

PixaGEO™

Earth Photo Viewer (Windows)

October 9, 2026

With the number of disciplines that work in the field and photo document their work, it is oftentimes necessary to be able to visualize those photo locations in an earth viewer, such as ArcGIS Earth Desktop. PixaGEO affords an easy way to do just that. Uniquely simple in how it executes this task, the user simply drags and drops a single geotagged photo, or an entire folder of geotagged JPEG photos, into PixaGEO for instant opening and placement in ArcGIS Earth.

PixaGEO replaces the need to create KML files with other applications, and bypasses the “Add Data > Add Files > Select Files > Open” workflow in ArcGIS Earth to open those KML files. Nearly as fast as files can be dropped into PixaGEO, they can be displayed in ArcGIS Earth.

Clicking on the placemarks in ArcGIS Earth displays JPEG photo thumbnails. Photo thumbnails for other image formats, e.g., HEIC and DNG, are currently unsupported by ArcGIS Earth.

ArcGIS Earth has one significant advantage over Google Earth Pro, in that ArcGIS Earth recognizes and honors the orientation tag value in JPEG photos, and displays vertically oriented thumbnails upright. This is something Google Earth Pro cannot do. In addition to the thumbnail; file name, date and time, along with any existing subject content in the photo’s metadata, is displayed.

With Google Earth Pro nearing its end of life, and no longer available for download after June 25, 2027, ArcGIS Earth Desktop is looking to take over the ability to display thumbnails of locally-sourced files, which are predominate in many private and government organizations, where privacy and security are paramount, and files are sourced from local computers or servers, not from cloud infrastructures where upload and URL access is required. PixaGEO caters to the user who has locally-sourced files, and wishes to visualize their locations with utmost convenience and speed.

PixaGEO is available as a free tool, for both personal and commercial use, from:

<https://gpstamper.com/pixageo>