


Searching with Trailer Life Directory Campground Navigator 2008 A Step-by-Step Guide

Searching in the program takes place through a search dialog that can be activated either by selecting one of the options from the Search menu, or by clicking the main Search button . 

Search	Plan a Trip	Tools	Help
Find a Location (RV) ...			F9
Street Address ...			F8
City or Place ...			F7
Zip Code ...			F6
Lat/Lon Coordinate ...			F5
Landmark ...			F4

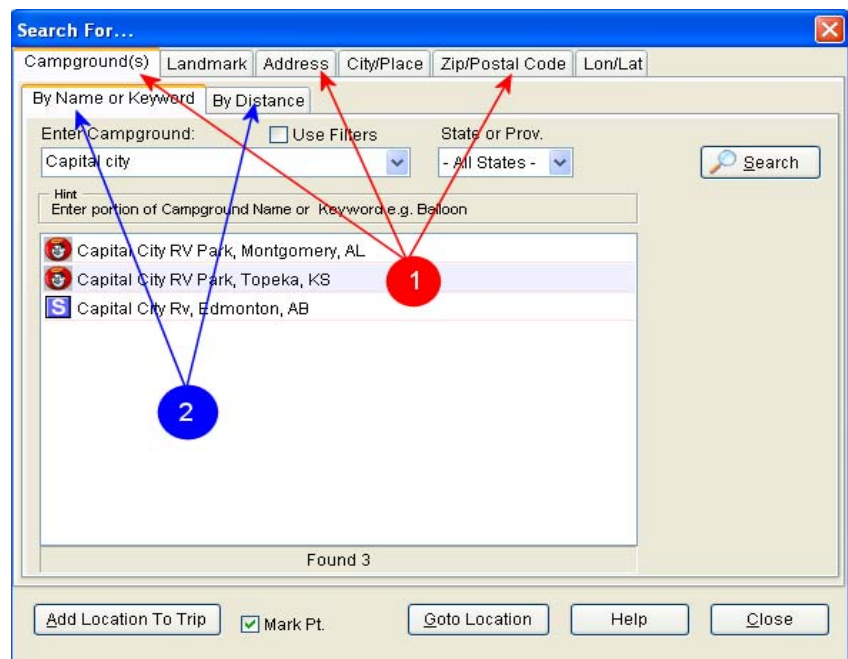
Note that the individual search options available in the Search menu may also be selected directly by pressing one of the indicated functions key.

For example, pressing the F8 key will open the search dialog ready to type in a address to search for, while pressing F6 will open the search dialog ready to search for a Zip Code or a Postal Code.

Once the Search dialog is opened, the user may select what type of search they are interested in by selecting the appropriate tab (1). As it will be shown further down, when the Campgrounds tab is selected, there are two sub-tab options (2). Selecting one of these sub-tabs allows the user to search for campgrounds *By Name or Keyword*, and the other to search for campgrounds within a specified *Distance* from a given location.

What follows below is a detailed explanation on how to use each tab in the search dialog.

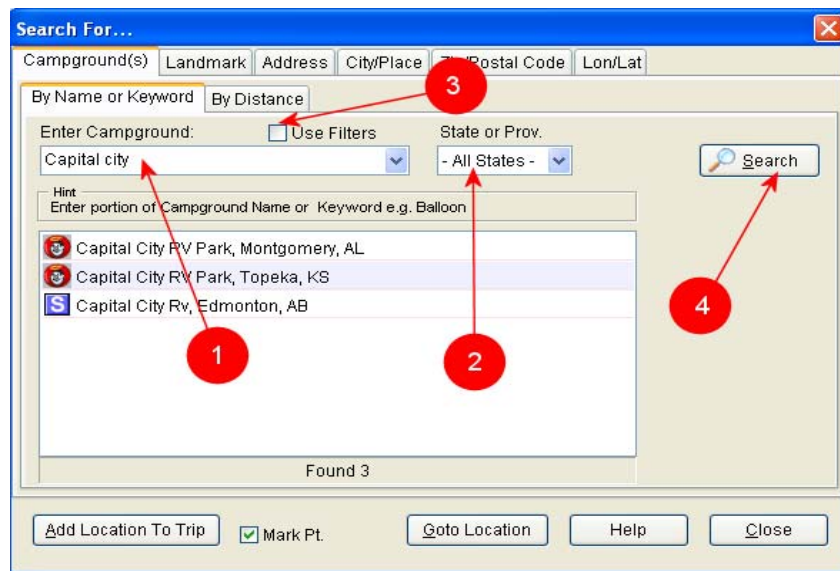
Note that additional information on how to use each search option is also provided in the help files. The Help files can be accessed either by selecting the *Help - Help Topics* menu option, by pressing F1 or by clicking the Help button from within one of the search dialogs.



Searching for Campgrounds

As stated earlier, when this tab is selected, the user is provided with two ways of searching for campgrounds. If the user wants to search for a campground using it's name, part of the name or a

keyword, then they can select the option to search **By Name or Keyword**. Using this option, type part of the name of the campground(s) the user is looking for, in this example, **Capital City**, in the area

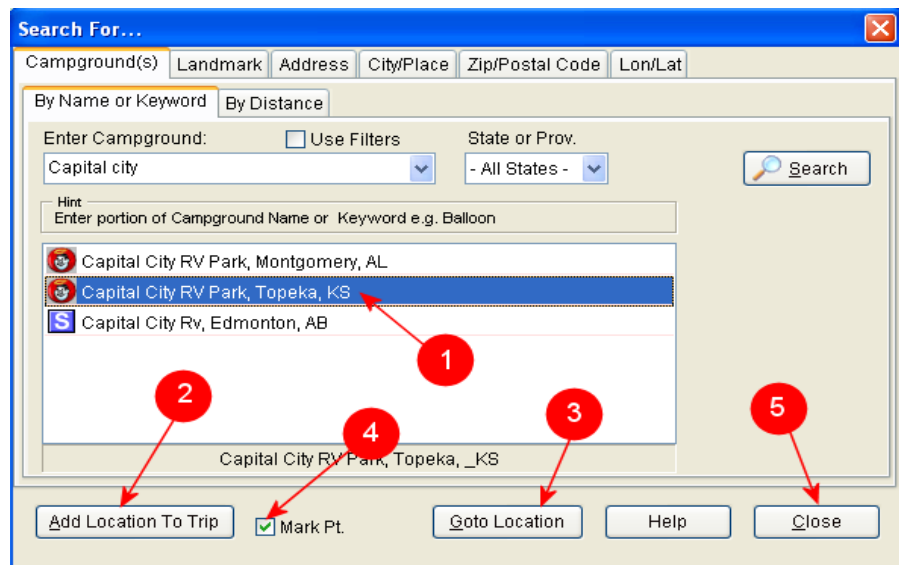


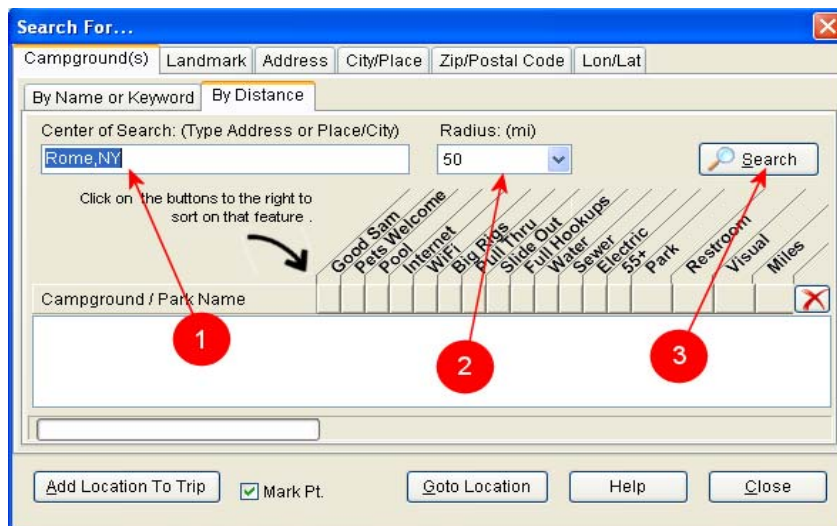
provided (1). If the user wants to limit the search to only one state, or one Province, then they can click on the arrow in the **State or Prov.** (2) and select the State/province they are interested in, otherwise they can just leave that option to **All States** – Note that if the option **Use Filters** (3) is checked, then the search options in the Filters tab of the Campground info dialog will also be applied to this search. Check the help file – **Help, Help Topics** menu option, for details regarding the Filters option in the Campground Info dialog. Finally,

once the user is satisfied that they have specified all the searching criteria they want to use, they can click **Search** (4). Within seconds the program will display all the campgrounds that meet the specified criteria. Note that each of the locations found is identified by a small marker that tells the user whether the location is a Campground, a Service Station, a Good Sam location, etc.

Any of the campgrounds that were found by the program can be selected by clicking on it - the background changes to blue (1). Once a campground has been selected, the user can click **Add Location to Trip** (2) to add the highlighted location as a stop point to the current trip. If the button is clicked it becomes inactive, thus

indicating to the user that the action was completed. The user may also select to click **Goto Location** (3) to have the map view change so that it is centered about the selected location. If this button is clicked, the search dialog will close, the viewport will center about the selected location and the location will be selected (highlighted on the map). If the option **Mark Pt.** (4) is checked, then the selected location will also have a text bubble associated with it on the map. This option is present in all the tab options of the search dialog. Finally if the user has finished with the search dialog, they can click on **Close** (5) to close it and go back to map mode.






The second way to search for campgrounds is by distance from a specified location. Selecting the By Distance sub-tab, presents the user with a slightly different dialog. The user can specify the center to use for the search (1). It can be a City, State combination, an Address, a Zip Code, etc.

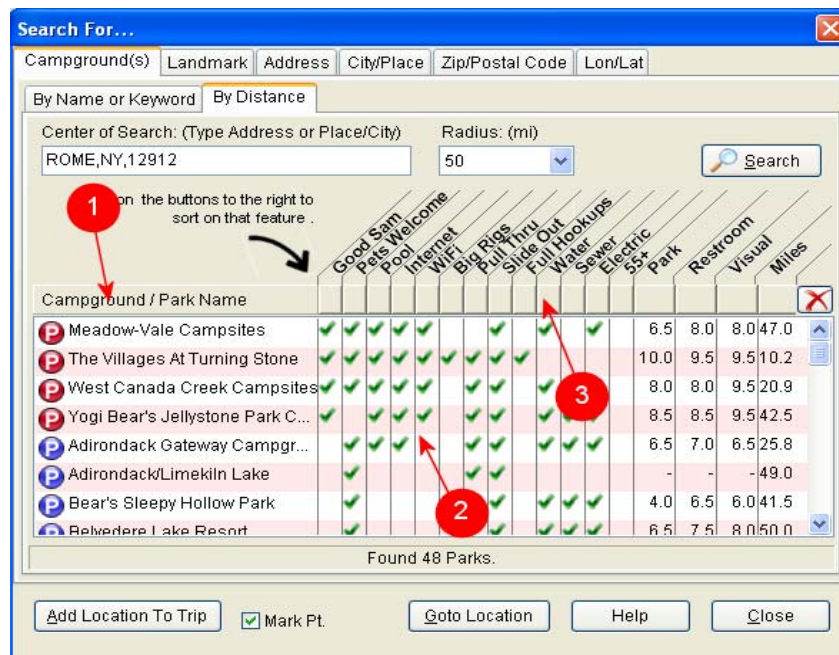
In this example, let us type Rome, NY to use as the center of the search. We can select a search radius by clicking on the arrow button (2). Finally, click on Search (3) to find ALL

campgrounds, in this example, within 50 miles from Rome, NY. If the specified search center is not unique, the program will present the user with a dialog listing all locations matching the specified criteria, so that the user can select which location they want to select as the center of the search. In this example, two such locations were found. Clicking O.K. instructs the program to select the highlighted location to be used as the center of search.

Once the center is selected, the program populates the dialog with all the campground locations that were found within 50 miles from Rome, NY, as shown below (1). Note that checkmarks (2) identify the features for each of the campgrounds within the specified distance, and the ratings and distance from the center of search point (in miles) are also displayed in the dialog.

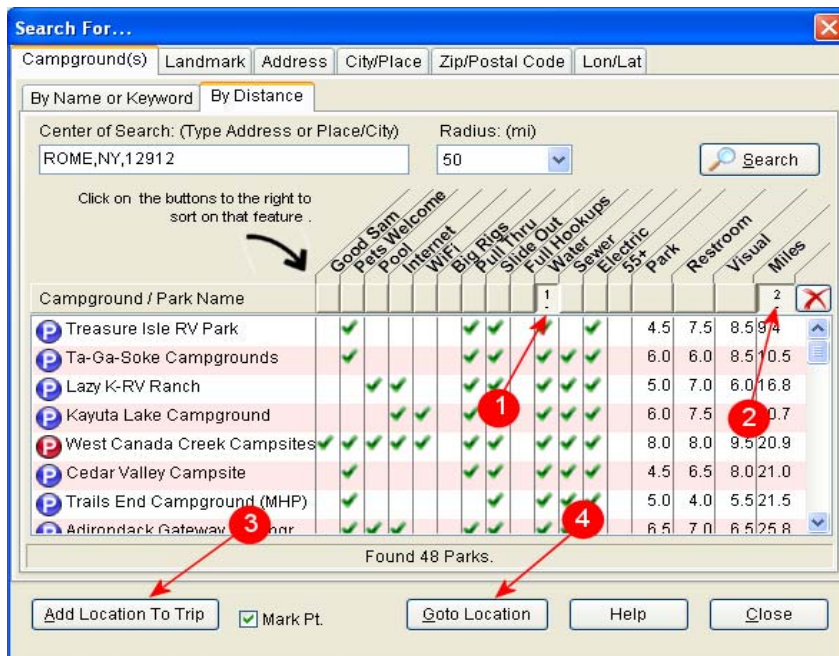
The user may sort the locations found by the program by clicking on the small button right below the feature column heading (3).

The sorting may be done on a single feature, or multiple sub-sort keys can be used, to make it convenient for the user to interpret the information, if they are looking at a large number of campground locations. The clear Sorting button  can be used at any time to reset all the sort options that may have specified by the user. In the example we are using here, we can sort the locations found within 50 miles from Rome, NY by whether they have water hook-ups, by clicking on the corresponding sort button (3).



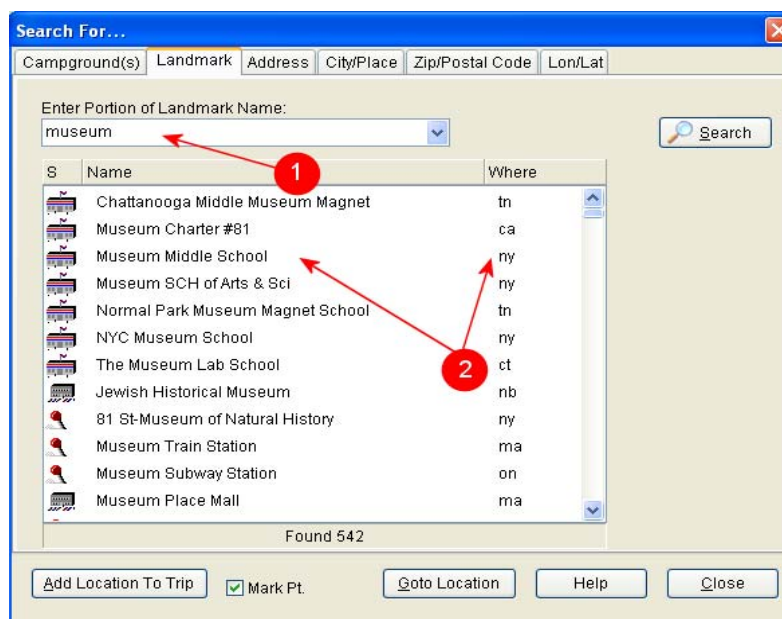
After we click on it, we see that the #1 (1) appears on the button to indicate that this is the first sort key, and the information is sorted so that the locations with hook-ups appear at the top of the list. Now, we

can sort using a secondary sort key, so we can see the list as locations with water hook-ups and as a function of distance from the point that was specified as the center of search. A #2 (2) appears on the sort button for the distance column, and the list of locations now appears as shown below. Note that as with all the other search dialogs, the user can click Add Location to Trip (3) or GoTo Location (4) to add a selected (highlighted) location to the current trip being planned, or to re-center the map around the selected location.



Searching for a Landmark

The program contains a large number of landmarks, such as churches, schools, museums, etc. that have been classified as Landmarks by the Federal or state government. The user can search for any of the landmarks in the program's database by entering a partial name of the Landmark. For example, entering **museum** as the search string and clicking Search, the program will list 500+ locations with the word "museum" in their name (1). The state in which the landmark was found will also appear in the list (2).



Searching for an Address

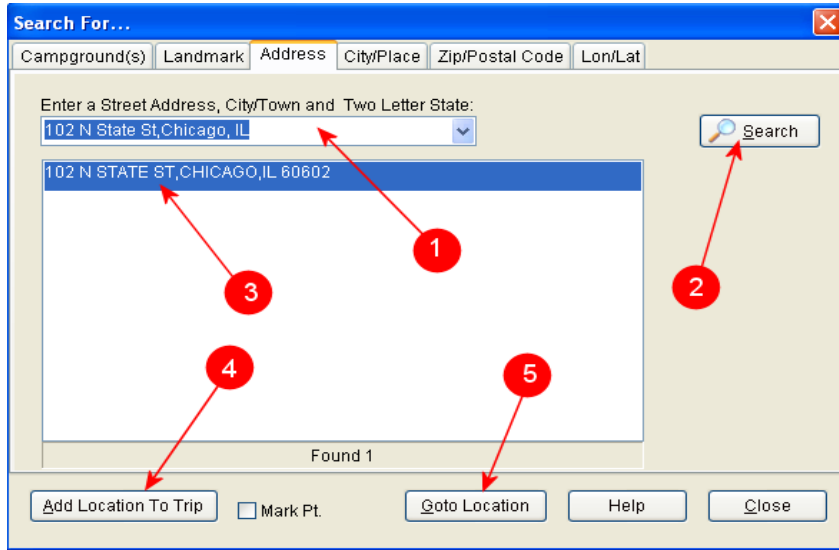
The user can search for an address in the USA and Canada by entering enough detailed information to identify it. The user should keep in mind that the format for entering address information to search for is:

Block (street) Number and Street Name *comma* City/Town name *comma* Two Letter State abbreviation *comma* Zip Code.

The commas denoted above are necessary to eliminate ambiguity in the search string, and they are the only way to ensure a successful search operation. Here is a sort list of valid and invalid address search strings...

227 Market Street, Lowell, MA	Valid search address
245 Summer Street Boston MA	Invalid search address, no commas
100 High Street, Lowell, MA, 01852	Valid search address, note that Zip Code is optional
1910 townsend ave,helena,mt	Valid search address
751 Garrett Ave,waco,tx	Valid search address
3720 Gekeler Lane, Boise City,ID	Valid search address
25 Larchmont Rd,asheville nc	Invalid search address, no comma between city and state

In this example, let's search for the address *102 N State St, Chicago, IL* by typing it in the appropriate area (1) and then clicking Search (2). The result of the search is listed (3) (and automatically highlighted – since there is only one search result in the list). At this point you can click Add Location to Trip (4) or GoTo Location (5) to add a selected (highlighted) result to the current trip being planned, or to re-center the map around the selected location.



When searching in Canada, French names need to be entered the way they appear in the database and on the map. Entering the appropriate French names, e.g. Percé, QC or Montréal, QC with the French accented characters.

Searching for a City/Place

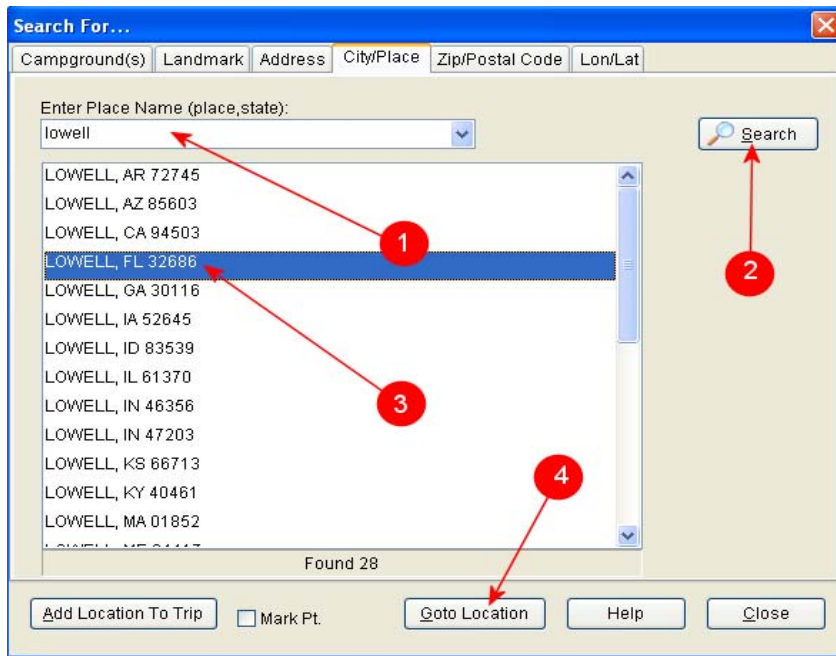
The program allows the user to search for any city/town or named place in the database (for USA and Canada). The user should keep in mind that the format for entering city/place information to search for is:

City/Town or Place Name *comma* Two Letter State abbreviation

The commas denoted above is necessary to eliminate ambiguity in the search string, and it is the only way to ensure a successful search operation. Here is a sort list of valid and invalid city/place search strings...

Lowell, MA	Valid search input
Waco, TX	Valid search input
helena,mt	Valid search input
Boise City ID	Invalid search input. No comma between city and state.
Lowell	Valid search input. The program will return all places named Lowell, that it finds in the database.

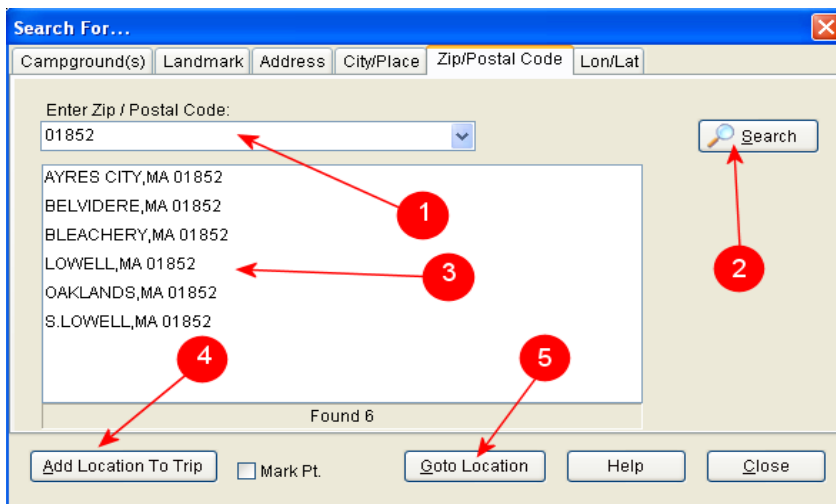
Let's go through an example, by searching for Lowell. Type Lowell in the search area (1), and click Search (2). The program will locate all places named Lowell. Let's highlight the result Lowell, FL (3) and click GoTo Location (4). The map will be centered around the selected location (5).



Searching for a Zip Code or Postal Code.

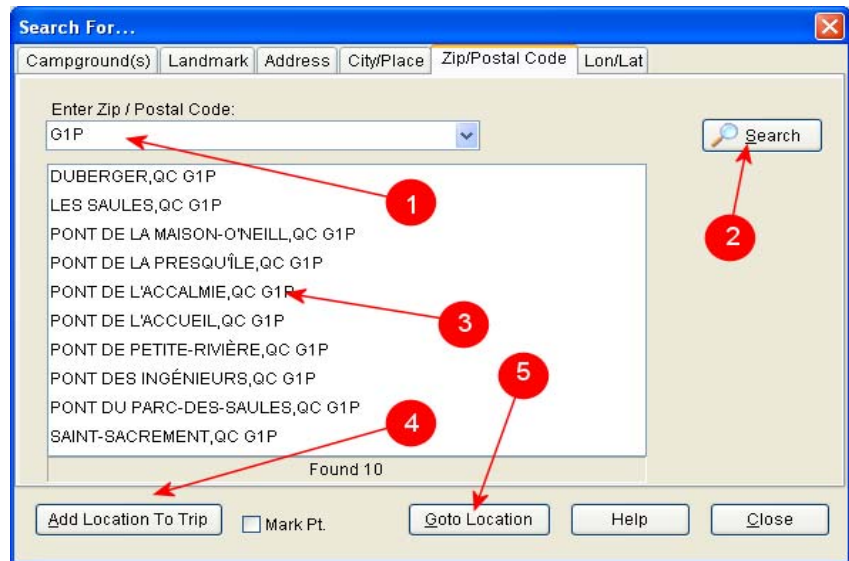
The Zip Code search tab of the search dialog allows the user to search for a 5-digit zip code in the US or a 3-digit Postal Code in Canada. For example, searching for 01852 returns all the areas in the database that are associated with that Zip Code (see below). Note that Zip+5 searches and searches of 6-digit

Postal Codes in Canada are not supported.



As stated above, in this example, we'll type 01852 in the search area (1) and click Search (2). The program should list all areas that are associated with the specified Zip Code (3). The user can click Add Location to Trip (4) or GoTo Location (5) to add a selected (highlighted) result to the current trip being planned, or to re-center the map around the selected location.

The same process can be repeated when searching for a 3-digit Postal Code in Canada, for example searching for G1P in Quebec, we'll type G1P in the search area (1) and click Search (2). The program should list all areas that are associated with the specified Zip Code (3). The user can click Add Location to Trip (4) or GoTo Location (5) to add a selected (highlighted) result to the current trip being planned, or to re-center the map around the selected location.



Searching for a Lon/Lat

The program also allows the user to search for a specific Longitude/Latitude point in the USA and Canada. Three different format types are supported, as explained below. The program tries to automatically determine which format you are using and interprets the input accordingly.

Decimal Degrees

DDD.DDDDDDD

Example: -88.501205, 41.252205

Degrees:Minutes:Seconds

DDD:MM:SS

Example: 88:30:04, 41:15:08

Degrees:DecimalMinutes

DDD:MM.MMMMMM

Example: -83:30.0723, 41:15.1323

Let's try a Lon/Lat search operation. Let's use the decimal format to enter the coordinates: -88.501205, 41.252205 for the search (1), and then click Search (2). The program returns two hits (search results) (4), one that reflects the point whose coordinates we entered exactly, and one that is the closest address to the Lon/Lat we entered. Let us highlight the actual coordinates point, make sure the "Mark Pt." option (3) is checked and click the GoTo button (5). The Dialog closes and the map is re-centered around the point we selected (6).

