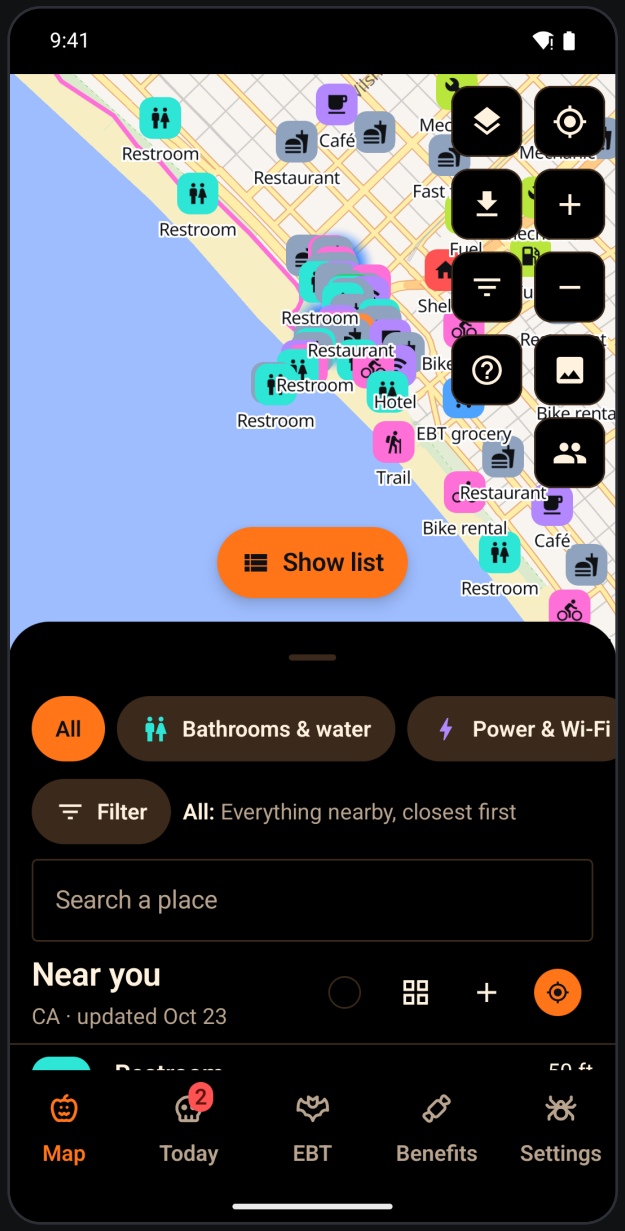
VANLYFE

ROAM · REST · REFILL



Restrooms, showers, water, free camps, cheap gas and help near you — even offline.

A free, offline-first map for people living out of a van, a car, or without housing: tap what you need, see the closest places, and get there. iOS and Android, five languages, no ads, no tracking.

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October 2026 · version 1.0

THE PROBLEM

Living on the road is a daily scavenger hunt

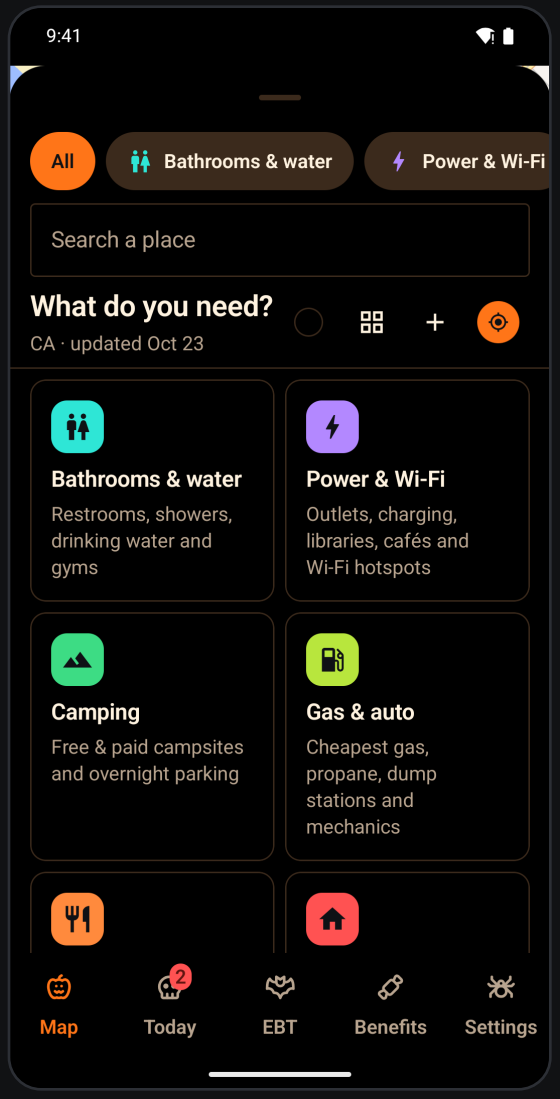
- **Where can I use a bathroom, shower, or fill water right now?**
  Answers are scattered across Google reviews, Facebook groups, iOverlander threads and word of mouth.
- **Where can I sleep tonight without getting a knock on the window?**
  Free and legal overnight parking is the single most-asked question in every vanlife forum.
- **Where is the cheapest gas, a dump station, a mechanic, a cooling center?**
  Each one lives in a different app, most of them paid, most of them useless without signal.
- **What help is nearby and how do I actually use it?**
  SNAP stores, pantries, shelters, benefits offices and clinics are public data that nobody has put on one map with plain-language guides.

Who this is for

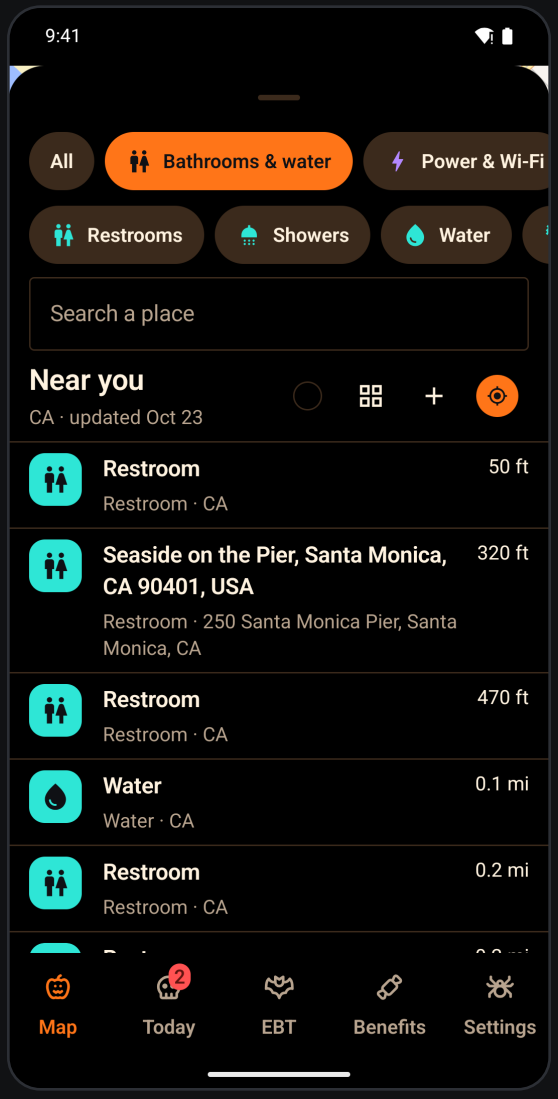
• Vehicle dwellers: Americans living in vans, RVs and cars full- or part-time, by choice or necessity.
• People without housing, outreach workers and case managers who need the same answers.
• Weekend road-trippers and campers who want free camps and cheap gas without a subscription.

THE PRODUCT

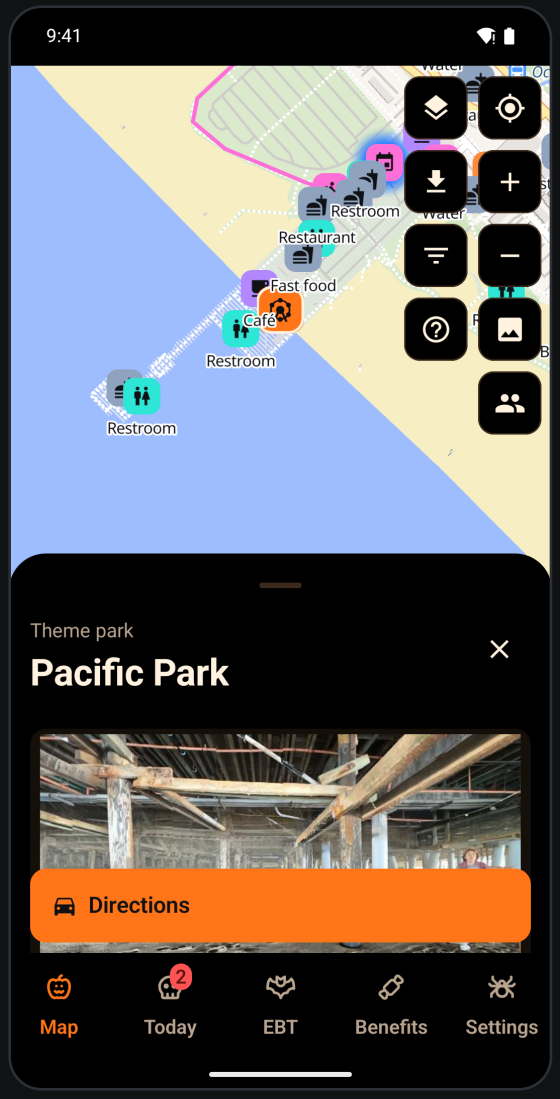
Tap what you need. See the closest places. Go.



What do you need?



Nearest places, on the map and in a list



Hours, photos, directions, call

COVERAGE

Eight needs, 36 kinds of place, one map

Bathrooms & water

Restrooms, showers, drinking water, gyms and laundromats

Power & Wi-Fi

Outlets, charging, libraries, cafés and Wi-Fi hotspots

Camping

Free & paid campsites, overnight parking and rest areas

Gas & auto

Cheapest gas, propane, dump stations and mechanics

Food

Pantries, free meals and markets

Help

Shelters, benefits offices, clinics, cooling centers, pharmacies and post offices

Money

Banks and ATMs

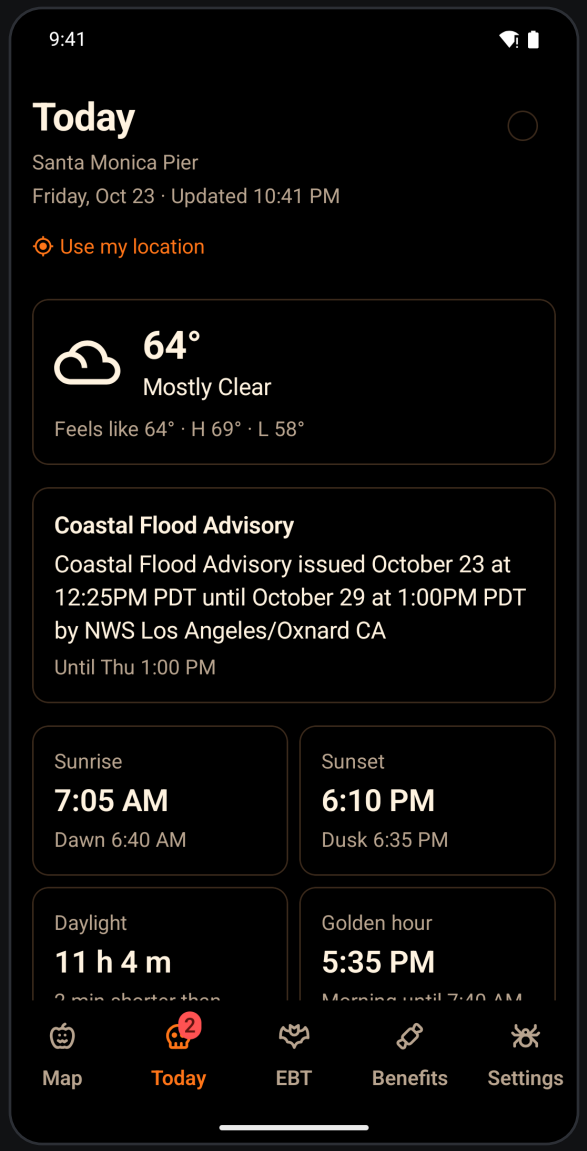
Things to do

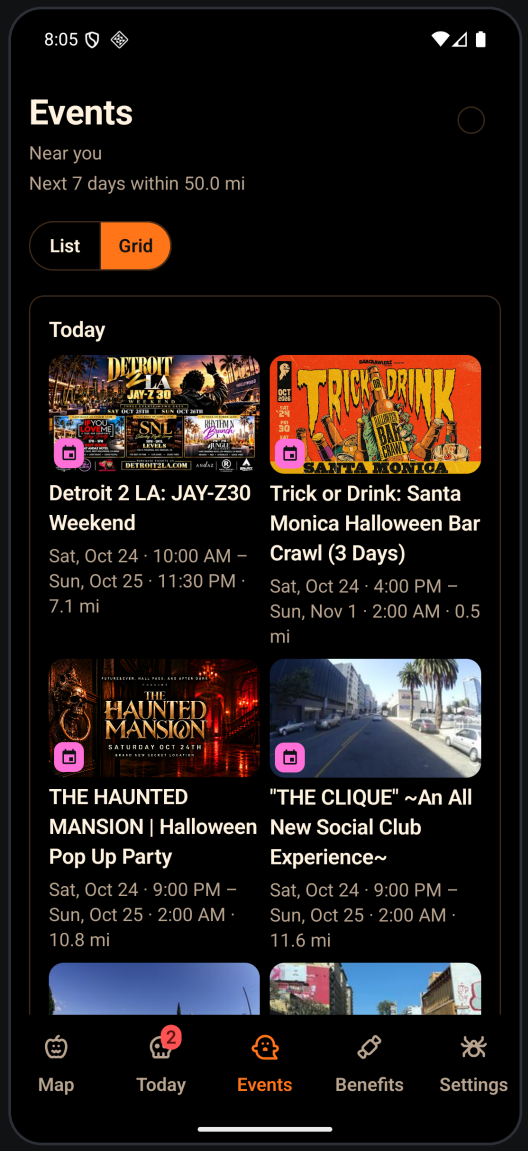
Trails, bike trails, gear shops, events, theme & water parks, movies, geocaches, rivers and waterfalls

Each place carries what matters on the road: hours and whether it's open now, free/paid, ADA, 24 h, Wi-Fi, laundry, showers, fuel prices by grade, EBT acceptance, event dates, a street-level or aerial photo, and community notes and tips.

THE PRODUCT

More than pins: Today, Events and Benefits





- **Today**
  NWS forecast and alerts, air quality and pollen, sunrise, sunset, tonight's sky and tides, wildfires within 100 miles, earthquakes and local radio, for wherever the map is centered.
- **Events**
  Everything happening this week within 50 miles, by day, as a list, a photo grid or a map.
- **Benefits**
  Stores and restaurants that take SNAP, plus plain-language guides to CalFresh, General Relief, Medi-Cal, Oregon SNAP and the Oregon Health Plan in five languages.
- **Travelers**
  Opt-in: show yourself to other travelers who share, rounded to about 1 km unless you choose Exact. Report or hide anyone.

THE PRODUCT

Plan the route. Check the place.

Along a route

Pick a destination: up to 100 places within ½, 1 or 5 miles of the first 300 miles, in order along the way.

Saved places

Star a place to keep it on the phone: up to 500, closest first, offline, no account.

Share

Send a place as a link that opens it in VANLYFE, Apple Maps, Google Maps or OpenStreetMap.

Photos nearby

Up to 12 photos taken within 150 m of the place, from Wikimedia Commons, Flickr and street-level imagery, pinned on the map where they were taken.

Look around, satellite, 3D

Google's Look around, satellite and 3D views of the place, and its Google Maps card, right on the place card.

Tips from travelers

Public, anonymous tips with helpful votes and an optional "stayed overnight" date; reports hide them.

Also new: Search Google nearby when a place isn't listed, Open now and Hide closed, a Free filter for camps, and laundromats, rest areas, pharmacies, post offices, rivers and waterfalls on the map.

THE PRODUCT

Live layers for weather, roads and land

Weather

NOAA rain radar, NWS watches and warnings, lightning, hurricanes and wind.

Roads, safety, explore

State DOT road cameras, earthquakes, a crime heatmap, Wikipedia articles and photo spots.

Land and sky

Public lands by managing agency (BLM, national forests and parks, state, military), night lights and rivers.

Alerts

Opt-in notifications for NWS warnings, new fires within 25 miles and unhealthy air where the phone last was, checked about every 30 minutes.

Shortcuts

"Find laundromats with VANLYFE" and every other need from Siri; long-press the Android icon for restrooms, water, showers and camping.

Weather, roads and land layers are free public feeds (NOAA, NWS, USGS, NASA, BLM, state DOTs) called straight from the phone.

WHY IT WINS

Works where the signal doesn't

- **Offline-first by design**
  Each state's places download once (a few MB) and are queried on the phone with SQLite. Save map areas before you leave signal. The national overview shard fills the map as you zoom out to the whole country.
- **Open data, continuously rebuilt**
  35+ sources — OpenStreetMap, Recreation.gov, US Forest Service, BLM, USDA SNAP, HRSA, IMLS, NPS, GasBuddy, Eventbrite, Meetup and more — deduplicated nightly by a scheduled ETL and published as static shards. No per-user server cost for lookups.
- **Photos before you go**
  Recreation.gov and The Dyrt photos, USDA aerials for every place, street-level photos (Street View, Mapillary, KartaView, Panoramax), Wikimedia Commons and Flickr photos nearby, and community photos.
- **Five languages**
  English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese and Filipino — UI, guides and category names.

35+

open data sources

rebuilt on a schedule

36

kinds of place

across 8 needs, all 50 states

$0

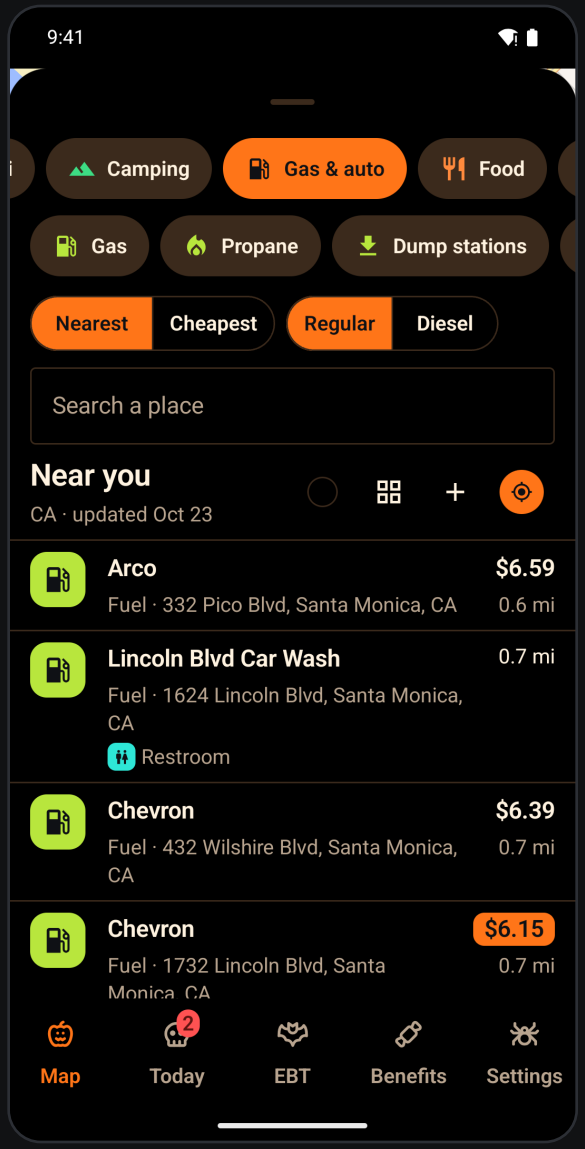
per lookup

static shards on a CDN; the phone does the query

TRUST

No ads. No tracking. Nothing to sell you.

- **Your location stays on your phone**
  unless you opt in to Travelers. Weather requests use coordinates rounded to 0.01°.
- **Accounts are optional**
  Finding places never needs one. Sign in only to add spots, post photos or share your position.
- **Community moderation built in**
  Report a place, a photo or a traveler; block uploaders; suggest edits that go through review.
- **Self-hosted backend**
  Supabase on a single OVH box; Play data-safety and App Store privacy labels filled out truthfully.
- **Accessible**
  The UI test suites run Xcode's accessibility audit and Espresso's accessibility checks on every screen: contrast, Dynamic Type, touch targets, VoiceOver and TalkBack labels.



STATUS

Where we are and where it goes

Shipped (v1.0, October 2026)

• iOS and Android apps, feature-complete and localized.
• App Store: 1.0 waiting for review. Google Play: closed test running.
• Nightly ETL, national overview shard, offline map downloads.
• Accounts, community spots, photos, edits and tips; Travelers; Wi-Fi passwords.
• Along a route, saved places, share links, Photos nearby, Look around and 3D views, Search Google nearby.
• Today (weather, air, sky, tides, fires), live map layers, alerts, Events, Benefits guides for California and Oregon, Crime layer.

Next

• Public launch on both stores; outreach to vanlife creators and homeless-services orgs.
• More states' benefit guides (today: California and Oregon) and more languages.
• Offline routing and multi-stop trips (Along a route needs signal today).
• Partnerships: campground and gas-price data licences, city outreach programs.
• Sustainability: optional supporter tier (never paywalled data), grants.

The ask

Introductions to outreach organizations and vanlife communities for the launch, feedback on the benefits guides from people who use these programs, and partners with campground or fuel data to licence.



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