

NaviLens User Guide

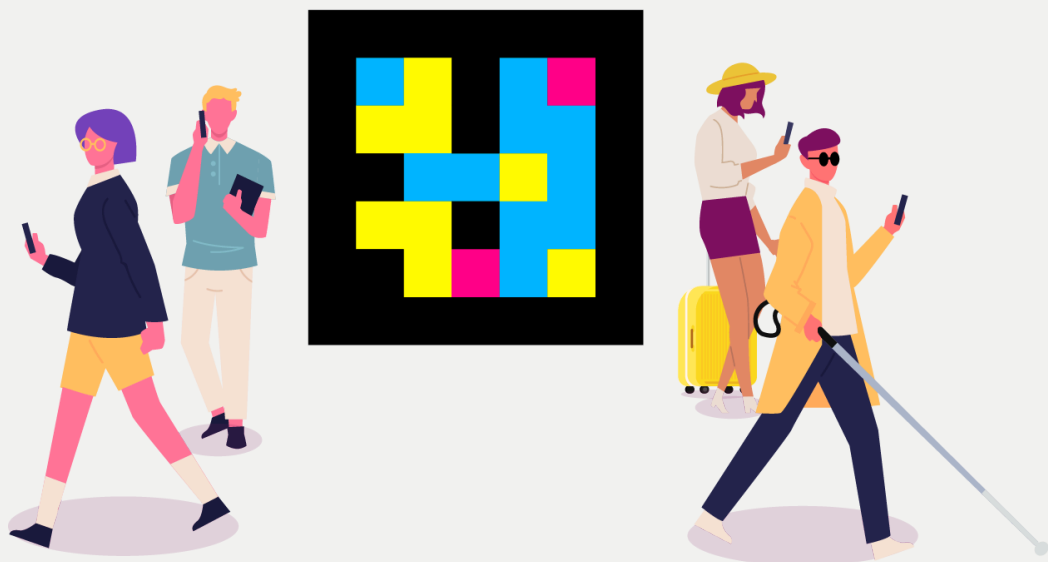
How to read the colour codes you see at bus stops, stations, museums and on packaging with your mobile.

October 2026

NaviLens / Marketing

Guide for end users

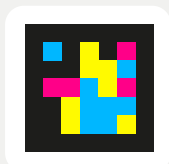
Version: 1.0



What is NaviLens?

NaviLens is a free app that reads aloud the coloured signs you'll find on the street, on public transport and on products. Point your mobile's camera, without getting close or focusing, and the phone tells you what the sign says and where it is.

It's designed for people who are blind or have low vision, but anyone can use it. It speaks your phone's language, one of 42 available.



Before you start

All you need is a mobile with a camera and one of the two free apps. No sign-up, and no email, name or phone number required.

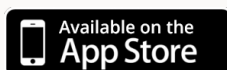
Both apps read the same codes. Pick yours:

FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR HAVE LOW VISION

NaviLens

It guides you with **voice, sounds and vibration**. Works with VoiceOver and TalkBack.

Designed to be used without looking at the screen.



FOR EVERYONE

NaviLens GO

Shows the information **on screen**, with augmented-reality arrows over the camera view.

Designed for reading and following directions while looking at your mobile.



Install the app in three steps

- 1 **Open your mobile's app store:** the App Store on iPhone, Google Play on Android.
- 2 **Search for 'NaviLens' and tap Install.** It's free, with no in-app purchases.
- 3 **Allow camera access** when the app asks the first time. Without the camera it can't see the codes.

No account needed

We don't ask for an email, username, or password. Download the app and use it.

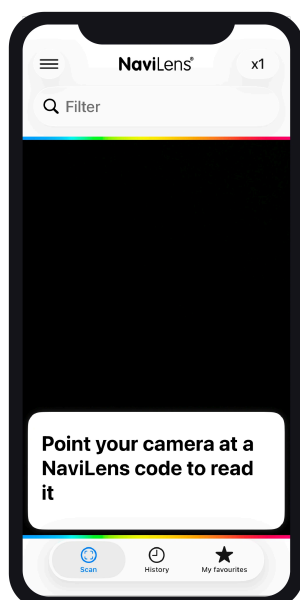
It speaks your language

The app uses the language your phone is set to. Nothing else to configure.

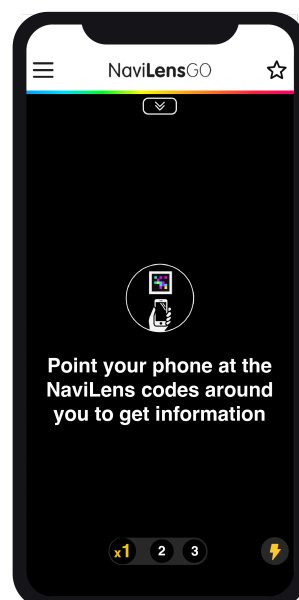
How to scan a code, step by step

It's easier than a QR code: no need to find the code, get close, or focus. The app finds it on its own.

- 1 **Open the app.** The camera opens right away, on the Scan tab.
- 2 **Hold your mobile in front of you**, at chest height, with the camera facing forward. You don't need to look at the screen.
- 3 **Turn slowly** in place, as if sweeping the space with the camera. You can keep walking.
- 4 **Wait for the signal.** As soon as the camera sees a code, the phone beeps and vibrates. In NaviLens GO a frame also appears around the code.
- 5 **Listen.** The app reads the sign aloud: the stop, the routes, the next buses, what's in that museum room, or a product's ingredients.
- 6 **Scan again** whenever you want another code: tap back or simply point at another one.



NaviLens when you open it: the camera fills the screen. At the bottom, the Scan, History and Favourites tabs.



NaviLens GO: at the bottom you have zoom (x1, x2, x3) for far-away codes and the torch for dark places.

What the app tells you

When it detects a code, the app gives you three things: where it is, how far away, and what it says.

Where it is

A sound tells you whether the code is to your left, your right or straight ahead. When it's centred, the tone changes and the phone vibrates.

How far away

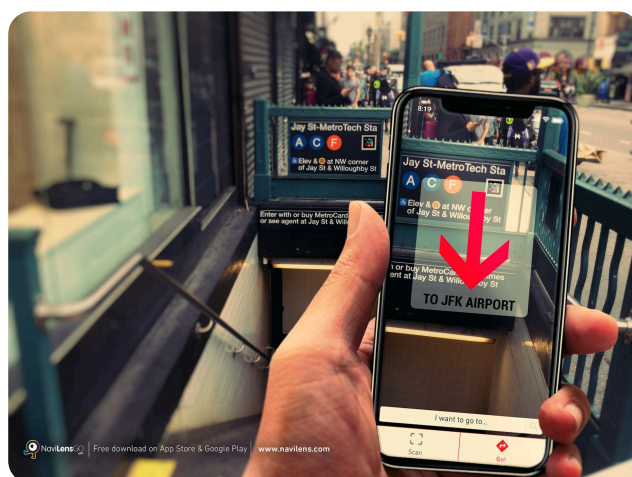
The app tells you how many metres are left to the sign. As you get closer, the number drops, so you know you're on track.

What it says

The sign's text is read aloud in your language. Where the venue provides it, the information is real-time: for example, how long until the next bus.



With **NaviLens** the text appears on screen and is read aloud. Here, a pair of jeans' label in a shop: item, colour and size, 13 centimetres from the code.



With **NaviLens GO** the information is overlaid on the camera view: arrows and labels showing you where to go. You can type where you want to go and the app guides you.

In both apps you can **save to favourites** the codes you use often, and **History** shows everything you've already scanned.

Tips to make it work better

The app detects codes from more than 30 metres away, while moving, in low light and even when the image is out of focus. These tips solve almost every problem.

If... **there's no sound**

Check that your finger or case isn't covering the camera and that the volume is up.

If... **the app won't open the camera**

Go to your phone's Settings, find NaviLens, and turn on the Camera permission.

If... **it's very dark**

In NaviLens GO, tap the lightning bolt to turn on the torch.

If... **the code is very far away**

Get a little closer or use the x2 or x3 zoom in NaviLens GO.

If... **it reads in another language**

The app uses your phone's language. Change it in the phone's settings.

If... **there are several codes at once**

That's normal: the app reads the closest one. Turn a little towards the one you want.

- No need to aim precisely or hold the mobile still. The code just has to be in the camera's view.
- It detects codes offline. For real-time information, like the next buses, you do need data or Wi-Fi.
- The app doesn't ask for an account or store your location. You don't have to worry about your data.



This is what a code looks like on the street

A white sticker with the coloured square and the NaviLens logo underneath. This one is at a bus stop in Barcelona.

Codes are usually at eye level, on the shelter, the door, or the room sign.

Where to find codes and where to get help

There are NaviLens codes in 30+ countries. You'll find them mostly in these places:

- **Public transport:** bus stops, Underground and railway stations, trams and airports. For example, London Euston, Wolverhampton bus station, Translink in Belfast and the New York subway.
- **Public buildings:** council buildings, hospitals, health centres, universities and libraries.
- **Museums and tourism:** galleries, tourist information centres and city trails.
- **Products:** cereal boxes, medicines and clothing labels. The code is printed on the packaging.



You'll also see QR codes with a coloured frame

They are **accessible QR codes**. They work with your mobile's normal camera like any QR code, and the NaviLens app also detects them from a distance and reads you what they contain.

If you need help

- **Short step-by-step videos**, in several languages: navilens.com/gb/resources/tutorials
- **Questions and contact** with the team: navilens.com/gb/contact or email hello@navilens.com
- **Know a place that should have codes?** Suggest it at navilens.com/gb/community/suggest-a-place