

# googlemaps - Google Maps and Local Search APIs

*class* **GoogleMaps**

An easy-to-use Python wrapper for the Google Maps and Local Search APIs.

**Geocoding:** convert a postal address to latitude and longitude

```
>>> from googlemaps import GoogleMaps
>>> gmaps = GoogleMaps(api_key)
>>> address = 'Constitution Ave NW & 10th St NW, Washington, DC'
>>> lat, lng = gmaps.address_to_latlng(address)
>>> print lat, lng
38.8921021 -77.0260358
```

**Reverse Geocoding:** find the nearest address to (lat, lng)

```
>>> destination = gmaps.latlng_to_address(38.887563, -77.019929)
>>> print destination
Independence and 6th SW, Washington, DC 20024, USA
```

**Local Search:** find places matching a query near a given location

```
>>> local = gmaps.local_search('cafe near ' + destination)
>>> print local['responseData']['results'][0]['titleNoFormatting']
Vie De France Bakery & Cafe
```

**Directions:** turn-by-turn directions, distance, time, etc. from point A to point B

```
>>> directions = gmaps.directions(address, destination)
>>> print directions['Directions']['Distance']['meters']
1029
>>> print directions['Directions']['Duration']['seconds']
106
>>> for step in directions['Directions']['Routes'][0]['Steps']:
...     print step['descriptionHtml']
Head <b>east</b> on <b>Constitution Ave NW</b> toward <b>9th St NW</b>
Take the 2nd <b>right</b> onto <b>7th St NW</b>
Turn <b>left</b> at <b>Independence Ave SW</b>
```

This software is in no way associated with or endorsed by Google Inc. Use of the Google Maps API is subject to the Google Maps Terms of Service: <http://code.google.com/apis/maps/terms.html>. Note in particular that you need a Google Maps API key to use this service, and that there are rate limits to the number of requests you can make.

## GoogleMaps methods

`GoogleMaps.__init__(api_key="", referrer_url="")`

Create a new **GoogleMaps** object using the given *api\_key* and *referrer\_url*.

**Parameters:**

- *api\_key* (string) – Google Maps API key
- *referrer\_url* (string) – URL of the website using or displaying information from Google Maps

Google requires API users to register for an API key before using the geocoding service. See <http://code.google.com/apis/maps/signup.html>. If you are not geocoding, you do not need an API key.

Use of Google Local Search requires a referrer URL, generally the website where the retrieval is initiated. If you are not using Local Search, you do not need a referrer URL.

## Geocoding

`GoogleMaps.address_to_latlng(address)`

Given a string *address*, return a (*latitude*, *longitude*) pair.

This is a simplified wrapper for `geocode()`.

**Parameter:**    *address* (string) – The postal address to geocode.

**Returns:**        (*latitude*, *longitude*) of *address*.

**Return type:** (float, float)

**Raises GoogleMapsError:**

If the address could not be geocoded.

`GoogleMaps.geocode(query, sensor='false', oe='utf8', ll="", spn="", gl=")`

Given a string address *query*, return a dictionary of information about that location, including

Interesting bits:

```
>>> gmaps = GoogleMaps(api_key)
>>> address = '350 Fifth Avenue New York, NY'
>>> result = gmaps.geocode(address)
>>> placemark = result['Placemark'][0]
>>> lng, lat = placemark['Point']['coordinates'][0:2]    # Note these are backwards
>>> print lat, lng
40.6721118 -73.9838823
>>> details = placemark['AddressDetails']['Country']['AdministrativeArea']
>>> street = details['Locality']['Thoroughfare']['ThoroughfareName']
>>> city = details['Locality']['LocalityName']
>>> state = details['AdministrativeAreaName']
>>> zipcode = details['Locality']['PostalCode']['PostalCodeNumber']
>>> print ', '.join((street, city, state, zipcode))
350 5th Ave, Brooklyn, NY, 11215
```

More documentation on the format of the return value can be found at Google’s [geocoder](#) .  
Some places have a ‘*SubAdministrativeArea*’ and some don’t; sometimes a ‘*Locality*’ will have a ‘*SubLocality*’ (and some don’t.)

**Parameters:**

- *query* (string) – Address of location to be geocoded.
- *sensor* (string) – `'true'` if the address is coming from, say, a GPS device.
- *oe* (string) – Output Encoding; best left at `'utf8'`.
- *ll* (string) – *lat,lng* of the viewport center as comma-separated string; Viewport Biasing
- *spn* (string) – The “span” of the viewport; must be used with *ll*.
- *gl* (string) – Two-character [ccTLD](#) for country code biasing.

**Returns:** [geocoder return value](#) dictionary

**Return type:** dict

**Raises `GoogleMapsError`:**

if there is something wrong with the query.

More information on the types and meaning of the parameters can be found at the [Google Maps API](#) .

## Reverse Geocoding

`GoogleMaps.latlng_to_address(lat, lng)`

Given a latitude *lat* and longitude *lng*, return the closest address.

This is a simplified wrapper for [reverse\\_geocode\(\)](#) .

**Parameters:**

- *lat* (float) – latitude
- *lng* (float) – longitude

**Returns:** Closest postal address to (*lat*, *lng*), if any.

**Return type:** string

**Raises `GoogleMapsError`:**

if the coordinates could not be converted to an address.

`GoogleMaps.reverse_geocode(lat, lng, sensor='false', oe='utf8', ll="", spn="", gl=")`

Converts a (latitude, longitude) pair to an address.

Interesting bits:

```
>>> gmaps = GoogleMaps(api_key)
>>> reverse = gmaps.reverse_geocode(38.887563, -77.019929)
>>> address = reverse['Placemark'][0]['address']
>>> print address
Independence and 6th SW, Washington, DC 20024, USA
>>> accuracy = reverse['Placemark'][0]['AddressDetails']['Accuracy']
>>> print accuracy
9
```

**Parameters:**

- *lat* (float) – latitude
- *lng* (float) – longitude

**Returns:** [Reverse geocoder return value](#) dictionary giving closest address(es) to (*lat*, *lng*)

**Return type:** dict

**Raises `GoogleMapsError`:**

If the coordinates could not be reverse geocoded.

Keyword arguments and return value are identical to those of `geocode()`.

## Directions

`GoogleMaps.directions(origin, destination, **kwargs)`

Get driving directions from *origin* to *destination*.

Interesting bits:

```
>>> gmaps = GoogleMaps(api_key)
>>> start = 'Constitution Ave NW & 10th St NW, Washington, DC'
>>> end = 'Independence and 6th SW, Washington, DC 20024, USA'
>>> dirs = gmaps.directions(start, end)
>>> time = dirs['Directions']['Duration']['seconds']
>>> dist = dirs['Directions']['Distance']['meters']
>>> route = dirs['Directions']['Routes'][0]
>>> for step in route['Steps']:
...     print step['Point']['coordinates'][1], step['Point']['coordinates'][0]
...     print step['descriptionHtml']
38.8921 -77.02604
Head <b>east</b> on <b>Constitution Ave NW</b> toward <b>9th St NW</b>
38.89208 -77.02191
Take the 2nd <b>right</b> onto <b>7th St NW</b>
38.88757 -77.02191
Turn <b>left</b> at <b>Independence Ave SW</b>
```

**Parameters:**

- *origin* (string) – Starting address
- *destination* (string) – Ending address
- *kwargs* – You can pass additional URL parameters as keyword arguments as documented.

**Returns:** Dictionary containing driving directions.

**Return type:** dict

**Raises `GoogleMapsError`:**

If Google Maps was unable to find directions.

## Local Search

`GoogleMaps.local_search(query, numresults=8, **kwargs)`

Searches Google Local for the string *query* and returns a dictionary of the results.

```
>>> gmaps = GoogleMaps(api_key)
>>> local = gmaps.local_search('sushi san francisco, ca')
>>> result = local['responseData']['results'][0]
>>> print result['titleNoFormatting']
Sushi Groove
>>> print result['streetAddress']
1916 Hyde St
>>> print result['phoneNumbers'][0]['number']
(415) 440-1905
```

For more information on the available data, see Google’s documentation on [AJAX results properties](#).

The return value of this method is slightly different than that documented by Google; it attempts to merge, as possible, from several queries (up to *numresults*), into the `['responseData']['results']` array. Other results referencing this array (such as `'cursor'`, `'currentPageIndex'`, `'moreResultsUrl'`) may not be affected.

This method may return fewer results than you ask for; Google Local returns a maximum of 20 results.

**Parameters:**

- *query* (string) – String containing a search and a location, such as `'Sushi San Francisco, CA'`

- *numresults* (int) – Number of results to return, up to a maximum of `MAX_LOCAL_RESULTS`.
- *kwargs* – You can pass additional [AJAX search arguments](#) and they will be passed to the Google Maps API.

**Returns:** A Google [AJAX result structure](#).

**Return type:** dict

**Raises `GoogleMapsError`:**  
If the query was malformed.

## Installation

It's as easy as:

```
sudo easy_install googlemaps
```

For Python versions prior to 2.6, you may also need the [simplejson](#) module.

Not got root? `googlemaps` plays nice with [virtualenv](#).

You can also download the source from [sourceforge.net](#); `googlemaps.py` packs all this delicious functionality into a single module that can be used as a script for command-line geocoding.

[easy\\_install](#) is available from [PyPI](#) if you don't have it already.

## Notes

You will need your own [Google Maps API key](#) to use the geocoding functions of this module. The module is limited to a number of requests per day from a single IP address. If you make too many requests, or you pass an invalid API key, or something else is wrong with your request, a `GoogleMapsError` will be raised containing a `status` attribute with the error; more information can be found at the linked reference.

All of the data returned by this module is in [JSON](#)-compatible format, making it easy to combine with other data.

## Information

**Author:** John Kleint

**Version:** 1.0.2

**License:** Lesser Affero General Public License v3

**Source:** <http://sourceforge.net/projects/py-googlemaps>

**Python Versions:**  
2.3 - 2.6+

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