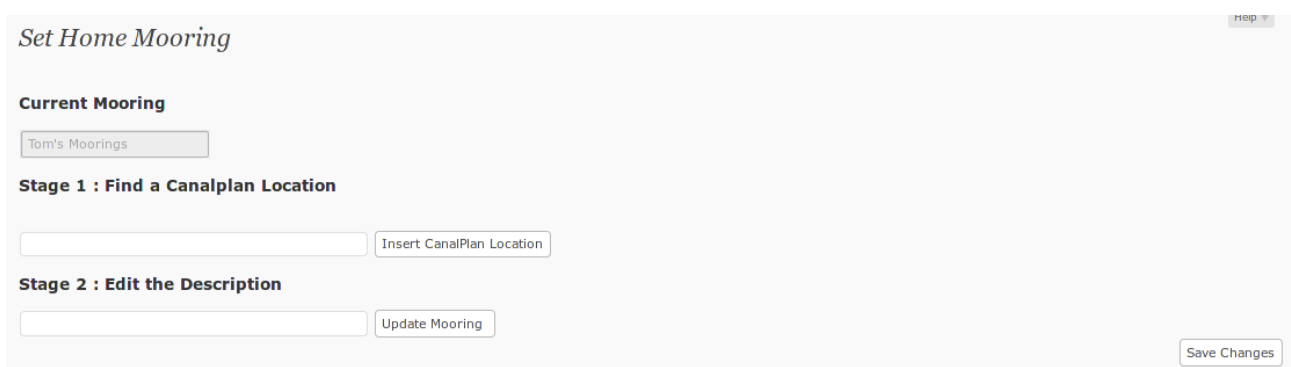
Lords Bridge No 64 Insert CanalPlan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Tom's Moorings Update Mooring

Save Changes

Then we click on Update mooring



Set Home Mooring Help

Current Mooring

Tom's Moorings

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Insert CanalPlan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Update Mooring

Save Changes

And finally we click on Save Changes to save our customised home mooring.

Set Home Mooring Help

Current Mooring

Tom's Moorings

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

3.3 Favourites

Its likely that if you are blogging regularly about trips from your home mooring that you'll often be blogging about some of the same places - “favourite” locations if you like. This option allows you to select places from the CanalPlan Data and rename them and put them into a specific order. The form shows each of the three steps involved and is pretty self explanatory. You do not need to add your home mooring to the list of favourites as the plug-in always adds your home mooring as the top favourite location for you.

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

To top
Up Select all
Down Unselect all
To bottom Toggle selection
Delete

So lets say we want to add the boat yard at Norbury Junction to our list of favourites. We start typing in the box “Find a CanalPlan Location” and then we can pick Norbury Junction from the list of places that appears in the drop down.

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

Once we've got the right place in Stage 1 box we click on Select Location and that copies it into the box in Stage 2.

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

But we don't want it to be Norbury Junction – we'd like it to appear in our blog as “Norbury Junction Boatyard” and so we edit the description to be what we want it to be:

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

Once we're happy with the new description we click on Add to Favourites and it loads the information into Stage 3.

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

Norbury Junction Boatyard

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

So now lets add a couple of more places to our list of favourites so we can then move onto Stage 3

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Gnosall Bridge No 35 Select Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Gnosall Bridge No 35 Add To Favourites

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

Norbury Junction Boatyard

Gnosall Bridge No 35

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

Save Favourites

Manage Your Favourites Help

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Penkridge - Visitor Moorings above Lock Select Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Penkridge - Visitor Moorings above Lock Add To Favourites

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

Norbury Junction Boatyard

Gnosall Bridge No 35

Penkridge - Visitor Moorings above Lock

To top

Up Select all

Down Unselect all

To bottom Toggle selection

Delete

Save Favourites

OK – Now we've got three places in our list of favourites and we can now click on Save Favourites to save them for future use.

But they might not be in the right order, or maybe we've added one that we didn't want. Stage 3 allow us to manipulate the list of favourites. To use it you click on the favourite in question and then use the options listed to the right of the box to make changes.

For example : we want “Penkridge – Visitor Moorings above Lock” to be our second favourite location rather than the third, so we click on it once and then click on “Up” on the list of options and it moves up the list:

Manage Your Favourites

Stage 1 : Find a Canalplan Location

Stage 2 : Edit the Description

Stage 3: Organise Favourites

Favourites

- Norbury Junction Boatyard
- Penkrudge - Visitor Moorings above Lock
- Gnosall Bridge No 35

To top

Up

Down

To bottom

Delete

Once we're happy with everything we can click on Save Favourites and its all done.

You can come back to this screen at any time and add, delete, rename and re-arrange your favourites. If you delete a location from your list of favourites or rename it then any existing blog posts containing that place are unaffected.

4 Google Map Settings

This admin page allows you to set various options related to how Google Maps are rendered inside the CanalPlan AC plug-in

Google Map Settings

Place Map Options

Place Map Type :

Place Map Zoom Level :

Place Map Height : pixels

Place Map Width : pixels

Route Map Options

Route Map Type :

Route Map Zoom Level :

Route Map Height : pixels

Route Map Width : pixels

Route Map Canal Colour (RGB) :

Route Map Canal Width : pixels

The CanalPlan plug-in supports two sorts of Maps – Place Maps and Route / Canal Maps. Place maps are small maps with a marker point identifying a single place. Route / Canal Maps are larger maps that show a section of canal. This page allows you to set different options for each sort of map, and these options can be over-ridden on each specific map. So these should be looked on as the Default Settings.

4.1 Place Map Options

4.1.1 Place Map Type

This allows you to set the type of Google map that is rendered. The plug-in supports the 4 standard type of map implemented by Google – Satellite, Road, Hybrid and Terrain

4.1.2 Place Map Zoom Level

This sets the default zoom level for the map. 0 zoomed out so far that it shows the entire world, 21 is extremely close and probably too close to be any use at all. By default this is set to 14 which offers a good compromise.

4.1.3 Place Map Height

This sets how tall the map should be on the page. By default this is set to 200 for this map type. Its recommended for place maps that you keep the Height / Width ratio so that place maps are square.

4.1.4 Place Map Width

This sets how wide the map should be on the page. By default this is set to 200 for this map type

4.2 Route Map Options

4.2.1 Route Map Type

This allows you to set the type of Google map that is rendered. The plug-in supports the 4 standard type of map implemented by Google – Satellite, Road, Hybrid and Terrain

4.2.2 Route Map Zoom Level

This sets the default zoom level for the map. 0 zoomed out so far that it shows the entire world, 21 is extremely close and probably too close to be any use at all. By default this is set to 9 which offers a good compromise for plotting UK canal maps on a regular Wordpress theme.

4.2.3 Route Map Height

This sets how tall the map should be on the page. By default this is set to 600 for this map type.

4.2.4 Route Map Width

This sets how tall the map should be on the page. By default this is set to 500 for this map type. Its recommended for place maps that you keep the Height / Width ratio so that place maps slightly

taller than they are wide. You may need to adjust this if your theme has a narrow content column.

4.2.5 Route Map Canal Colour (RGB)

This allows you to set what colour canals should be plotted on maps. The values are expressed as Hexadecimal RGB values with the default being 00-00-FF which is bright blue.

4.2.6 Route Map Canal Width

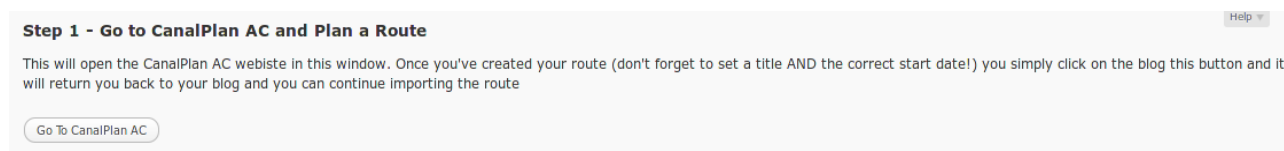
This sets the width of the “brush” used to draw the canal over the background map. This is set to 4 pixels by default which gives a line that is wide enough to see without it being so wide that details are lost.

5 Importing and managing routes

This is one of the big features of the plug-in but, as with so much else the plug-in basically walks you through the steps so its pretty hard to mess it up, and if you do then you can always abandon all the changes. You do not need a CanalPlan AC API or user login to use this functionality. Basically this option goes out to CanalPlan where you plan a route and then it imports it back into your blog and will create 1 blog post per day of planned route – so its important that you get the number of days right when you are planning your route. You don't need to worry if the overnight stops are wrong as the plug-in allows you to change those.



5.1 *Planning the Route*



To import a route we need a route to import from CanalPlan so when you go to the Import Route screen the first thing you will see is this:











When you click on the button you will find yourself on the CanalPlan AC route planning screen and if you 've set your home mooring then you'll see it loaded as the “Start From” location (CanalPlan AC will always show the original place name and not your customised description)

Title:

Start from
 

Finish at
 

Intermediate places

 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>
 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>

Trip length settings **Hours per day**



First and last days



Hours first night (first part-day's travelling):

Hours last morning (last part-day's travelling):









So lets plan an out and back route from our home mooring - you can give the route a title if you want.

Title:

Start from
 

Finish at
 

Intermediate places

 <input type="text" value="Penkrige - Visitor Moorings above"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>
 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>

Trip length settings **Hours per day**

First and last days

Hours first night (first part-day's travelling):

Hours last morning (last part-day's travelling):

We're only going as far as the Penkrige Visitor moorings :

Title:

Start from

Finish at

Intermediate places

Trip length settings

Start Date

Hours per day

First and last days

Hours first night (first part-day's travelling):

Hours last morning (last part-day's travelling):

Calculate Route Options New Route Furthest Place Cruising Ring

You can set all the other options as normal and then click on calculate route and CanalPlan AC will display the itinerary. At the bottom there are the usual options – but notice the new one on the right - “Blog about this”. That option tells CanalPlan AC that you want to take the route back to your blog.

Continue Options Itinerary Virtual Cruise Export this route Blog about this

When you click on the button you should find yourself back in your blog and the screen should now look like this:

Step 2 - Edit basic details Help

Category for this trip :

Start Date for this trip :

Route title :

Route Description :

This allows you to make changes to your route before you import it. As the import process creates posts you might want to assign them to a specific category. Getting the date right is important as a post is created for each day.

The Route Title and Route Description are used on the trip summary pages.

Once you've made the changes and you are happy click on the button and we move onto Step 3:

Step 3 -Creating Draft Posts for each day of your trip

Post for Sunday 19th of June 2011 created
Post for Monday 20th of June 2011 created
Post for Tuesday 21st of June 2011 created
Post for Wednesday 22nd of June 2011 created
Post for Thursday 23rd of June 2011 created

Draft Posts created. You can now go and [edit](#) the posts or [change the daily subtotals](#)

As you can see we now have a set of posts – one for each day of the trip. At the moment these posts are bare skeleton posts and are in draft mode. You can go and edit them right now but really the next logical step is to go and adjust the daily totals. To do this clcik on the “change the daily subtotals” link which will take you to the Manage import routes page.

5.2 Manage imported routes

This option does just what it suggests – it allows you to make changes to routes that have been imported into your blog.

The first step is to select a route to manage – and as with so much else the plug-in simply gives you a drop down of routes that you can manage:

Manage Routes

Step 1 : Select A route to Manage

Available Routes

Demo Route (2011-06-19)

Manage Route

So you select the route you want from the drop down and click on Manage route:

Manage Routes

Step 2 : Change the route details

Route Title:

Demo Route

Route Description :

Demonstrating route importing

Distance Format:

Miles and Furlongs (2 miles , 2 ¾ flg)

Route Status:

Not Published

Date	From	To	Distance
19-Jun-2011	Lords Bridge No 64	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	15 miles, ¾ flg and 5 locks
20-Jun-2011	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	Moat House Bridge No 74	15 miles, 4¼ flg and 2 locks
21-Jun-2011	Moat House Bridge No 74	Latherford Winding Hole	11 miles, 4 flg and 12 locks
22-Jun-2011	Latherford Winding Hole	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	15 miles, 6¼ flg and 2 locks
23-Jun-2011	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	Lords Bridge No 64	15 miles, ¾ flg and 5 locks

Recalculate and Save Changes

Delete This Route (cannot be undone)

OK, I'm happy with that

As you can see this screen allows you to change various aspects of the route such as the title and description. You can also change the distance format from your default.

The Route Status is, for new routes, set to Not Published – this means that the route doesn't appear

in the list of routes on your routes page (or on the global routes page if you are in a network). Note that changing the status of a route from Not Published to Published **does not** change the status of the posts associated with the route.

It is highly likely that the overnight stops for your trip are wrong because it isn't possible for CanalPlan AC to be totally accurate on a day to day basis. So on the first night we didn't stop at Castle Cutting Bridge – we actually stopped somewhere else. So we go to the drop down for the first day and change it to High Ohn Wharf which is where we actually stopped. The plug-in gives you about 15 places either side of the “planned” stop – if you stopped a lot further out than that then take it to the limit and do a Recalculate and then change the stop point again.

Manage Routes

Step 2 : Change the route details

Route Title:

Route Description :

Distance Format:

Route Status:

Date	From	To	Distance
19-Jun-2011	Lords Bridge No 64	<input type="text" value="High Ohn Wharf"/>	15 miles, ¾ flg and 5 locks
20-Jun-2011	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	<input type="text" value="Moat House Bridge No 74"/>	15 miles, 4¼ flg and 2 locks
21-Jun-2011	Moat House Bridge No 74	<input type="text" value="Latherford Winding Hole"/>	11 miles, 4 flg and 12 locks
22-Jun-2011	Latherford Winding Hole	<input type="text" value="Castle Cutting Bridge No 30"/>	15 miles, 6¼ flg and 2 locks
23-Jun-2011	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	Lords Bridge No 64	15 miles, ¾ flg and 5 locks

At the moment the day totals are still wrong, as is the start location for the second day, so we click on Recalculate and Save Changes and the plug-in makes all the changes for you.

Manage Routes

Step 2 : Change the route details

Route Title:

Route Description :

Distance Format:

Route Status:

Date	From	To	Distance
19-Jun-2011	Lords Bridge No 64	<input type="text" value="High Ohn Wharf"/>	16 miles, ¼ flg and 5 locks
20-Jun-2011	High Ohn Wharf	<input type="text" value="Moat House Bridge No 74"/>	14 miles, 4½ flg and 2 locks
21-Jun-2011	Moat House Bridge No 74	<input type="text" value="Latherford Winding Hole"/>	11 miles, 4 flg and 12 locks
22-Jun-2011	Latherford Winding Hole	<input type="text" value="Castle Cutting Bridge No 30"/>	15 miles, 6¼ flg and 2 locks
23-Jun-2011	Castle Cutting Bridge No 30	Lords Bridge No 64	15 miles, ¾ flg and 5 locks

Once you've made all your changes and you are happy click on OK, I'm happy with that. Don't worry if you've got something wrong – you can come back and change things at any time and everything will be updated on the fly for you.

The Delete This Route option does just what it suggests – it deletes everything but it does give you an option to change your mind:

Manage Routes

Help

Only click on Confirm Delete if you really want to delete the route, and any associated posts

Yes Please, delete them all

No, get me out of here!

5.3 Editing auto created blog posts.

The posts created by the plug-in when you import a route are normal Wordpress blog posts and you edit them as normal. NOTE : **DO NOT** delete an auto created post through the regular post management options as there is no way to change post associations.

If you are using date related permalinks you'll see that the plug-in has created the post with the correct permalink format – that is assuming you got the date right when you imported the route.

Each post is created with a basic title – for example “Post for Day 5 of trip”. You really should change these to something more suitable.

When you open a newly created post it contains just two fields:

[[CPRM:]] and [[CPRS:]]

These are two special short code fields – standing for CanalPlan Route Map and CanalPlan Route Stats and are used by the plug-in to create the map that is associated with each post which shows the route for that day and the “stats” information for that day's cruising. You can delete either of these two fields if you wish, or you can move them around to suit your page layout.

Apart from that there is nothing special about the auto created posts and you can edit them as normal.

6 Using CanalPlan in Blog Posts / Pages

When the plug-in was activated it added a new box to the Post/Page edit screen. The box is called “CanalPlan Tags” and by default will be located at the bottom of the page. The box looks like this:

CanalPlan Tags

Insert :

Select Favourite

 as

Gazetteer Tag

Insert tag

6.1 Insert Favourite

Inserting a favourite location into your post is the simplest method. You select a favourite from the drop down list (which you set up using the “Favourites” option) and it puts the text into the second field:

CanalPlan Tags

Insert :

Tom's Moorings

▼

Tom's Moorings

as

Gazetteer Tag ▼

Insert tag

Where you can edit the description if you wish.

You then select how you want to insert the tag – you can insert it as either a gazetteer tag (basically a link back to the relevant gazetteer entry on the CanalPlan AC web site) or as a small google map which is rendered in the blog post.

When you click on Insert Tag you should see that all that happens is that the plug-in inserts a short code into your post. The following screen grab shows a post with with a Gazetteer Tag and a Google Map tag inserted into the post:

Upload/Insert

Visual HTML

b

i

link

b-quote

del

ins

img

ul

ol

li

code

more

lookup

close tags

We keep the boat moored at `[[CP:Tom's Moorings|jco8]]` `[[CPGM:Tom's Moorings|jco8]]`

Word count: 0

Draft saved at 12:34:58 pm. Last edited on June 23, 2011 at 12:00 am

6.2 Insert other CanalPlan Place

If you want to add a place that isn't in your favourites list then simply start typing the name of the place into the second field and, just like on the Website (and elsewhere in this plug-in) you'll be presented with a short list of matching places. Select the one you want and the tag type and click on Insert Tag

CanalPlan Tags

Insert :

Select Favourite

▼

Crooke Underground Canal

as

Gazetteer Tag ▼

Insert tag

Upload/Insert  Visual HTML

b *i* [link](#) b-quote del ins img ul ol li code more lookup close tags

[[CP:Crooke Underground Canal|5gl3]]

Word count: 10 Last edited by Steve on July 4, 2011 at 12:47 pm

If you want to edit the text that appears in your blog post then you can change it – only change the text between the : and the |

Upload/Insert  Visual HTML

b *i* [link](#) b-quote del ins img ul ol li code more lookup close tags

[[CP:Crooke's secret Underground Canal|5gl3]]

Word count: 2 Last edited by Steve on July 4, 2011 at 12:47 pm

6.3 *Insert a Waterway or Section*

You can also insert a link to a section of waterway, or an entire waterway if you want – these are rendered as Google maps. As with adding a place you simply start typing in the first field. So we can add the Leeds and Liverpool from Liverpool to Wigan:

CanalPlan Tags

Insert : Leeds and Liverpool Canal (Main Line - Liverpool to Wigan) as

And we can then insert it as we do with a normal location – note that the tag is slightly different:

Upload/Insert

VisualHTML

b

i

[link](#)

b-quote

del

ins

img

ul

ol

li

code

more

lookup

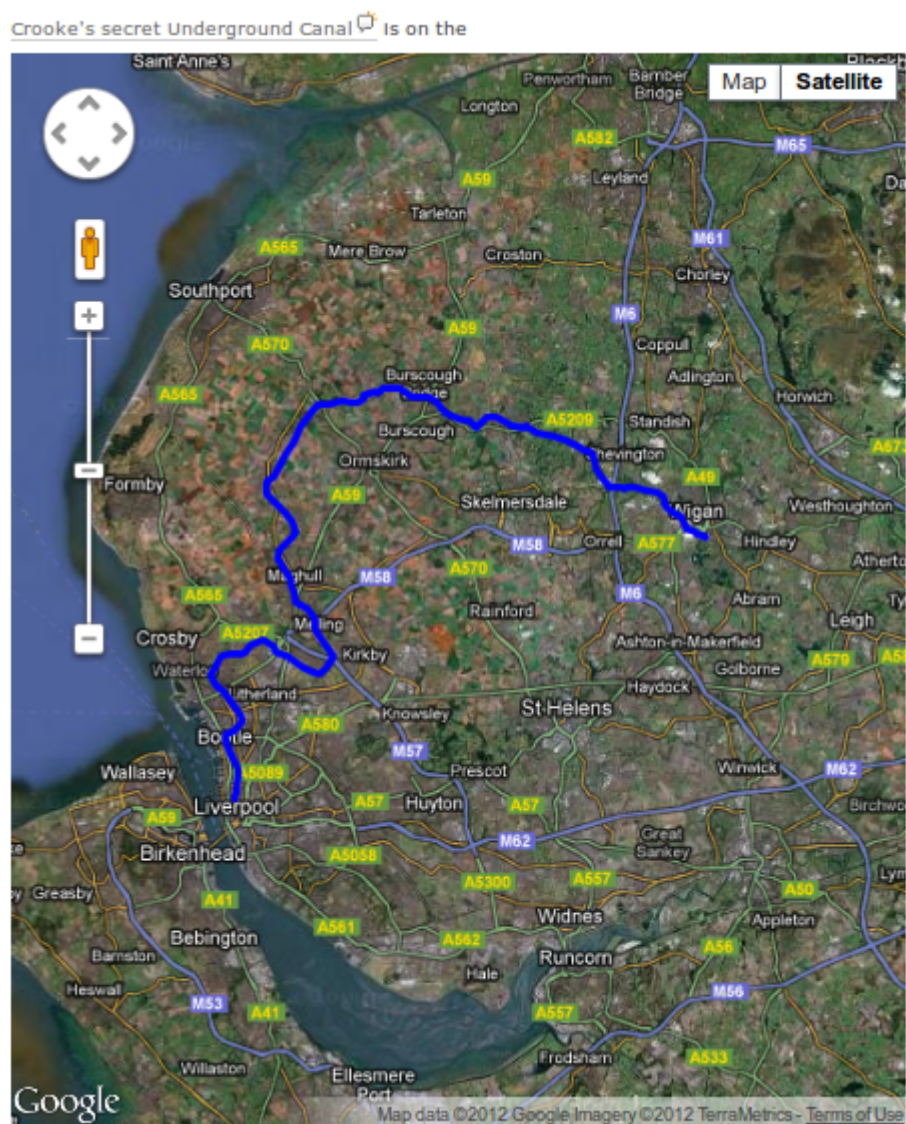
close tags

[[CP:Crooke's secret Underground Canal|5gl3]] is on the [[CPW:Leeds and Liverpool Canal (Main Line - Liverpool to Wigan)|1l9h]]

Word count: 4

Draft saved at 1:01:45 pm. Last edited by Steve on July 4, 2011 at 12:49 pm

which will look something like:



6.4 Optional Map Settings

This allows you to over-ride any of the map settings on the Google Map options page. You should set the settings there to be the ones that you use most and which fit in with your blog layout but of course there may well be times that the map is too wide, or the zoom level is wrong, or that its even the wrong sort of map. These can be overridden by adding an additional bit of data to the CPMG tag:

```
[[CPMG:Market Drayton|tnj9|option,..option]]
```

Where the options takes the form of :

option=value,option=value,...,option=value

The optional settings are:

- height – the height of the map
- width – the width of the map
- zoom - the zoom level of the map. The bigger the number the further in you zoom
- type - the type of map to display (s=satellite,n=map,h=hybrid,t=terrain)
- lat - latitude of location
- long - longitude of location
- rgb – the colour used to draw canals, a 6 character RGB value in hexadecimal *
- brush – the width of the line used to draw canals *

* - this option is only available on Daily Route maps used when blogging about a route, and on Canal Maps

So

```
[[CPMG:Market Drayton|tnj9|height=400,type=t]]
```

Will display a “terrain” style Google map for Market Drayton which is 400 pixels tall with the width being determined from the defaults set.

```
[[CPRM:rgb=ff0000,type=h]]
```

Displays a daily route map in a blog entry, the map type will be Hybrid and the colour of the canal will be red

6.5 Insert a Place Map for a place that isn't in the CanalPlan Database.

If you want to show a place that isn't on the waterways then you can do this by specifying the latitude and longitude of the place you want to display

Then you can add the map tag by typing in a description for the place (For example "Steve's Office" in the CanalPlan Find box then add the place as a map tag - you'll end up with something like:

```
[[CPGM:Steve's Office|]]
```

The you need to add a fake ID location to keep things happy, and your lat and long as optional parameters so you get:

```
[[CPGM:Steve's Office|nothing|lat=52.077994,long=-2.299249]]
```

This will display a embedded map using the map defaults which is centred on -53,0077994, -2.200249.

The reason for putting a description is that Google maps are not displayed in RSS feeds (for obvious reasons) so the maps are replaced by a descriptive tag, so having a good description will make RSS feed entries much more meaningful.

7 Bulk link Notifier

This option is only available if you've got a CanalPlan AC API key associated with your blog.

During normal use CanalPlan AC will learn about your blog posts – when someone (or a search engine) follows a CP link from your blog back to the CanalPlan AC website the website “remembers” where that link came from and puts a link back to your blog posts from the relevant gazetteer entry page.

However there might be situations where you want to let CanalPlan AC know about a set of links – you might have just published a set of blog entries, or you might have changed your blog name or url, and that is where this option comes in handy.

8 CanalPlan Location Widget.

This sidebar widget works in tandem with your Google Latitude account and displays a map showing your current location ,and underneath it it displays details of the nearest CanalPlan AC location to your current location as a clickable link to that location on the Canalplan AC Website. The widget supports multiple instances of the widget so you can have more than one widget tracking different Latitude accounts in different widgets.

Configuration of the widget is simple, just dray it to the relevant side bar on the Wordpress Widget Management page and configure the options as required.

Canalplan Latitude : Where Am

Title of Widget:

Latitude ID:

Widget Width :

Widget Height:

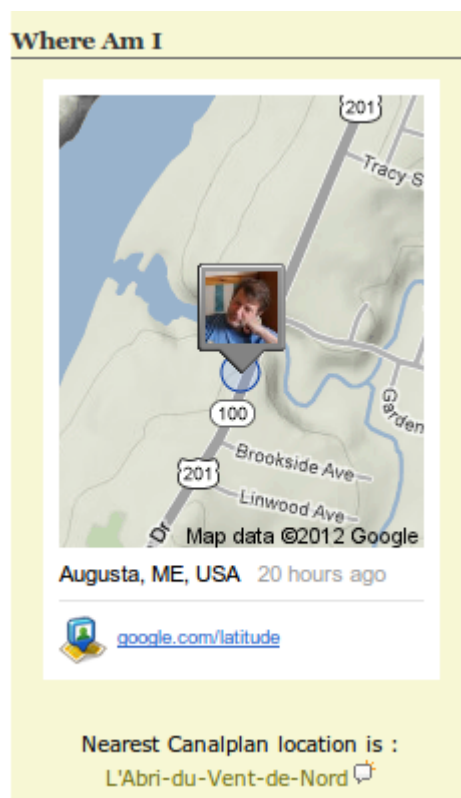
Map Format :

Zoom Level :

Delete | Close

Save

You need to enter your Latitude ID *without the leading minus sign*, Adjust the Widget width and height so it fits into your side bar and doesn't look distorted. You can also chose the type of map to display (Satellite,Road,Hybrid or Terrain) and the Zoom level for the map – the Automatic option is the easiest option to use but you get a set of preset levels to chose from. This produces something like the following in your sidebar :



9 Diagnostics / Version information

The CanalPlan plug-in doesn't have any huge system requirements but if you are having problems then this is the page to come to. It gives some basic diagnostic information and the information displayed should always be included in any support request that you make.

Diagnostics & Support

Diagnostic Information

Please provide the following information about your installation:

CanalPlan: **2.0 (2.0.0 r00)**

File_open Status: **file_get_contents is available and can access the Canalplan Website - All is OK**

CanalPlan AC (Website): **9.17.13 (Apr 22 2012)**

WordPress: **3.3.2**

PHP: **5.2.4-2ubuntu5.23**

PHP Memory Limit: **256M**

PHP Memory Usage (MB): **4.5**

MySQL: **5.0.95**

Server : **Apache**

Active Plugins :

► **Calendar (1.3.1)**

Flickr Photo Album (1.1)

Use Google Libraries (1.2)