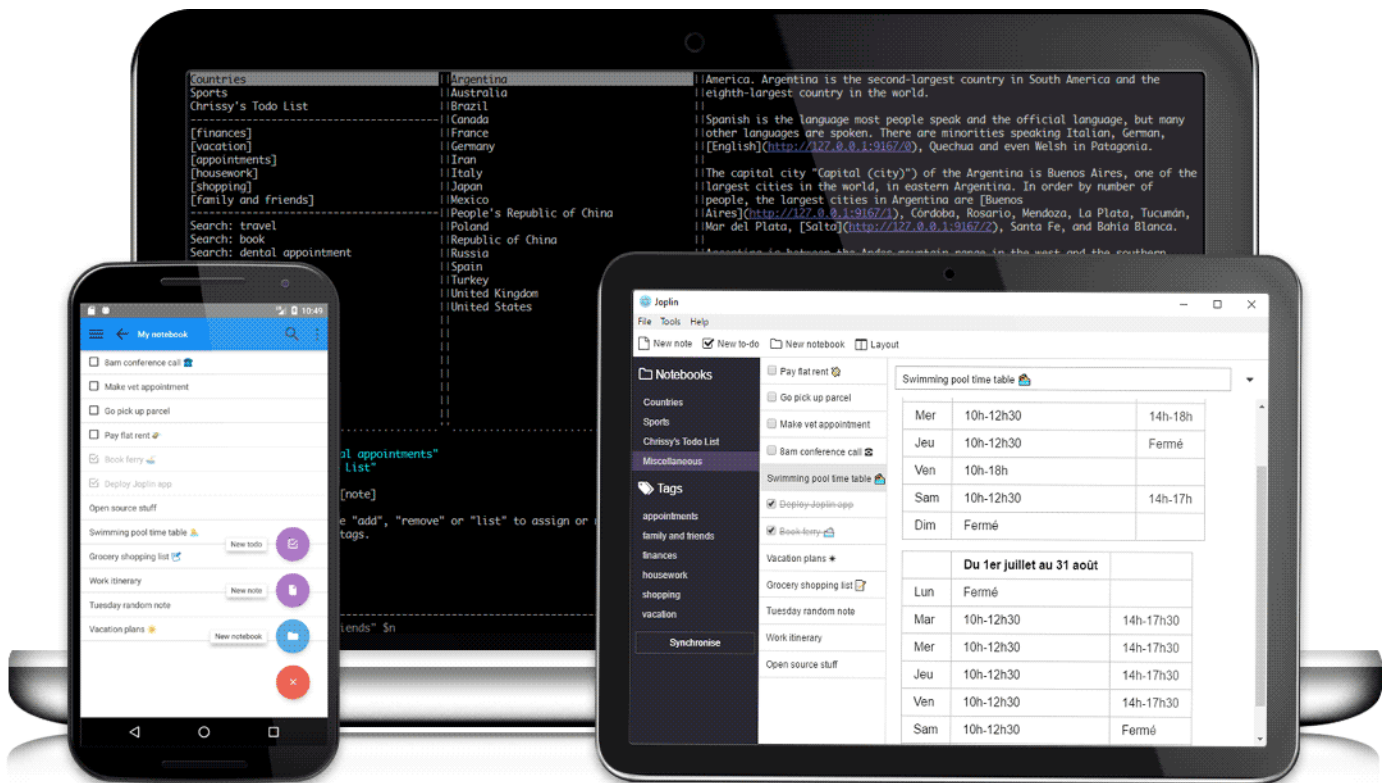# 1. Welcome to Joplin! 📝

Welcome to Joplin! 📝

Joplin is a free, open source note taking and to-do application, which helps you write and organise your notes, and synchronise them between your devices. The notes are searchable, can be copied, tagged and modified either from the applications directly or from your own text editor. The notes are in [Markdown format](). Joplin is available as a 💻 **desktop**, 📱 **mobile** and 🔤 **terminal** application.

The notes in this notebook give an overview of what Joplin can do and how to use it. In general, the three applications share roughly the same functionalities; any differences will be clearly indicated.

Joplin is divided into three parts

Joplin has three main columns:

- **Sidebar** contains the list of your notebooks and tags, as well as the synchronisation status.
- **Note List** contains the current list of notes - either the notes in the currently selected notebook, the notes in the currently selected tag, or search results.
- **Note Editor** is the place where you write your notes in Markdown, with a viewer showing what the note will look like. You may also use an [external editor]() to edit notes. For example, if you like WYSIWYG editors, you can use something like Typora as an external editor and it will display the note as well as any embedded images.

Writing notes in Markdown