

# Meander

## Your new favorite transit app

Meander is the pathfinding app that doesn't try very hard to find paths. With apps like Google Maps, users take for granted the algorithms that produce fast and easy routes. By removing the ability for the user to generate linear paths, they will better appreciate the effort that goes into algorithms and their runtime to get them to where they want to be. At the same time, this reliance on technology makes people less aware of their surroundings. Even if they have lived in the same place for a long time, people rely more on digital navigators than a sense of direction and landmarks to get to new places. Meander will submerge unwilling users into their surroundings, showing them streets they may not have even seen before despite not being far from their homes.

To emphasize these points, Meander works by loosely generating a path from point A to point B. It will show this path to the user once, and once the user begins their journey, they are no longer permitted to zoom very far out or look back at the map as a whole to get a sense of where they are or where they will be going. This forces users to rely even more heavily on the app when they are in unfamiliar territory, checking back more often to see if they are on the right track. As they progress, users will take in a new area of the world around them, seeing businesses and houses that live very close geographically but that they may not have seen before. It encourages people to get out into their community. When using Google Maps, a person may simply want to know where the nearest chain restaurant is, and Maps will take them directly to it. With Meander, maybe you'll still choose to go to a chain restaurant, but along the way you may drive past many small business restaurants you'd never even think to try, like you're window shopping around your neighborhood.

Overall, Meander aims to provide an immersive experience within the app that you won't be able to look away from... for more than a few seconds, before you've missed your turn because you don't recognize any of these streets. In between glances, you'll be discovering corners of your community that you never knew existed. Download Meander today!

