

GeoTrek, based on the recreational sport of geo-caching, blends adventure and technology into an exhilarating team building experience. Courses set primarily in urban settings include secret caches hidden in parks or distinctive city spots. Your team experiences the novelty of learning to use GPS devices and the excitement of locating caches.

Teams receive maps, clues, and several “on-the-go” challenges. After a brief GPS lesson, you’re ready to develop your plan for success. Each team chooses the caches it will attempt to locate based on point values, distances, and your team’s strategy (fewer “big ticket” caches or many smaller caches).

GeoTrek can include long hikes, or a series of short walks to get to the caches, depending on your group’s objectives, and many cities offer public transportation (including taxis) that can greatly increase the distances covered in this team building adventure.



## Benefits

- Enables each team to determine and develop their own strategy and roles as they choose their route and pace while striking a balance between planning & execution.
- Connects workplace analogies such as “plotting a course,” and “charting new territory.”
- Integrates technology and human intuition, which parallel the divergent yet equally necessary components of most workplaces.
- Spurs participants to explore an urban locale together (especially fun for out-of-town visitors).
- Aligns with organizational competencies around: teamwork, cross-functional thinking, influence and impact, transferring knowledge, drive and persistence.



## Blend with Corporate Training

Our [Stages of Team Development](#) and [Emotional Intelligence](#) workshops complement GeoTrek because small teams must quickly form and then perform at a high level.

## Nuts & Bolts

- Outdoor
- 3-4 hours
- Team size of 4; group size of 200 or more
- Medium fitness suggested
- Site Specific: GeoTrek courses are set in 75 cities nationwide

## Introduction

Here's the challenge: use gps coordinates, effective planning and a little luck to accrue maximum points. Many of our GeoTrekks incorporate only walking through a city, others integrate transport options such as taxi or subway. (approximately 5 minutes)



## Roles and Goals

Each small team comprises people with various strengths; this is the opportunity to determine how to maximize that diversity. Team members share how they can contribute to the endeavor and then the team agrees on goals. Goals often include developing a plan and determining how to make decisions along the way, learning something new about each other or having fun enjoying the city. (approximately 15 minutes)

## Instructions and Supplies

A short lesson on GPS use and map reading supplement an overview of the tools/supplies provided. Each team receives a backpack and a list of coordinates to find. (approximately 25 minutes)

## GeoTrek Hunt

Each team chooses the caches they wish to locate, then follows clues as well as coordinates. Together they learn that teams often have to "chart new territory" whether in a natural or work environment. In this timed event, they'll have to strategize the best way to spend their precious minutes: do they set their sights on the close, easy to find cache or take the risk of heading further out for the high-value cache? Together the teams make decisions on the fly and adjust their strategy moment-to-moment. (approximately 2.75 hours)

## Debrief

As all teams reconvene, everyone enjoys sharing the highlights from the day as the experiences for each team are varied. Usually we hear about funny moments, unexpected obstacles and how the teams overcame them. Depending on your goals, our facilitator guides the discussion to coaching best practices, dealing with frustration or how leadership skills were exemplified. Taking the fun experience and applying learning back to the work environment provides valuable insights. (approximately 15 minutes)

## Scoring

GeoTrek ends with an animated facilitator-led self-scoring process. Everyone enjoys the cheers or sighs as each team acknowledges its success. (approximately 15 minutes)

