

The iTouch Guide

Audio & Video Guide

The iPod Touch has a number of features that is ideal for displaying personal interpretation including an extremely easy to use touch screen, large on-board memory and a very clear screen. By adding the casing, software and alarms it becomes an extremely adaptable and versatile iTouch Guide.

The iTouch Guide is a handheld device that allows visitors to independently walk around museums, galleries and visitor attractions, and listen to an audio and multimedia commentary. The visitor is completely in control and can walk around at their own pace.

The iTouch Guide is generally worn with a neck strap and headphones, to give the visitor easy hands-free listening.

Major Features

- Utilises iPod Touch
- Tough and robust ABS plastic case
- Integrated alarm solutions
- Talking Guides App Software



Operation

At a very basic level, by entering a number on the on-screen keypad the visitor can play a track but much more is available and the screen can be customised to suit, displaying play pictures or video associated with the track, maps, routes, highlights, podcasts and games.

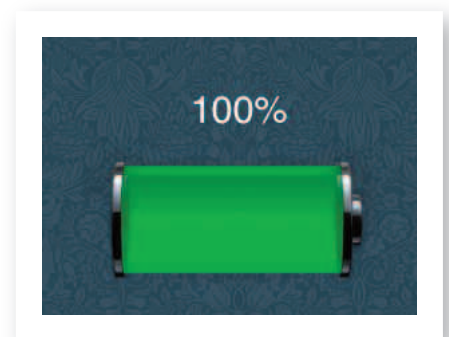
The Casing

The iTouch Guide case from ATS is made of a toughened ABS plastic with tamper proof screws, which, by design, limits access to the two main control buttons on the iPod Touch. This means that the average visitor will be unaware that they are using an iPod Touch and an iPod App. The unit is switched on with a special key that accesses the power button but removes access to the Home button meaning that the visitor does not stray from using your App until the unit is turned off.



Flexible Design

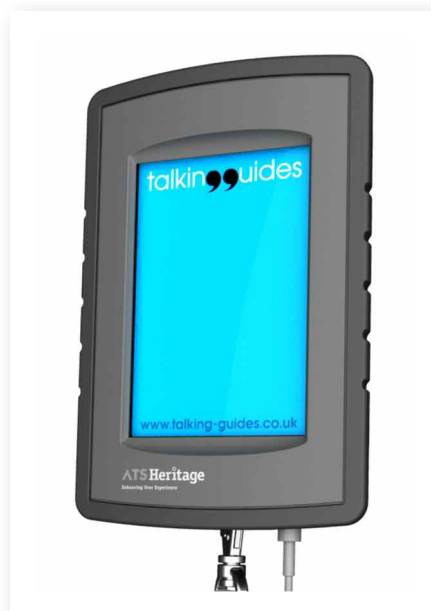
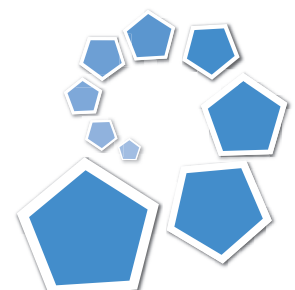
The casing is in 3 parts: a front facia, a rugged rubber section to cushion the iPod Touch, and a choice of two case backs: Slimback or Extended depending on the alarm choice taken. It is possible to attach a lanyard to the case in either landscape or portrait format but we generally find that portrait is more flexible.



Charging

There are different charging options; from small number charging via a USB hub to 50 unit multi-chargers fitted in rack mounts.

While the units are mounted in the racks they provide an indication of charging levels, making it easy for staff to select fully charged units.



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Alarm System

The major disadvantage of using this commercial device is that it is valuable and may be targeted by thieves who see an opportunity of stealing the unit; therefore ATS have developed a number of solutions to deal with this issue.

- 1. Passive Sensor** – Using the **Slimback Case** it is possible to insert a unique passive sensor that can be logged against scanned Visitor ID using our **iTouch Guide Desk Manager**. If a visitor leaves without returning their guide their ID can be used to track them down.
The sensor can also be used in conjunction with Alarm Gates.
- 2. Active RFID tag** – Using the **Extended Case** it is possible to enclose an active tag (2 varieties) that will trigger an alarm once activated and is ideal to lock down an exit or entrance area. This is the most effective approach.



Slimback Case



Extended Case

Need an App?

ATS can provide a museum, gallery or heritage site with a number of options when it comes to their App. They can use the same App that is published on the App store or they can have an App solely created for the Museum. They can even have an App that collects its data from a local server making it possible for you to manage your own content.

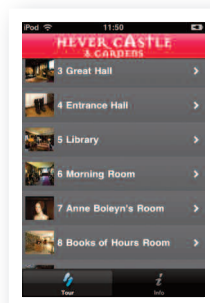
ATS can manage income from the App on your behalf or set you up to manage your own application.

Below and to the right are screen shots that illustrate some of the options available:



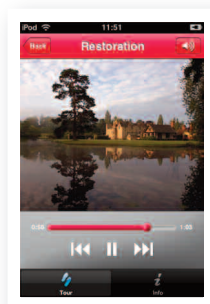
1. Home Page

Just enter a number to play a track.



2. List Based Home Page

Where the user can select their tour point from a list. Perfect for linear tours.



3. Playback Page

Includes all the standard controls and a progress bar. Images can appear synchronised with audio.



4. Information Page

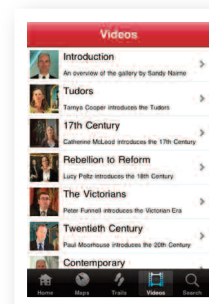
To house details such as opening hours, special events etc.



5. Map Page

To show the location of stop numbers and help the user navigate the tour.

Points can be selected to play from this page.



6. Video Selection

Where added value video material is provided on the guide.

