

Preventing Mushroom Foragers from Getting Lost: Fungipedia App Launches GPS Radar to Guide Pickers Back to Their Cars

Amid hundreds of mountain rescues every autumn due to lost foragers, the leading mycological encyclopedia redesigns its app featuring satellite navigation.

GALDAKAO, VIZCAYA, SPAIN, October 19, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A sudden rolling fog, twilight descending over a beech forest, or tracking mushrooms down a steep slope can quickly turn an idyllic day into a nightmare. Every autumn, mountain rescue teams (GREIM), regional police forces, and civil protection units assist dozens of disoriented foragers. In ravines and dense woods, cellular signal vanishes entirely, leaving standard maps useless. To solve this, Fungipedia, the benchmark mycological encyclopedia with over two decades of history, has integrated an offline vehicle return GPS radar into its mobile app, guiding users back step-by-step without cellular data or internet.

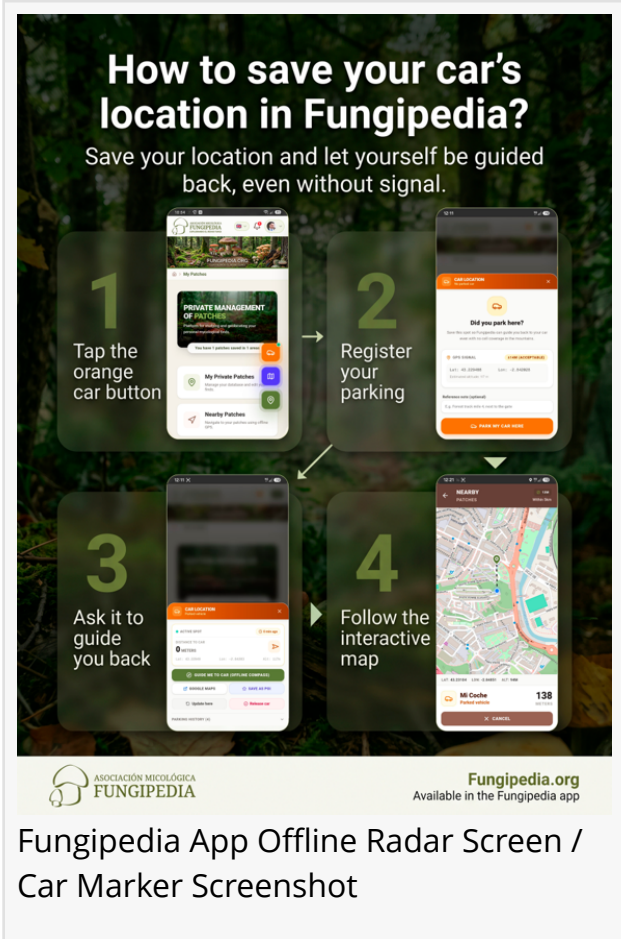
1. One Tap When Parking, Safe Return at Sunset: A Lifesaver in Your Pocket

Designed to be immediate and accessible for everyone from solo hikers to families:

One-tap marking: Before entering the forest, users tap the car icon to lock and locally store the exact satellite coordinates.

Real-time offline compass radar: When heading back, the app displays an intuitive visual compass with dynamic bearing and distance in meters, functioning seamlessly without coverage.

Mountain Points of Interest: Foragers can also pin springs, shelters, and key trail junctions to maintain complete orientation throughout their excursion.



2. Preventing Severe Poisoning: The Confusion Comparator

Mushroom poisoning is the other major autumn hazard. Intensive care admissions and emergency liver transplants recur yearly due to mistaking prized edible mushrooms for lethal species like *Amanita phalloides* (Death Cap) or *Lepiota brunneoincarnata*.

Fungipedia tackles this threat with its Confusion Comparator, placing edible species side-by-side with toxic look-alikes to highlight subtle differences in gills, ring, volva, and odor. Unlike automatic photo-ID apps that fail dangerously on wet, atypical, or immature specimens, Fungipedia prioritizes rigorous botanical criteria.

The app also connects with <https://www.fungipedia.org/en> to request community forum identifications. However, forum advice must never determine consumption; ensuring safety requires personal examination by an expert, as foragers can easily mix look-alikes within the same basket.

“In the mountains, two recurring emergencies arise each season: getting lost at sunset and confusing an edible mushroom with a poisonous one. With this app, we deliver a real solution to both: allowing enthusiasts to learn with botanical rigor and return to their vehicle safe and sound.”

— Fungipedia Mycological Association

3. Citizen Science: Opening to Collaborators and Mycologists

Founded in Galdakao 20 years ago, Fungipedia opens its platform to the broader scientific and naturalist community. Through the Collaborators Portal, mycologists, researchers, and photographers can submit findings, describe new taxa, and contribute microscopy collections under a peer-review protocol, turning Fungipedia into a major bilingual botanical science hub.

4. Global Leap: The Full Encyclopedia Translated into English

With thousands of international visitors joining mushroom tourism across Europe, Fungipedia has completed the full translation of its catalog and app into English, with regional languages planned next. Two decades of accumulated mycological expertise are now accessible worldwide.

Fungipedia at a Glance (Key Facts & Figures)

100% Offline Car GPS Locator: Compass radar guidance back to the vehicle without requiring cellular signal or mobile data.

Over 1,000 Documented Species: Comprehensive profiles featuring microscopy, fruiting seasons, habitat ecology, and edibility.

Confusion Comparator: Poisoning prevention contrasting popular edible mushrooms with deadly look-alikes.

Private Foraging Spot Database: Local storage to manage private patches, with export options in .GPX, .FGP format, or tamper-proof WhatsApp links.

International Platform: Over 12,000 registered users in Spanish and English.

Collaborators Portal: Open network hosting over 2,000 collaborative contributions from mycologists and institutions.

Availability and Download

The Fungipedia app is available on Google Play (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.codewai.fungipedia>) and via its web platform at <https://www.fungipedia.org/en>. Access to the Collaborators Portal can be requested via the [Contact url](#).

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