

BOS! Belgium Outdoor Shack

MANUAL

BOS! Maps tool

All Belgian outdoor references on one map: lighthouses, mountains, SOTA, castles, islands, mills, bunkers, nature reserves, parks and towers. Find the references near you, check the activation zone, navigate there and save your plan as an image.

10	13	Oct 2026
PROGRAMMES	CHAPTERS	EDITION

Pick a category → Click a reference → Check the circle → Save as image → Navigate

≡ Contents

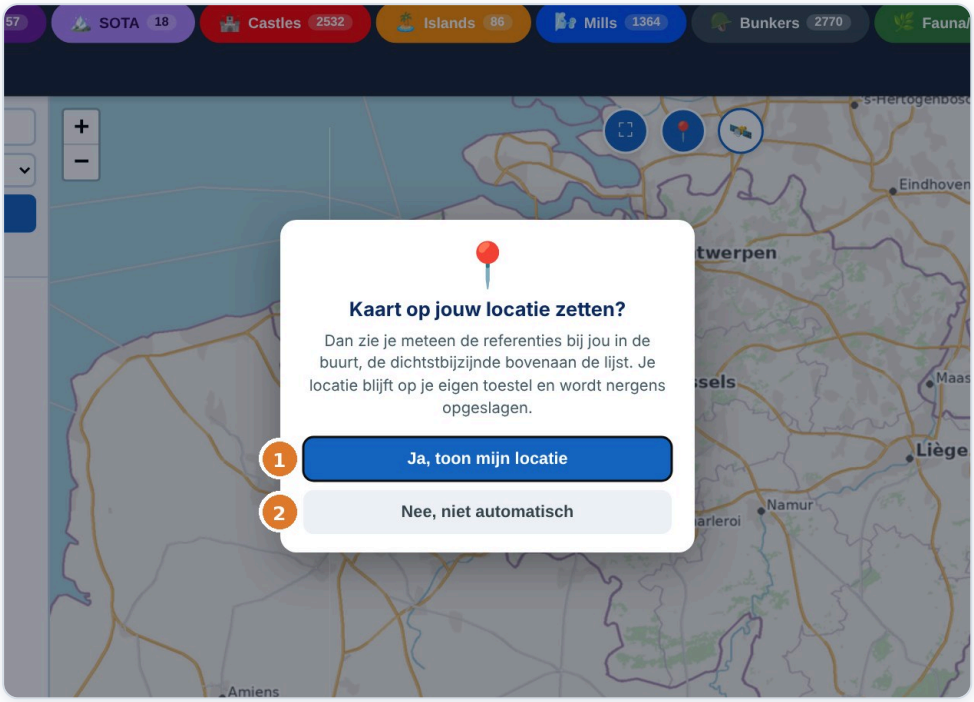
This manual describes the BOS! Maps tool at **belgiumoutdoorshack.be/bosmaptool**. The tool is free, needs no login and works on a laptop, tablet and phone. The buttons in the tool are in Dutch; this manual gives the Dutch label with its meaning, e.g. **Kaart** (map).

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> ⚠️ The background map in the screenshots of this manual is simplified. In the real tool you see a full street, satellite or topographic map.

1 🚀 Opening the tool and your location

Open **belgiumoutdoorshack.be/bosmaptool**, or choose **BOS! Services ▾ → BOS! MAPS-TOOL** on the website. On your first visit the tool asks whether the map may go to your location.

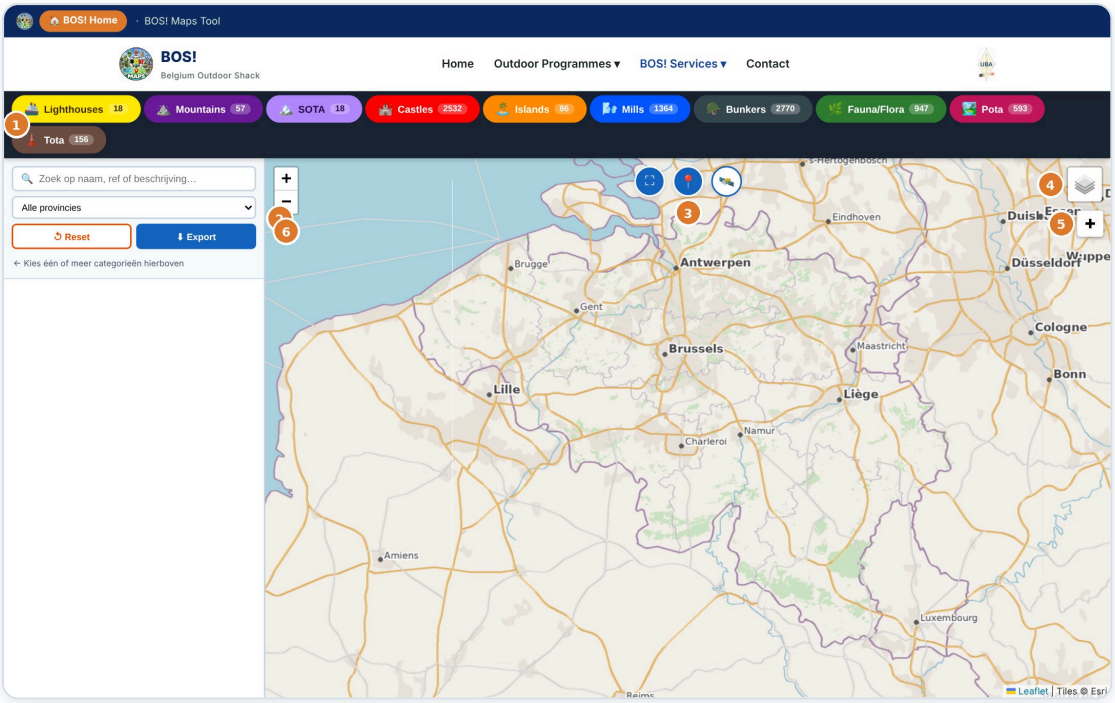


The question on your first visit.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**Ja, toon mijn locatie (yes)**	Your browser asks for permission. From then on the map jumps to your location on every visit and the nearest references are at the top of the list.
2	**Nee, niet automatisch (no)**	The map starts on the whole of Belgium. You can always show your location with the 📍 button (chapter 8).

> 💡 Your location stays on your own device. It is never stored or sent anywhere.

2 🧭 The screen at a glance



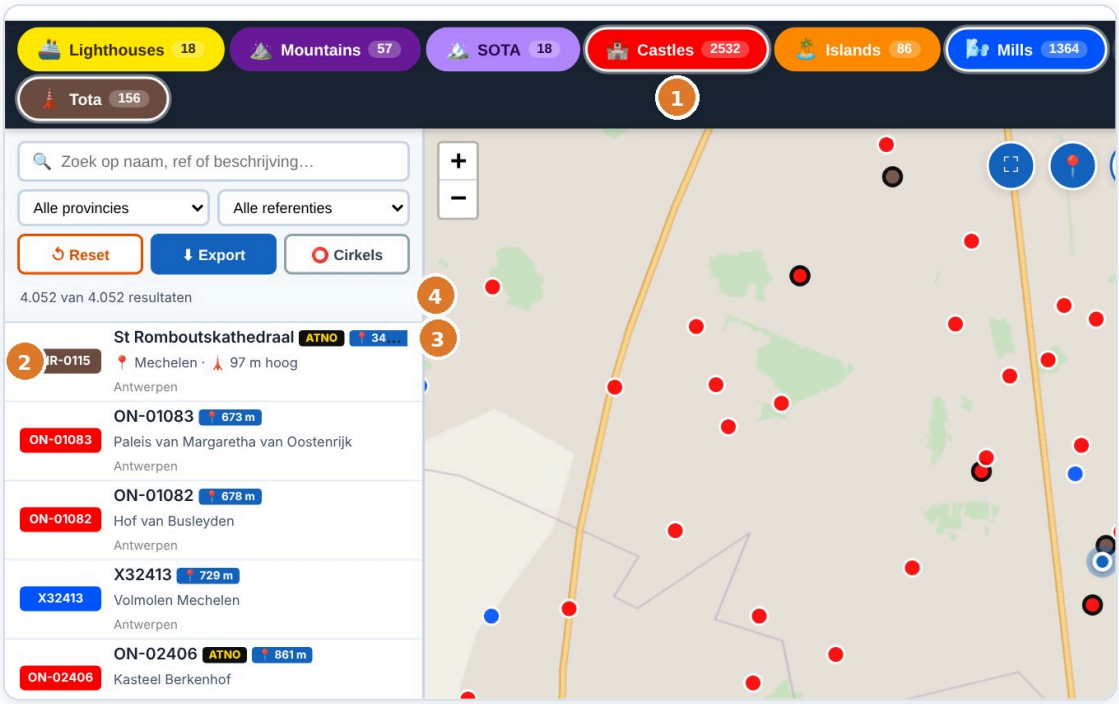
The start screen on a laptop, before choosing a category.

#	Part	What it does
1	**Category bar**	The 10 programmes. Click one or more to show their references. The number is the number of references.
2	**Search and filters**	Search box, province, ATNO filter and the buttons Reset, Export and Cirkels (circles). The list appears below.
3	**Round map buttons**	⛶ full screen, 📍 my location, 🛰️ live tracking, ⭕ all circles and 🖼️ image of your selection.
4	**Map layers**	Choose another background map (chapter 11).
5	**+ Own point**	Place your own point with a 1 km circle (chapter 10).
6	**Zoom**	+ and − (or scroll / pinch with two fingers).

3 🗂️ Choosing categories and the list

Click one or more buttons in the category bar. An active button gets a white border; click again to switch it off. You can combine as many categories as you like.

	Button	Programme	Circle
🟡	🚢 **Lighthouses**	BLHA	—
🟣	⛰️ **Mountains**	GMA	—
🟣	🏔️ **SOTA**	SOTA	—
🔴	🏰 **Castles**	BCA / WCA	1 km
🟠	🏝️ **Islands**	IWI	—
🔵	🌬️ **Mills**	BELMOTA / MOTA	350 m
⚫	🪖 **Bunkers**	ONBOTA / WWBOTA	1 km
🟢	🌿 **Fauna/Flora**	ONFF / WWFF	—
🟥	🏞️ **Pota**	POTA	—
🟤	🗼 **Tota**	TOTA	200 m

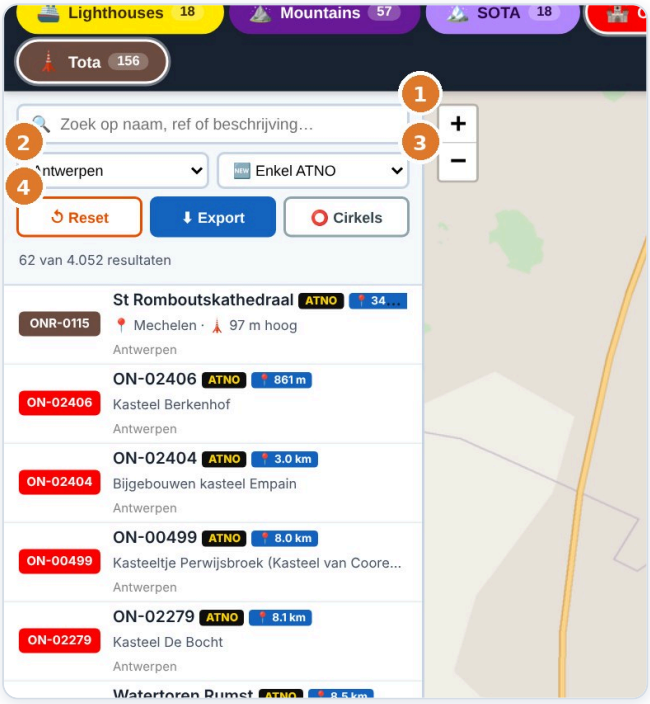


Castles, Mills and Tota switched on. Your location is known, so the nearest references are at the top.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**Active category**	White border = on.
2	**Reference**	The coloured label shows the full reference, e.g. ON-01083 or X32413.
3	**Distance**	When your location is known you see how far each reference is, and the list runs from near to far.
4	**Count**	How many references are in the list now, out of the total.

ATNO (All Time New One) means: never activated according to the BOS! logs. You see it as a black label in the list and as a **black ring** around the dot on the map. This applies to Lighthouses, Castles, Mills and Tota.

4 🔍 Searching and filtering



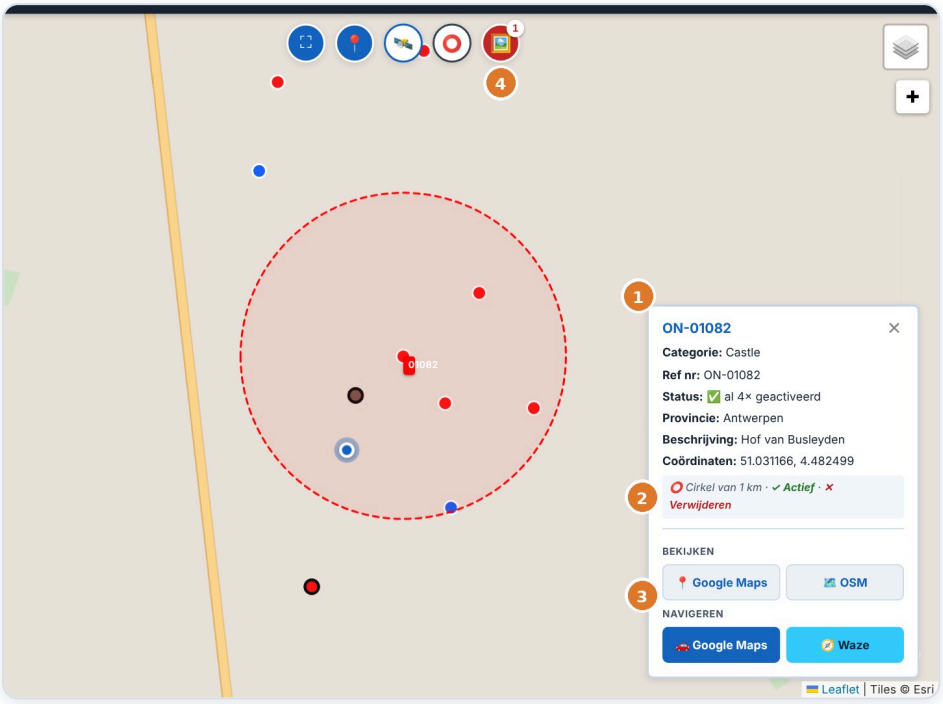
Province Antwerpen + "Enkel ATNO" (ATNO only): only the references that were never activated.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**Search box**	Type a name, a reference or part of the description, e.g. "Berkenhof" or "02406".
2	**Province**	Show only the references in one province.
3	**ATNO filter**	"Enkel ATNO" (never activated) or "Enkel geactiveerd" (activated only). Appears as soon as Lighthouses, Castles, Mills or Tota is on.
4	**Reset · Export · Cirkels**	↺ **Reset** clears everything. ⬇ **Export**: see chapter 12. ⭕ **Cirkels**: see chapter 6.

> 💡 With **Fauna/Flora** an extra filter appears: **Punt + Polygoon** (points + areas), **Alleen punten** (points only) or **Alleen polygonen** (the borders of the nature reserves only).

5 📌 Looking at a reference

Click a dot on the map or a line in the list. The map zooms in and the info panel opens on the right.



Castle ON-01082 clicked: the 1 km circle and the info panel.

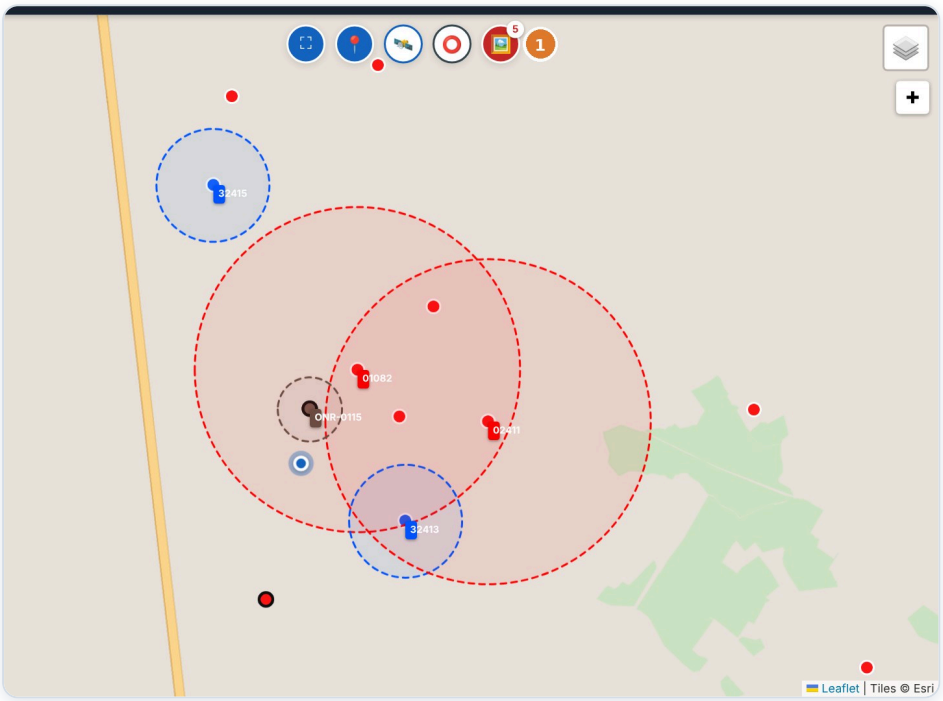
#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**Info panel**	Category, full reference, status (ATNO or how often activated), province, description and coordinates. Close with ×.
2	**Circle**	For Castles, Bunkers, Mills and Tota a circle is drawn around the reference. Here you also find × **Verwijderen** (remove).
3	**View and navigate**	**Bekijken** (view) in Google Maps or OpenStreetMap. **Navigeren** (navigate) starts the route in Google Maps or Waze.
4	🖼️ **button**	Appears as soon as you clicked something (chapter 7).

6 ⭕ Circles around the references

The circle shows the zone you must be in for a valid activation: **1 km** for castles and bunkers, **350 m** for mills and **200 m** for towers.

Your own selection: up to 5 circles

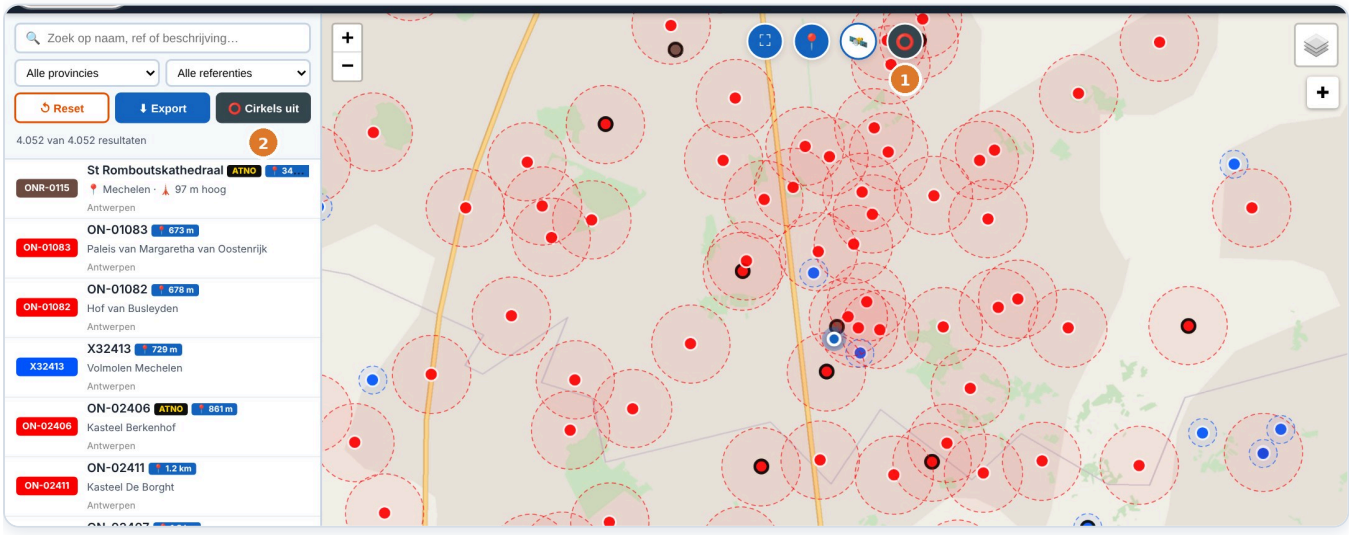
- Every reference you click gets a circle. Up to **5** can be shown at once, across all categories.
- Click a 6th one and the oldest disappears.
- Click a reference again (or choose × Verwijderen) to remove its circle.



5 clicked references: 2 castles (1 km), 2 mills (350 m) and a tower (200 m). The number on the button counts along.

All circles at once

With ⭕ on the map, or ⭕ **Cirkels** next to Export, you switch the circles around **all** visible castles, bunkers, mills and towers on or off. Handy to see where zones overlap. The tool remembers your choice.



All circles on (around Mechelen).

7 🖼️ Saving your selection as an image

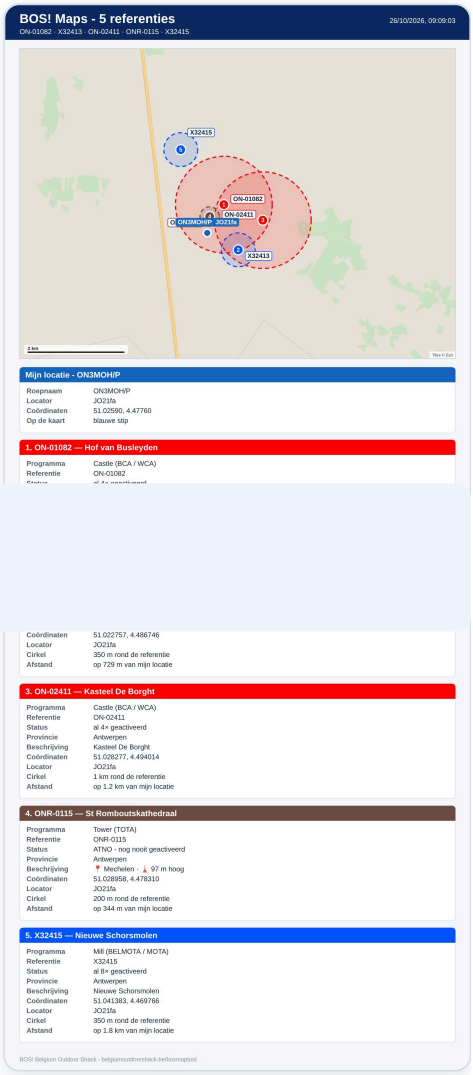
Heading out? Click the references you want to visit (1 to 5) and tap the red 🖼️ button at the top of the map. The small number on the button shows how many references you clicked.

The tool makes one **JPG image** that your browser downloads straight away, e.g. `BOS-referenties-20261026-0909.jpg`. Keep it on your phone, print it or share it via WhatsApp or e-mail.

What is on it?

- **The map** with your clicked references, their circles and a number, plus a scale bar. It uses the map layer you have selected.
- **My location**: your blue dot with callsign and locator, and a block with callsign, locator and coordinates. If you are more than 30 km away, your location is not on the map but is still in the block.
- **Per reference**: programme, reference, ATNO status, province, description, coordinates, locator, circle and the distance from your location.

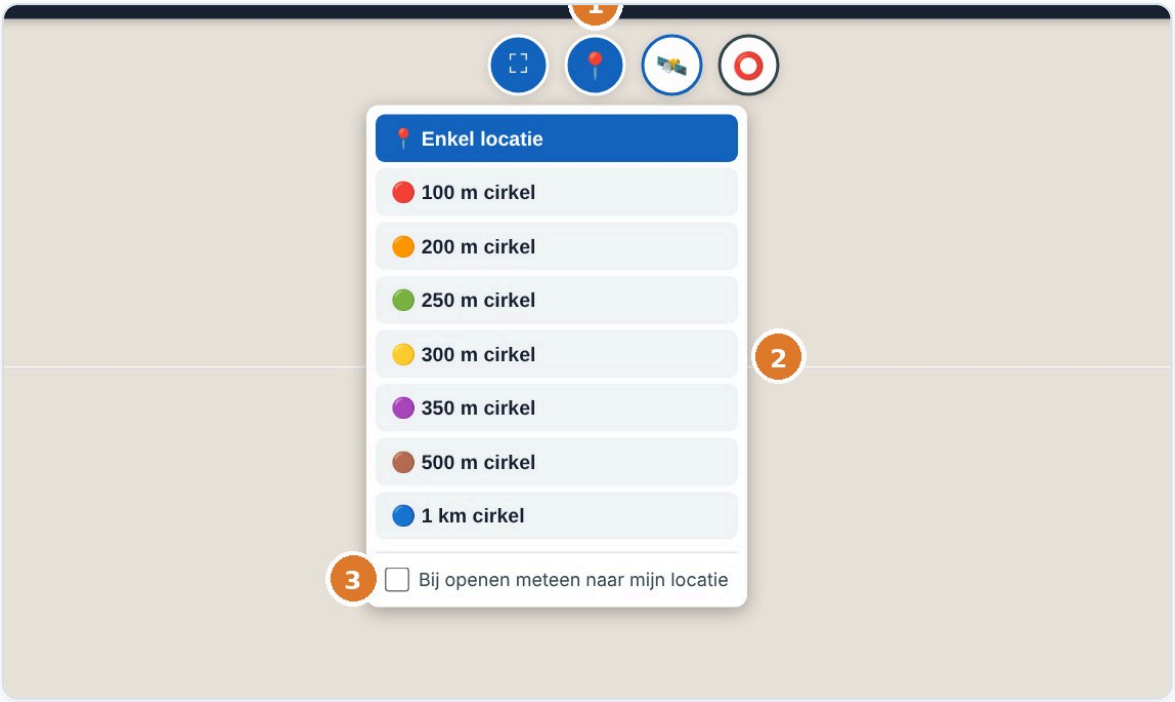
> 💡 Does the background map not appear in the image? Then you see a short message and a plain background. Choose the map layer **Standaard** and try again.



The image: the map at the top, all details below.

8 📍 My location

Tap 📍 at the top of the map. The tool finds your location, places a blue dot and zooms in. At the same time a panel opens.

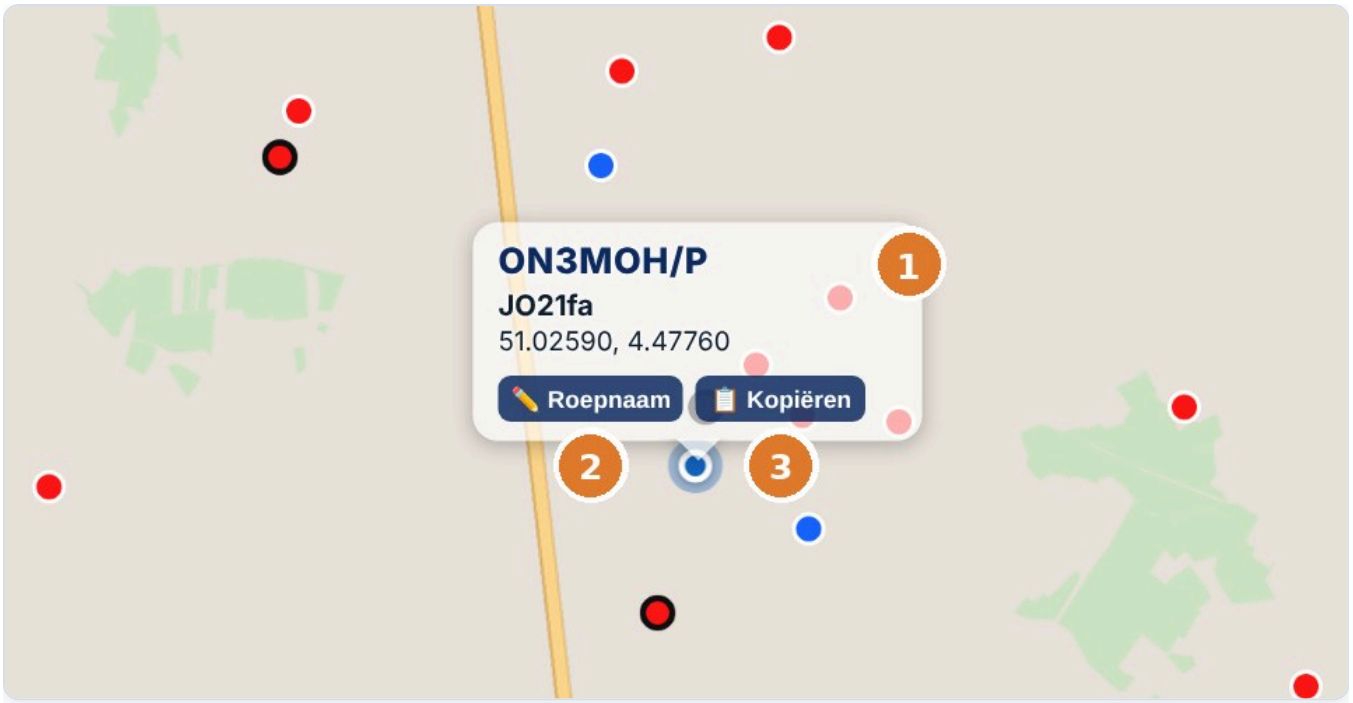


The 📍 panel.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**📍 button**	Find my location and zoom in.
2	**Circle around you**	Choose a circle of 100 m to 1 km around your own location, e.g. to see which references are within reach.
3	**Bij openen meteen naar mijn locatie**	(Go to my location on opening.) Ticked = the map goes to your location on every visit. Unticked = the map starts on the whole of Belgium.

Your callsign and locator

Tap your **blue dot**. A small, transparent window opens with your callsign, your **locator** (6 characters) and your coordinates.



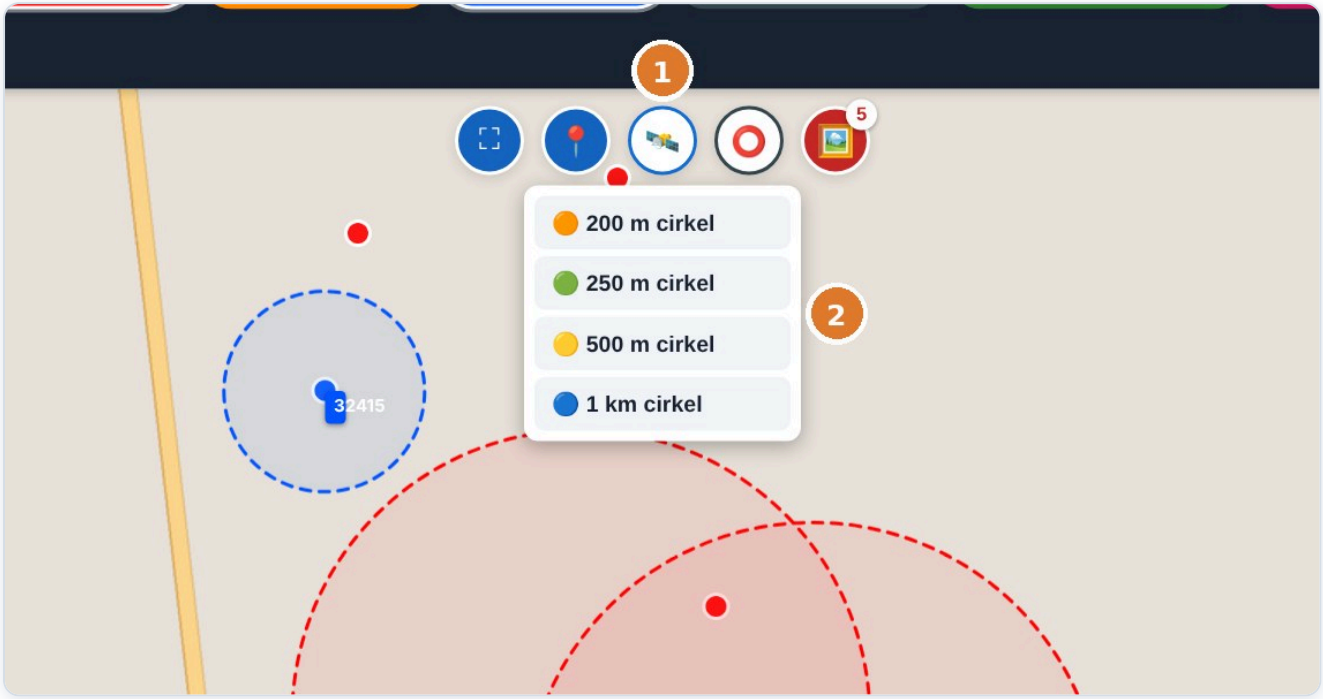
The window at your blue dot.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**Callsign**	As you entered it, e.g. ON3MOH/P. Stored on your device.
2	✏️ **Roepnaam (callsign)**	Type your callsign (with /P or /M if you like) and tap **OK**.
3	📋 **Kopiëren (copy)**	Copies "callsign · locator · coordinates", ready to paste into a spot, chat or log.

> 💡 On a laptop without GPS your browser finds your location via Wi-Fi. That is less accurate than on a phone. The tool keeps refining the position for a few seconds.

9 🛰️ Live tracking

On the road or during an activation you want to see where you are. Tap 🛰️ and choose a circle (200 m, 250 m, 500 m or 1 km). Your blue dot and the circle move with you, but the map stays put so you can look around freely.



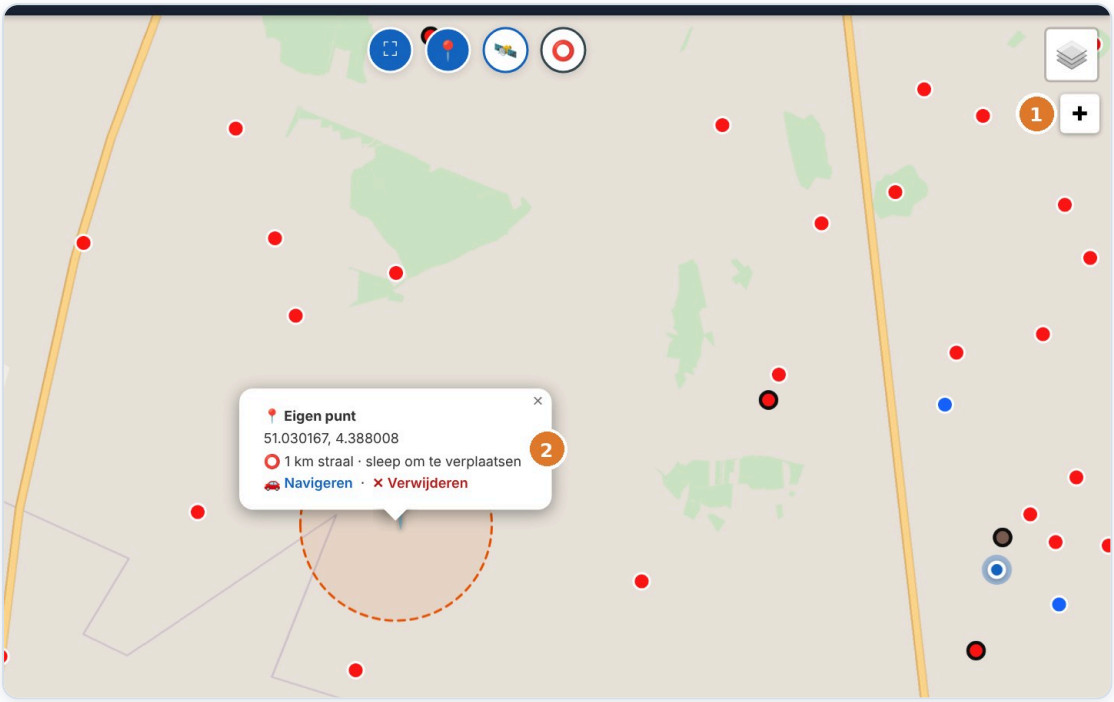
Choose the radius of the circle around you.

To stop: tap ⏹️ (the same button).

> ⚠️ Live tracking uses your phone's GPS and therefore extra battery. Switch it off when you no longer need it.

10 + Placing your own point

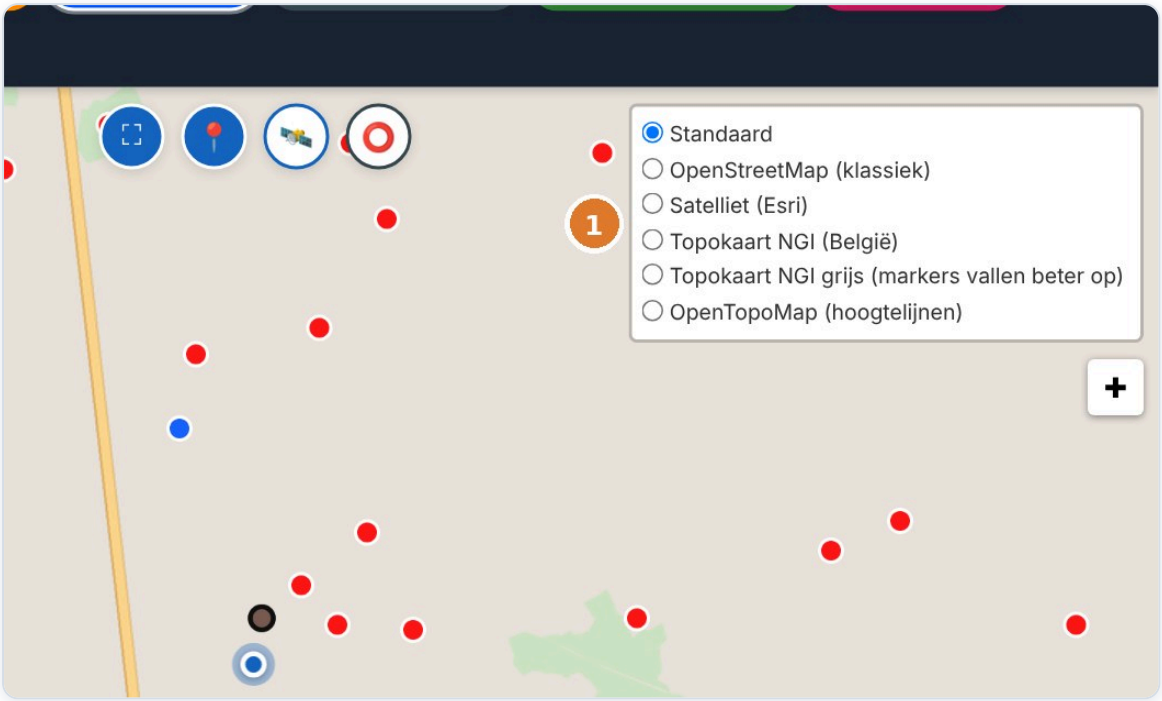
Want to know whether a spot is within 1 km of something, or go somewhere that is not a reference? Tap **+** on the right of the map and then click on the map.



Your own point with a 1 km circle.

#	Button / part	Explanation
1	**+ button**	Switches own-point mode on. After placing the point it switches off again.
2	**Window**	Coordinates of the point. **Navigeren** (navigate) starts the route in Google Maps; ✕ **Verwijderen** (remove) deletes the point. You can also drag the point.

11 🗺️ Map layers and full screen



The layer menu at the top right.

Layer	Useful for
Standaard	Streets and place names (Esri). The normal map.
OpenStreetMap (klassiek)	Lots of detail: paths, buildings, car parks.
Satelliet (Esri)	Aerial photo: see trees, fields and whether there is room for your antenna.
Topokaart NGI (België)	The official Belgian topographic map.
Topokaart NGI grijs	The same map in grey, so the coloured dots stand out better.
OpenTopoMap (hoogtelijnen)	Relief and contour lines, handy for GMA and SOTA.

⛶ **Full screen** hides the site menus and shows only the map. Tap ✕ (the same button) to go back.

12 📤 Exporting

⬇ Export (next to Reset) saves **everything that is in the list right now**, so with your categories, search and filters, in two files at once:

File	What you do with it
KML	Open in Google Earth, Google My Maps, OsmAnd, Locus Map and other map apps. That way you also have the references offline on your phone.
PDF	A printable list with name, programme, province, coordinates and description.

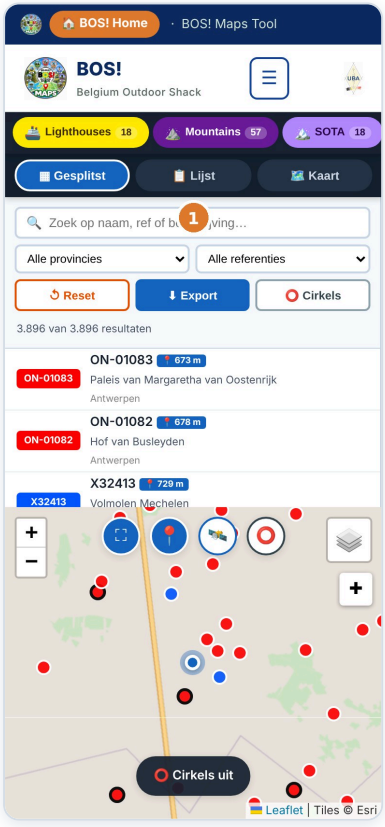
> 💡 Only want your clicked references, with map and circles? Then use the 🖼️ **button** (chapter 7).

In the BOS! Logbook

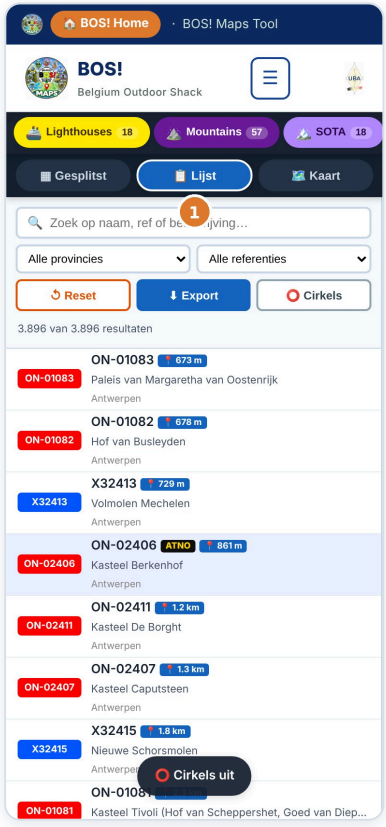
The Maps tool is also built into the BOS! Logbook (tab **Map**). Click a reference there and choose ➕ **Activeer … in het logbook**: the reference goes straight into your activation.

13 📱 On your phone

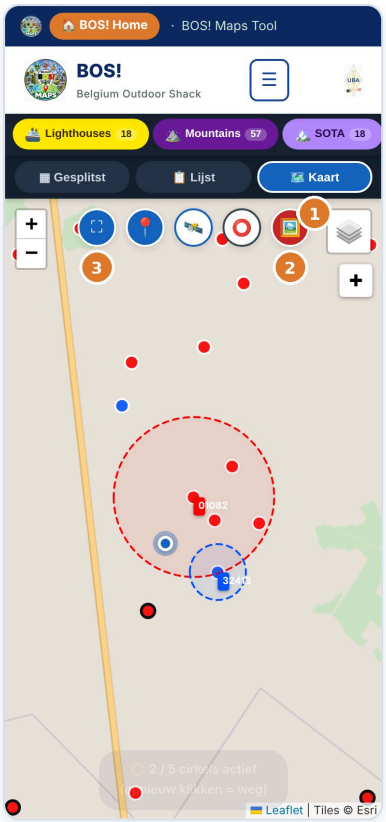
On a phone there is an extra bar under the category bar with three views:



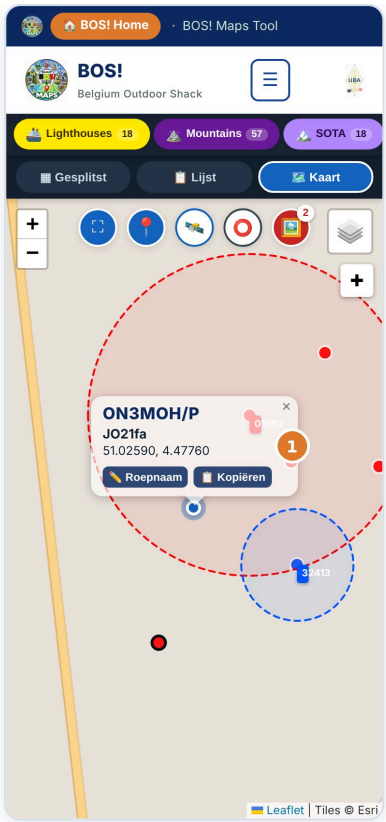
▦ *Gesplitst (split): list on top, map below.*



📋 *Lijst (list): only the list.*



🗺️ Kaart (map): only the map, with all round buttons.



Your blue dot: the window is small and transparent, so you can still see the map.

- Swipe the category bar sideways to see all programmes.
- In **Kaart** everything works as on a laptop: tap references, circles, 📍, 🛰️, ⭕ and 🖼️.
- On an iPhone the 🖼️ image goes to **Files → Downloads**; on Android to **Downloads**. From there you share it to WhatsApp or Photos.

Problems?

Problem	Solution
My location does not work	Give your browser permission for location (padlock or ⓘ left of the address → Location → Allow) and switch on location on your phone.
The location is inaccurate	On a laptop it goes via Wi-Fi. On your phone: step outside for a moment or wait a few seconds.
I do not see the ⭕ button	It only appears when Castles, Mills, Bunkers or Tota is on.
I do not see the 🖼️ button	First click at least one reference.
No ATNO is shown	ATNO only exists for Lighthouses, Castles, Mills and Tota.