

Offline maps & route planning

ACTION CHECKLIST

Save maps before service fails, write down your destination and at least one alternative, and check the actual route against current hazards. An offline map does not show live closures, fighting, damaged bridges or flooding. GPS position may still work without data, but accuracy and battery life are not guaranteed.

[] Download before the outage

Use the map app's offline feature for the whole journey, not just the destination. Test it with mobile data off.

[] Keep a paper backup

Write addresses, landmarks, route choices and emergency contacts. Carry a paper map if available.

[] Check route suitability

Consider flood zones, damaged structures, access needs and transport restrictions. The fastest app route is not necessarily the safest.

[] Conserve device power

Reduce unnecessary screen use and keep a power bank available. Know how to view the downloaded map without needing a new connection.

[] Reassess as conditions change

Stop in a safe place to compare the route with visible conditions and recent trusted reports. Do not enter an uncertain road simply because the map displays it.

WATCH FOR

Maps and position tools are aids, not proof of safe passage. Avoid unfamiliar shortcuts through hazardous or recently fought-over ground.

IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

Use known routes and written landmarks while checking conditions from safe positions. If you cannot identify a safe onward route, reassess rather than consuming the last battery on repeated rerouting.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/preparedness/offline-maps/>

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