



Geocaching voor mensen met een visuele beperking.

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Geocaching is a game where you use a GPS to find treasures hidden by other players. A game that brings you to places and places that you probably would never visit. A game based on orientation and mobility and therefore also suitable for people with a visual impairment. Although cooperation with a sighted person will sometimes be necessary.

**We use the following apps to navigate to the cache:**

Google maps, Blindsquare and the official Geocaching app.

On the geocaching app, the coordinates are indicated in such a way that they cannot be read with the voice-over. This can be solved by becoming a premium member and then creating so-called queries. You can load it into your phone and then sort by nearest.

From the Geocache app it is possible to start Google maps. In principle you can now actively approach the cache with these 2 apps at the same time

For the accuracy you can use the app Blind Square the last 100 to 500 meters. Why?

- Because Blindsquare does not accurately indicate the direction over large distances.
- Because Google maps, TomTom and Navigon do not work outside of landscaped roads and paths.

The app "Blindsquare" uses decimal coordinates. You can prepare this at home with the help of a convertor (Swiss convertor) to convert the coordinates used by Geocaching.com to the coordinates which are used by Blindsquare. Accessible navigation programs such as Google maps and TomTom can be started from the Blindsquare app.

**Is Geocaching something for people with a visual impairment?**

**The answer is yes because:**

- You can get there independently up to the last 3 to 5 meters; after that you can use the apps Whatsapp, BemyEyes, Facetime or Duo. Through these apps you can enable the help of a sighted person (home front?).
- You often form a team and therefore learn how to work together
- Is good for integration into a valid sport.
- Promotes O&M and you get to unknown places
- A fun pastime

The conclusion may be that Geocaching is certainly suitable for people with reduced vision (visually impaired) and can be used as a rehabilitation aid, courses for pupils in mainstream and special education.

**The answer is no because:**

- You are dependent on one again for the last 3 to 5 meters (visually impaired)
- You have to be very accurate when setting departure points because you get lost easily
- You are very dependent on how the cache and any hint is described.

Use gloves if you have to search by touch. I also do that when I have to put my hand in something. Take a cleaning gel with you. Put on a cap that prevents head injuries from the bushes

Chirps and WhereIGo caches can also be played very well by someone with a visual impairment (only those are not that often)

You can use a stamp for logging, but the problem is found a blank page in the logbook. You can buy post its at shops with a width of 1.5 cm and 5 cm. long  
Put your name or stamp on it at home and paste it in the logbook

A site where you should definitely look is [www.volksnav.de/blind](http://www.volksnav.de/blind); Here are solutions for the blind if they can't read a map, but also a navigation game for the blind that you can play in more than 500 cities. Only for IOS

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