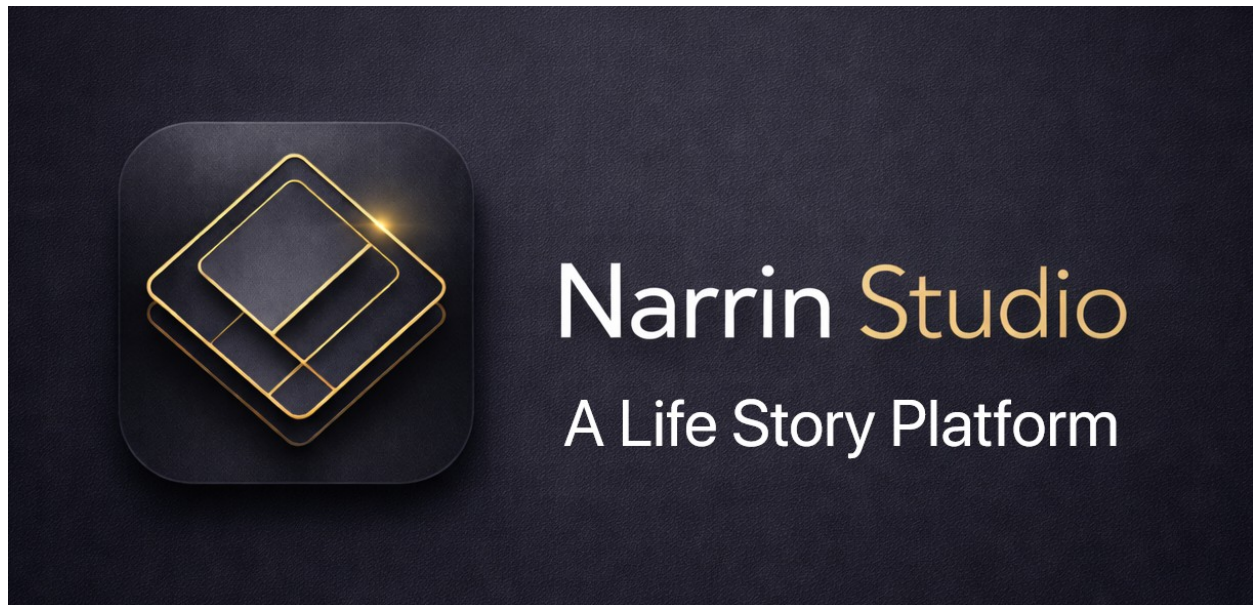


NARRIN

Narrin Studio and Narrin View



User Manual

Windows, macOS, Web, Android and iOS

Expanded platform edition

October 5, 2026

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About this manual. Narrin Studio covers Windows and macOS desktops, Web browsers, Android tablets and phones, and iPad and iPhone. Narrin View covers Android tablets and phones, and iPad and iPhone. Chapters 1 to 9 describe Studio; chapter 10 describes View. Mobile Studio includes viewing functionality, with phone layouts adapted to smaller screens. Select means click with a mouse or tap on a touch screen. Control placement and available photo sources vary by platform. The existing Studio illustrations show Windows. Demonstration images use the Alex Demo Library and its sample family.

1. Getting Started

Narrin Studio brings photos, memory context, maps, rendered images, and slideshows together in a shared Library.

Sign in or create an account

1. Open Narrin Studio.
2. Enter your email address and password, then select Sign in.
3. To create an account, select Sign up, complete the form, and use the confirmation email to activate the account.
4. Use Resend confirmation if needed. Use Forgot password? to request a password reset.



Signed-out Narrin Studio workspace.

Choose a Library

After you sign in, choose a Library from the Library selector in the top bar. A Library contains its shared photos, memory context, maps, settings, and member access. Switch Libraries whenever you need to work with another collection.

Note: Depending on your subscription, you may only see one library.

Organize a starter folder or album

Organize your photos into folders or albums so you can easily find them for import and return to the same collection later. Reopen it in Gallery to change Memory Context assignments, add more photos to your Library, or remove unwanted Library entries such as duplicates.

For your first session, choose a small collection of photos from one event or occasion, such as a birthday, vacation, or weekend trip. Create the folder or album outside Narrin in your preferred photo app or storage service, give it a clear name, and add a few related photos.

Avoid starting with a random selection of unrelated photos. You also do not need to sort photos into separate folders or albums for each person or activity. Narrin helps you make those connections through Memory Context.

For example, create an album called “Marla’s 4th Birthday” with photos from the birthday party. Include different guests and activities, such as playing in the yard, eating together, and blowing out the candles. Keep these photos together as one occasion.

Open your starter folder or album in Narrin’s Gallery, then follow the import steps below. See chapter 11 for more guidance, including the difference between albums and folders.

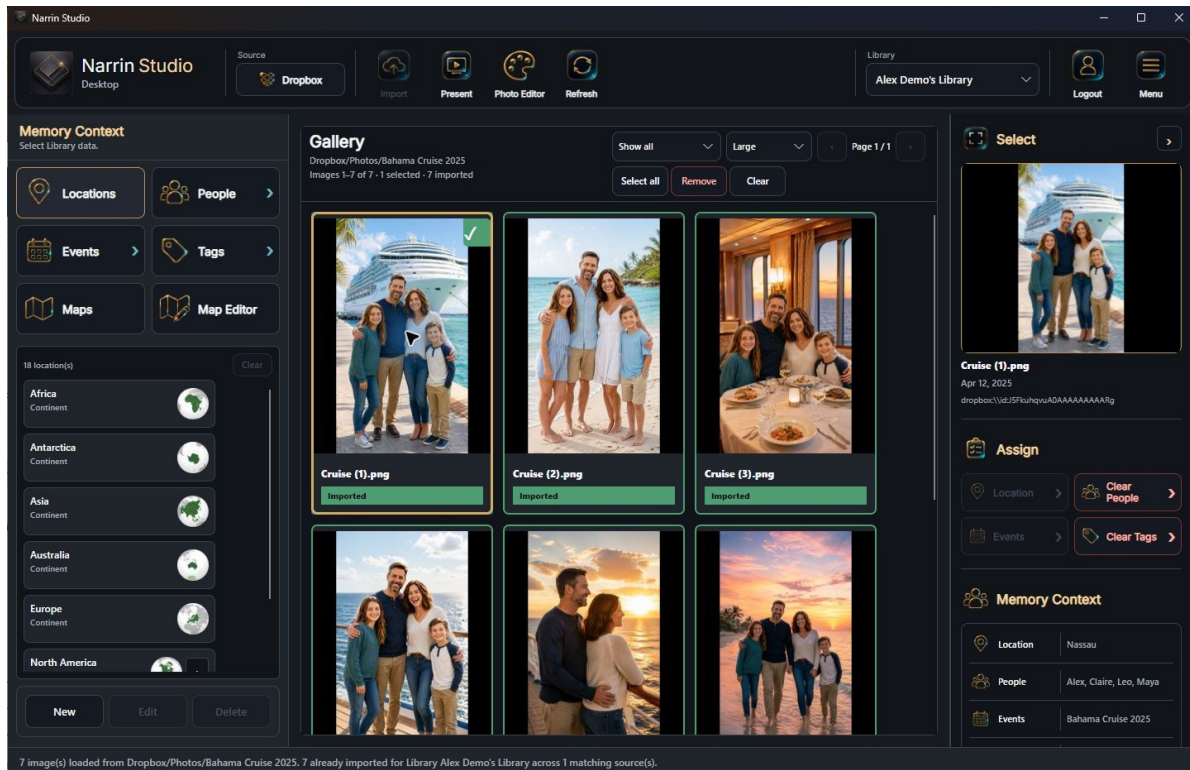
Import your first photos

1. Choose a source in the top-bar Source selector.
2. For a folder-based source, browse to the folder and select Use this folder. For Google Photos, make the selection in its browser picker. When Apple or Google asks for photo-access permission during connection or authentication, Narrin requires Full Access. Choose Full Access when prompted.
3. Wait for Gallery thumbnails and their import status to appear.
4. Select one or more images and choose Import.

Originals stay where they are. Importing adds a photo to the active Library. It does not move or delete the original source image.

Understand the workspace

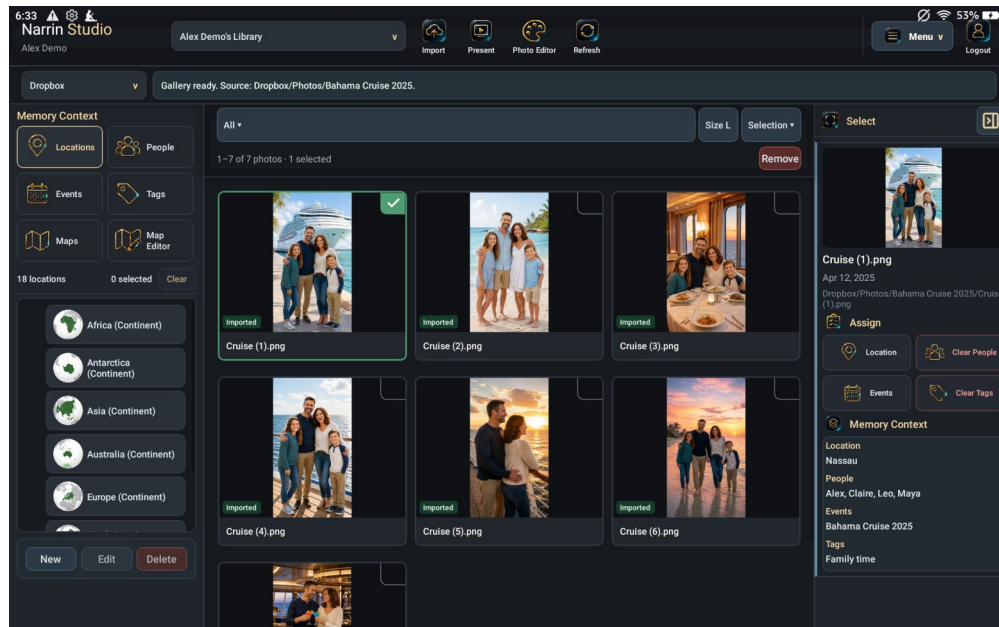
- Memory Context at left: locations, people, events, tags, maps, and Map Editor.
- Gallery in the center: source images and their import status.
- Select and Assign at right: selected-photo details and Memory Context assignments. Photo Editor and Present are in the top bar.



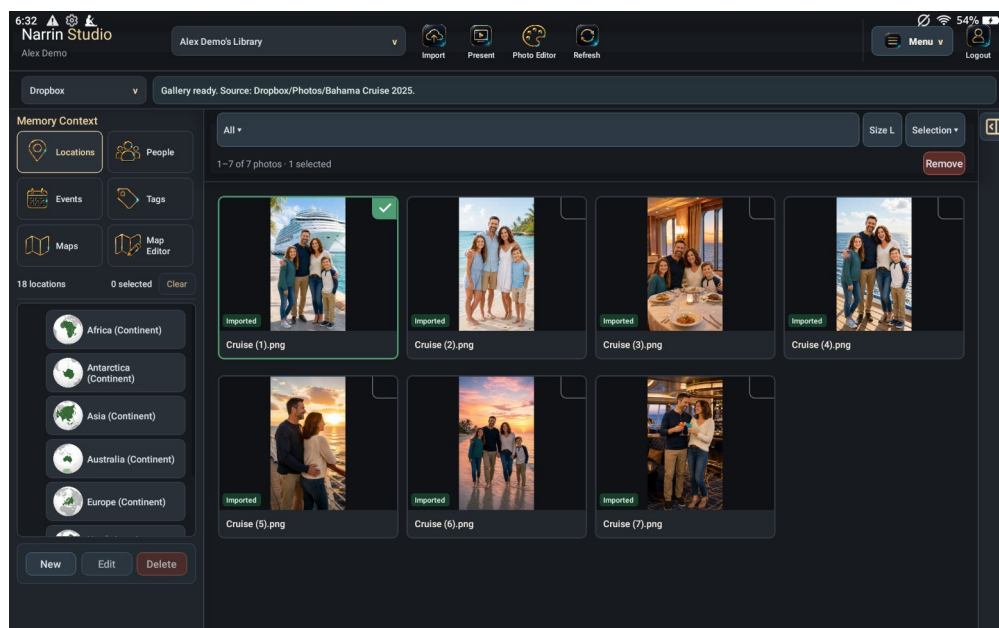
Windows workspace with Memory Context, Gallery, Select and Assign, and the top-bar Photo Editor and Present controls.

Make more room for the Gallery

On Android tablets, tap the arrow at the upper right of the Select panel to collapse the right panel. The Gallery expands into the space. This is useful when screen width is limited, especially on smaller screens or in portrait mode. Tap the arrow at the right edge to reopen Select and Assign. Your photo selection stays selected.



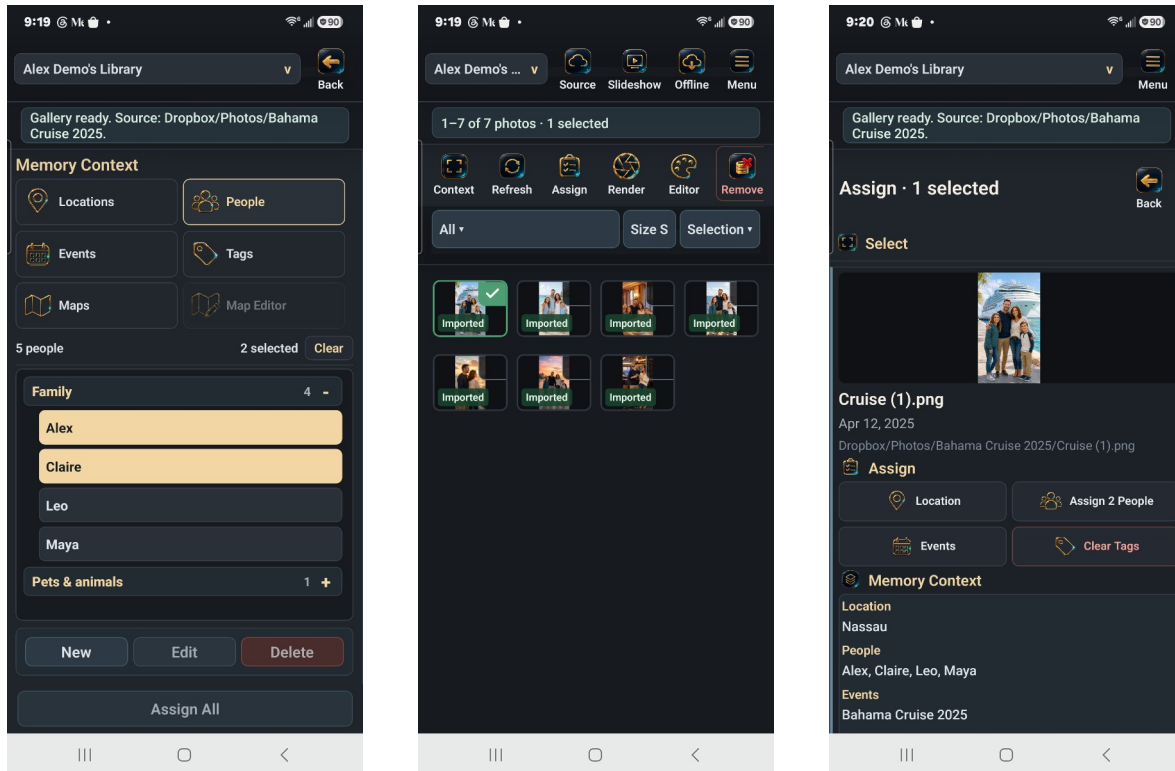
Android tablet with the right panel open. The collapse arrow is beside Select.



The same landscape workspace with the right panel collapsed. The Gallery now fits four columns; the arrow at the right edge reopens the panel.

Android phone workspace

On a phone, Studio shows one workspace panel at a time: Memory Context, Gallery, or Assign. In Gallery, tap Context to open the left Memory Context panel. Select an imported photo and tap Assign to open its details and assignment controls. Use Back in either panel to return to Gallery.



Android phone, left to right: Memory Context, Gallery, and the separate Assign panel.

The top-bar actions also adapt to the phone: Source opens the source selector, Slideshow opens slideshow creation, Offline opens saved slideshows, and Menu provides the other application actions. Assign, Render, Editor (Photo Editor), and Remove are contextual icons: they appear only when imported Library images are selected in Gallery. Render and Editor require exactly one selected image. With no images selected, these icons are hidden.

These portrait examples use Alex Demo on a Samsung Android phone running Studio 0.40.6 (build 161). They illustrate the compact phone layout; the tablet and desktop layouts remain separate examples.

2. Sources and Gallery

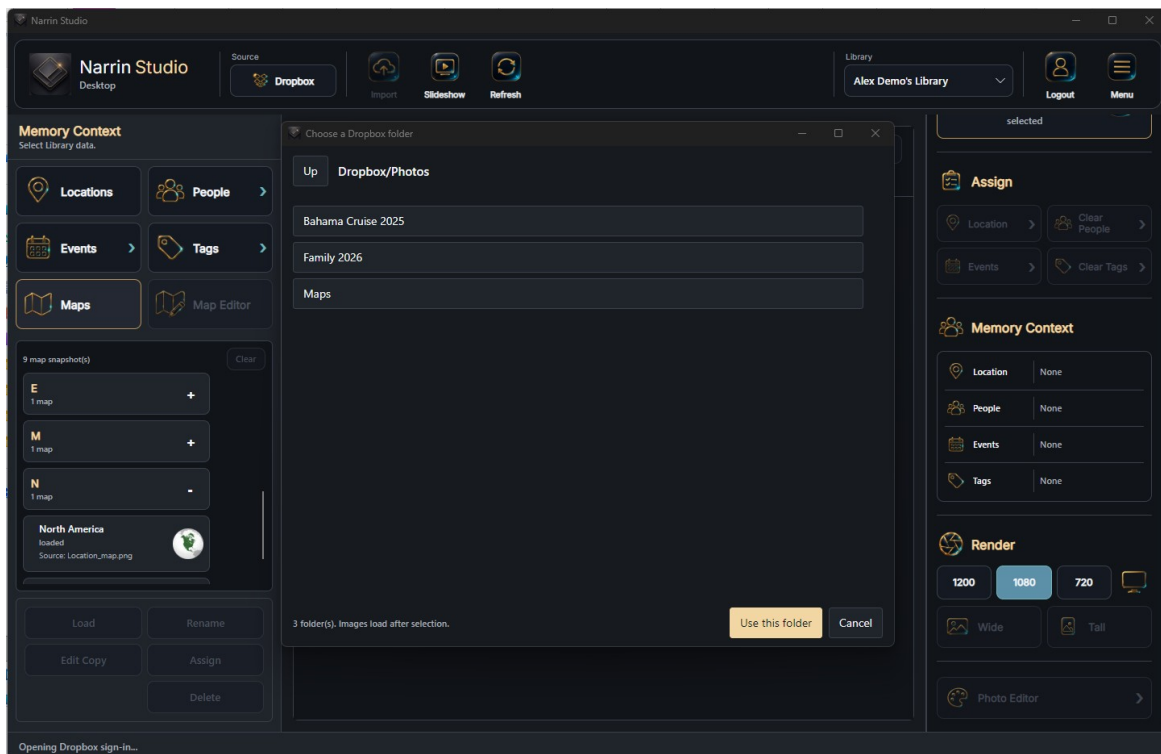
Choose the source that contains the photos you want to browse. Narrin supports Local Folder, OneDrive, Google Drive, Google Photos, Apple Photos, Apple iCloud, and Dropbox.

Note: The available source depends on your platform. Apple Photos and Apple iCloud are only available on Apple devices (Mac, iPad, and iPhone). Google Photos are only available on Android or Windows platforms.

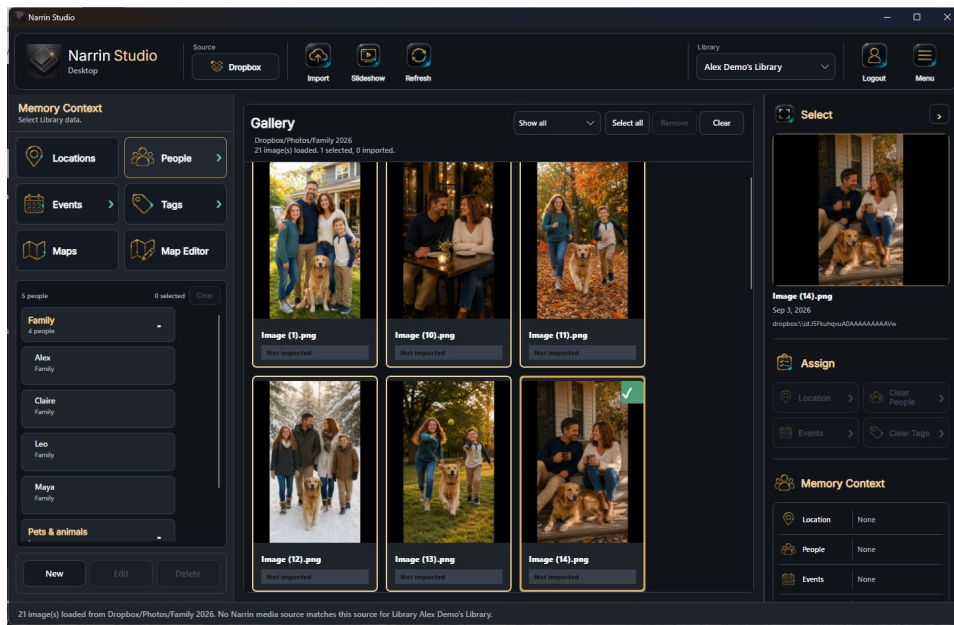
Choose and browse a source

1. Choose a source from the top-bar Source selector.
2. For a folder-based source, browse to the desired folder. When Apple or Google asks for photo-access permission during connection or authentication, Narrin requires Full Access. Choose Full Access when prompted.
3. Select Use this folder when you reach the folder you want.
4. For a cloud source, complete browser sign-in when Narrin asks you to.

Narrin shows photos in the folder you choose. It does not automatically include photos in subfolders.



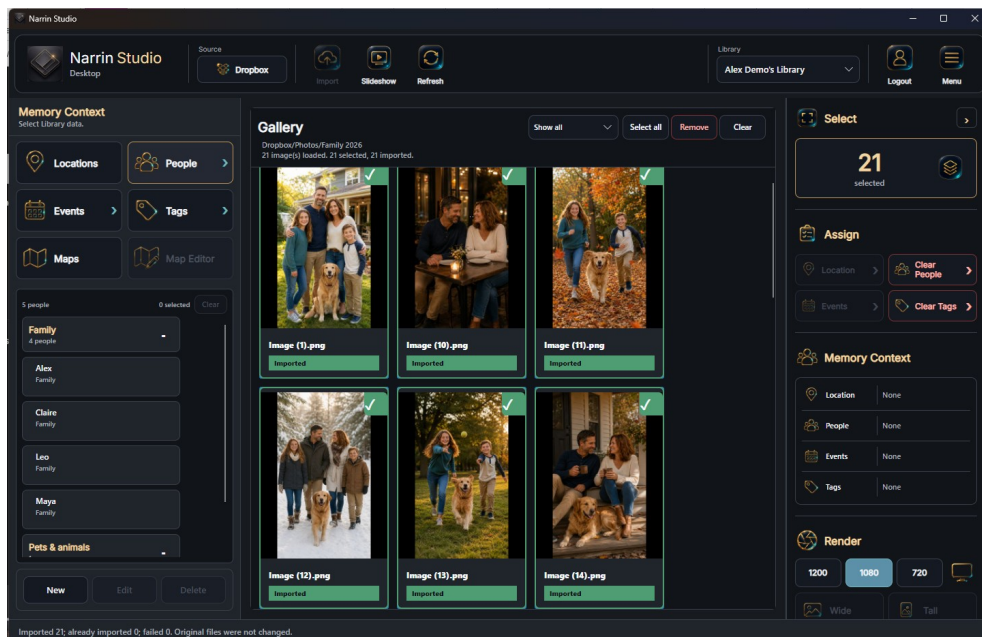
Choose the source and browse to the folder that contains the photos you want.



Photos from the selected source folder appear in the Gallery.

Import Gallery photos

1. Select the photos you want to add to the active Library.
2. Choose Import.
3. Use Select all to select the currently shown Gallery photos.
4. Use Refresh to reread the current source folder.

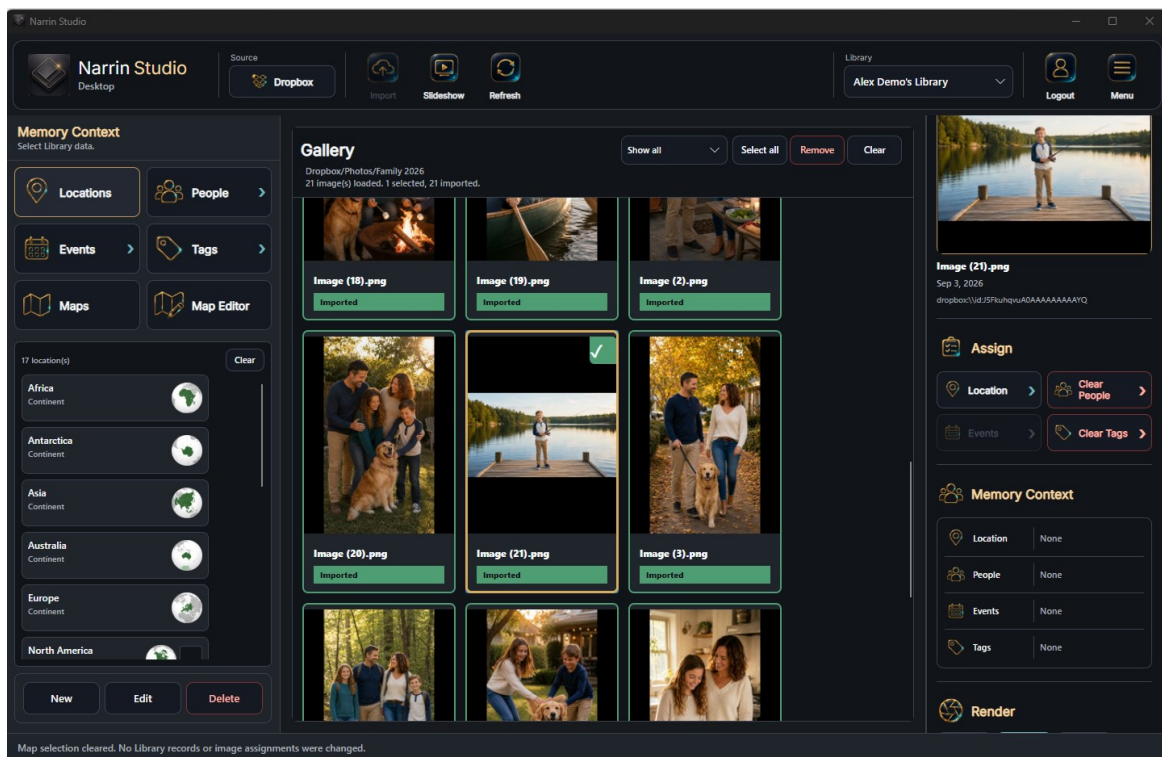


Imported photos are shown in the Gallery for the active Library.

Remove a Library photo

1. Select one or more imported photos in the Gallery.
2. Choose Remove.
3. Confirm the removal when prompted.

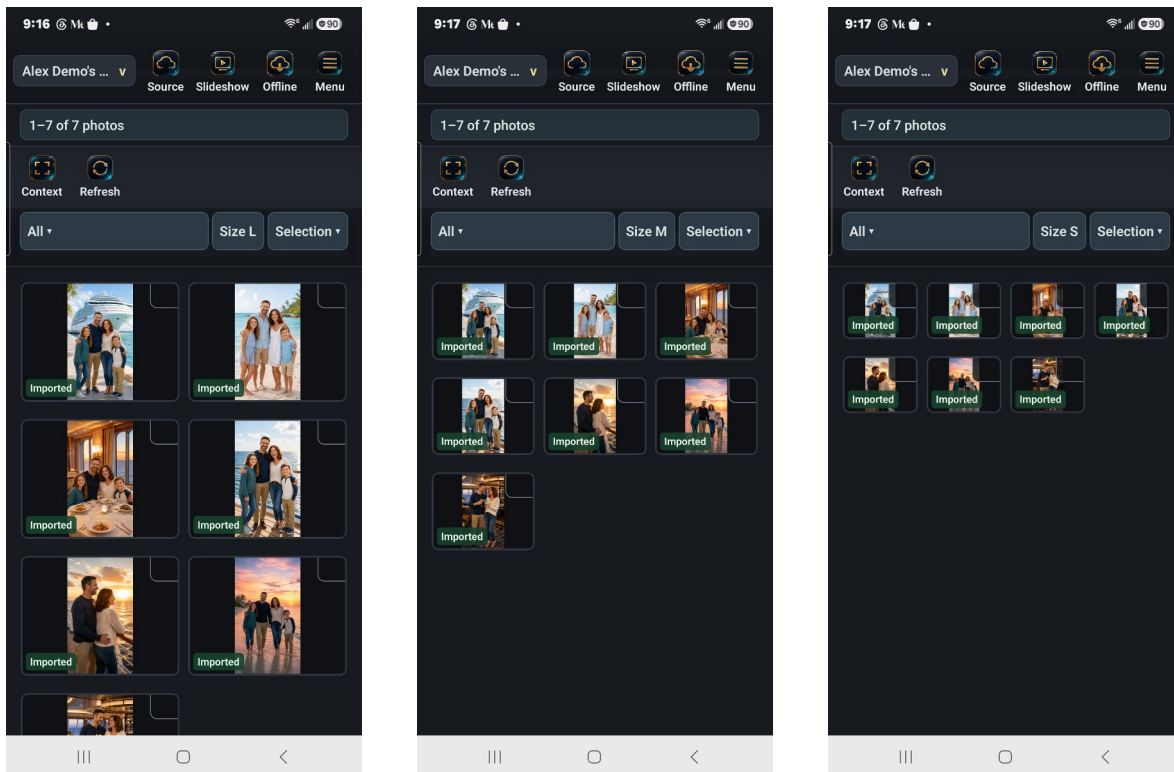
Removing is Library-only. A photo removed from a Library remains in its original source folder. Narrin also attempts to remove related rendered images.



Select an imported photo before choosing Remove.

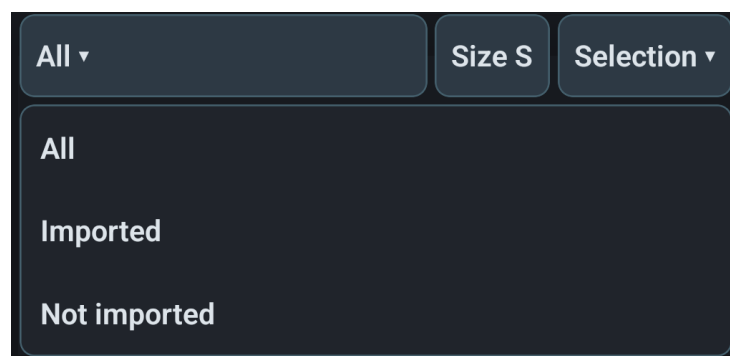
Android phone Gallery controls

Tap the Size button to cycle through L, M and S thumbnail sizes. Larger thumbnails show more detail; smaller thumbnails fit more photos on screen. This changes the Gallery display, not the original images.



The same seven photos at Size L, Size M and Size S, from left to right.

Open the Gallery filter to show All images, Imported images, or Not imported images. The Imported badge identifies photos already added to the Library.



Phone Gallery import-status choices. Cropped detail from the portrait capture.

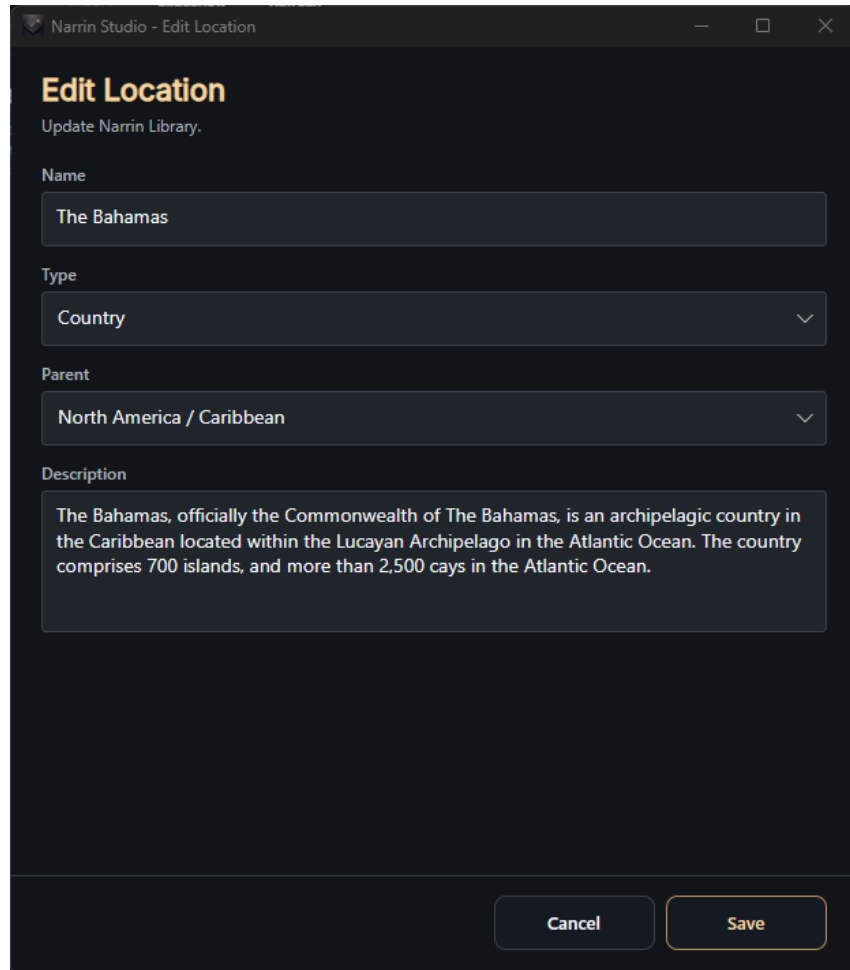
A Gallery with more than 200 images is split into pages of up to 200 images. Use the page controls to move between pages. Selection > Select page selects the current page; Clear selection removes the selection. Select the photos you need on each page before a combined assignment.

3. Memory Context and Maps

Memory Context helps make photos searchable and meaningful. You can assign locations, people, events, and tags to selected imported Gallery photos.

Create locations

Locations can form a parent-child hierarchy. The location form uses Name and Type, with optional Parent and Description. Choose the hierarchy that is useful for your family.



Edit Location
Update Narrin Library.

Name
The Bahamas

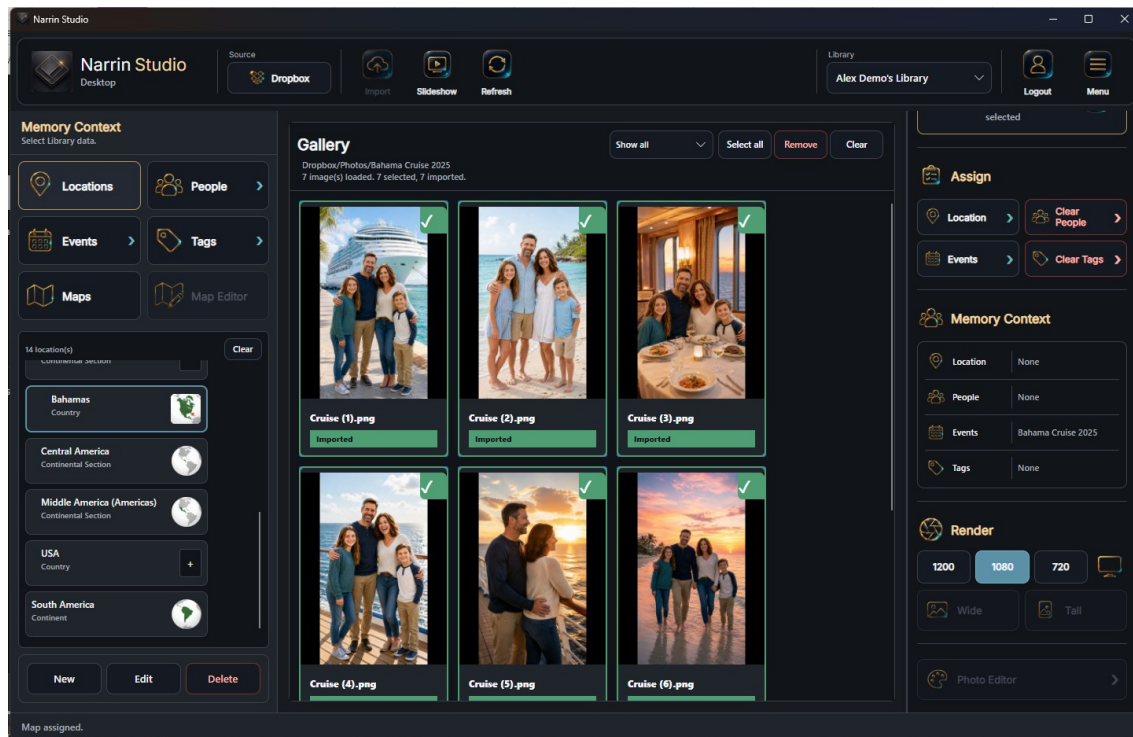
Type
Country

Parent
North America / Caribbean

Description
The Bahamas, officially the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, is an archipelagic country in the Caribbean located within the Lucayan Archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean. The country comprises 700 islands, and more than 2,500 cays in the Atlantic Ocean.

Cancel Save

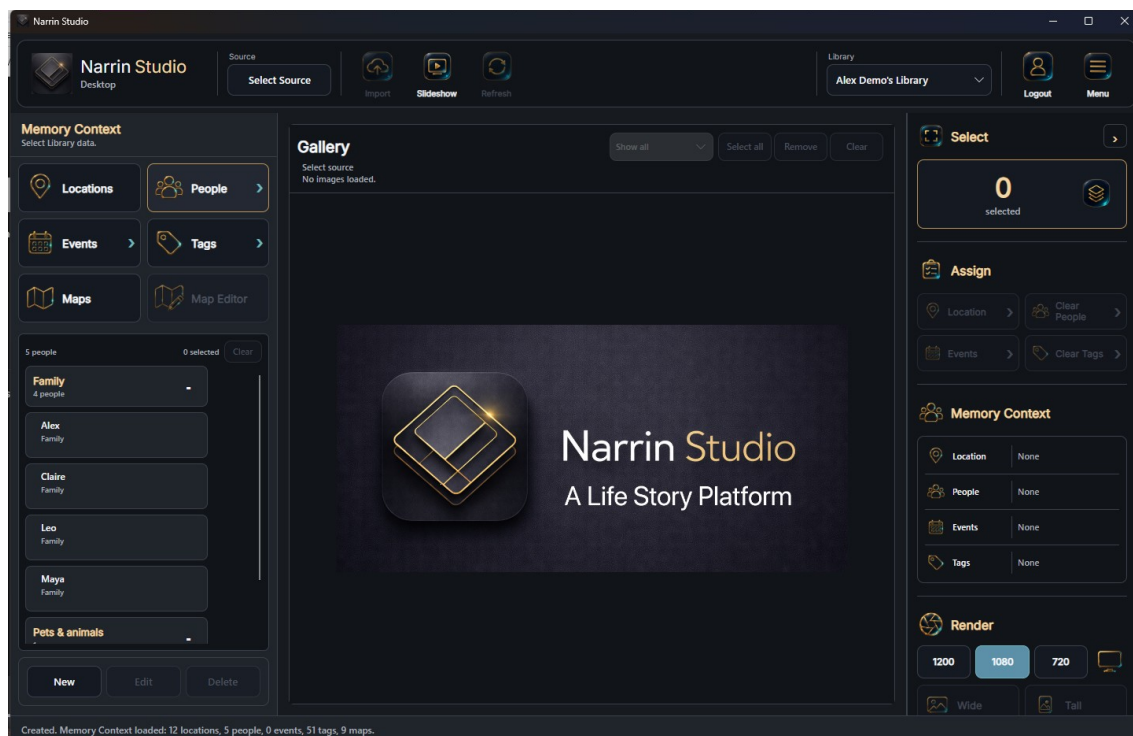
Create a location using its name, type, optional parent, and optional description.



A location hierarchy can organize related places.

Create people, events, and tags

People and Tags can have more than one assignment per photo. Location and Event are single assignments. When you create or edit an event date, type YYYY-MM-DD or choose a date with the calendar button.

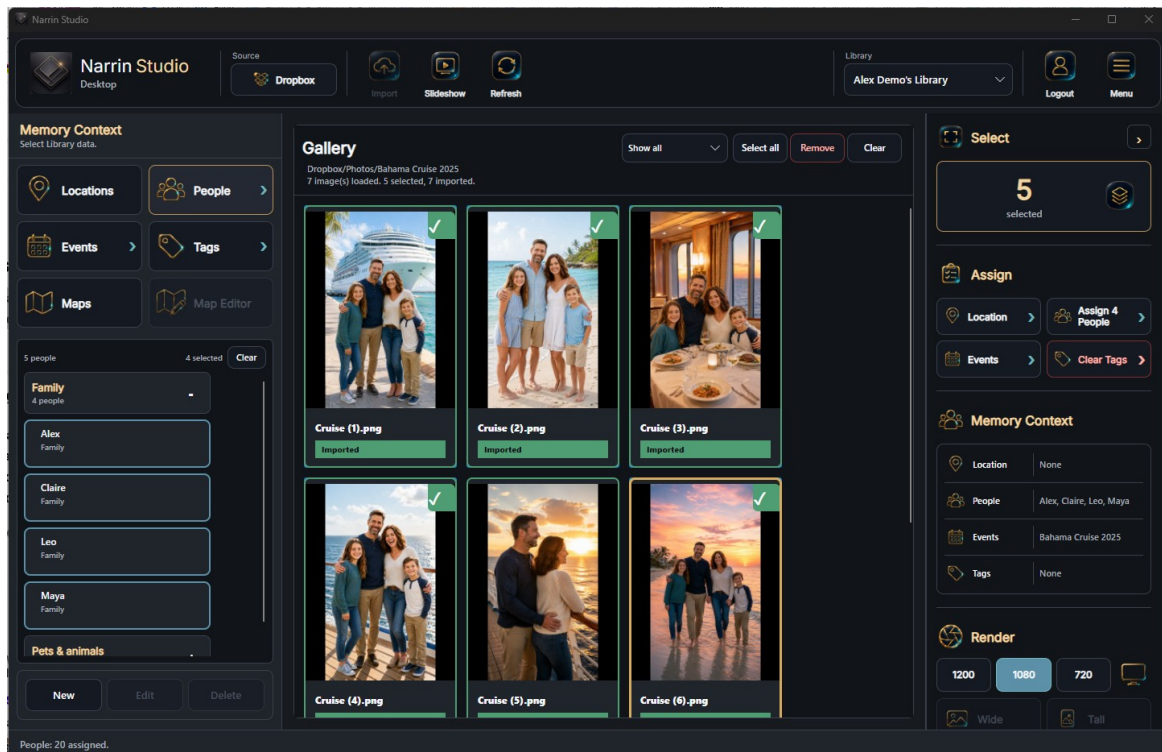


The Alex Demo Library people list, used here as demonstration content.

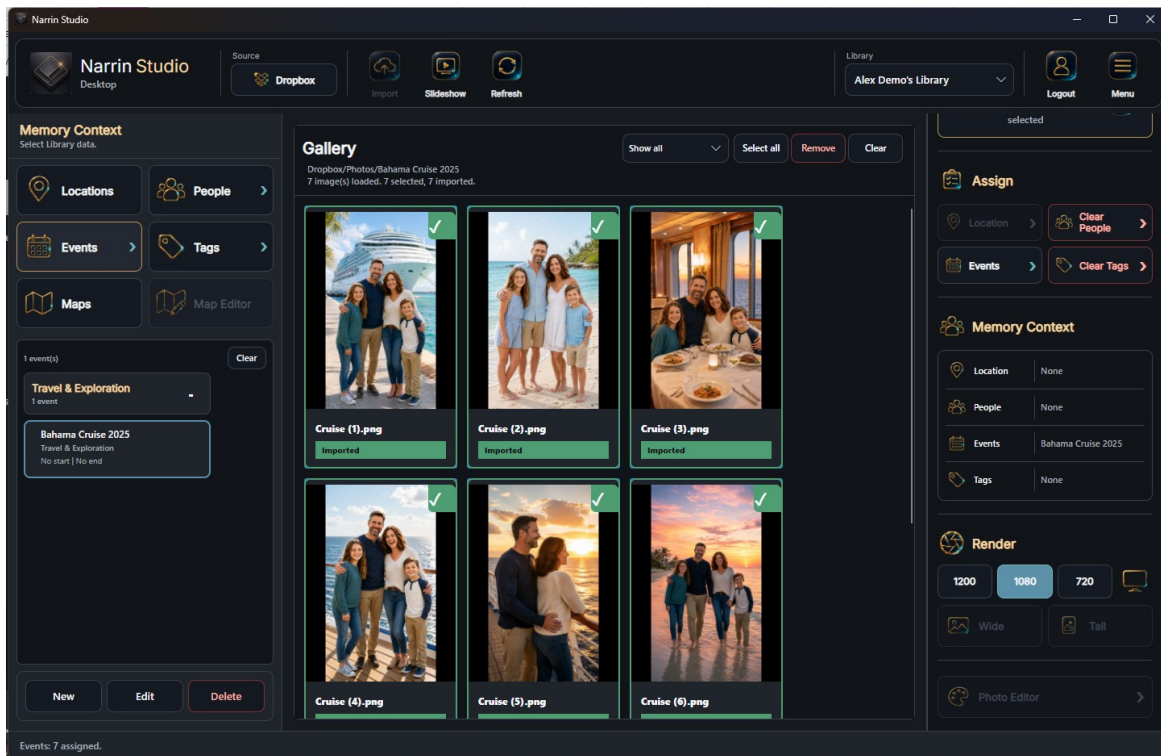
Assign context to selected photos

1. Select one or more imported Gallery photos.
2. Choose the location, event, people, or tags in Memory Context.
3. Use the matching assignment button in the right panel.

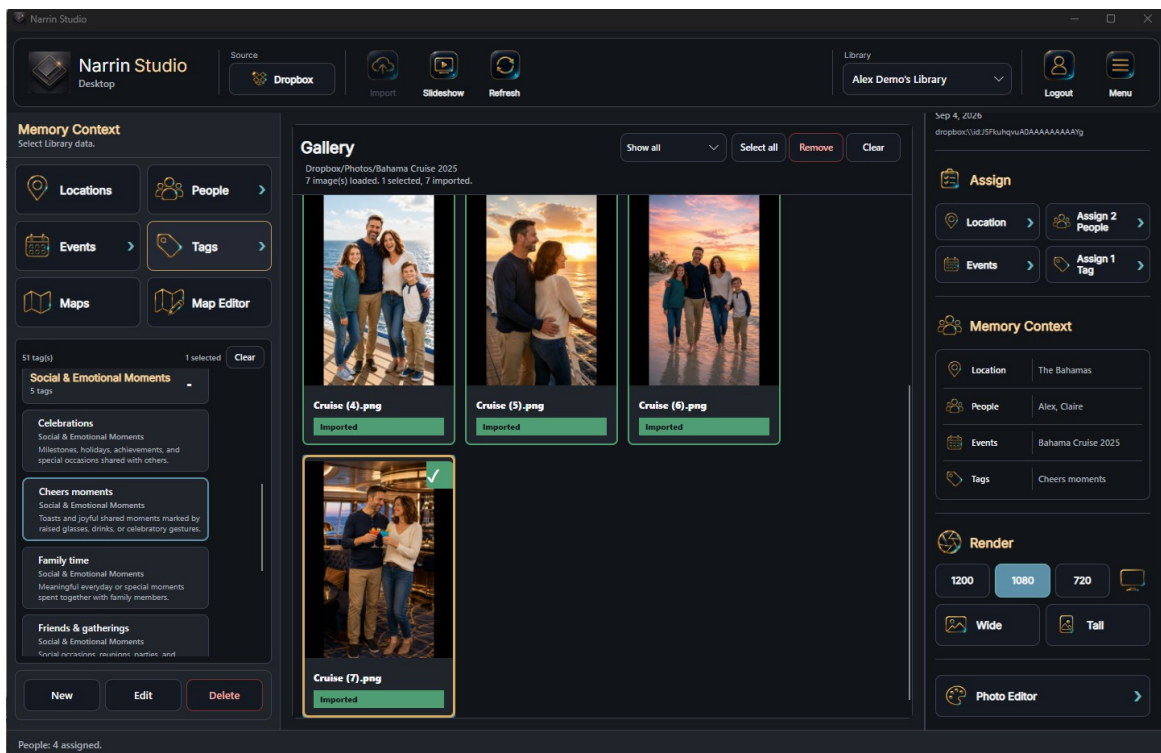
With multiple photos selected, Location and Event show Variety when the selected values differ. People and Tags show common values followed by + when more values exist on only part of the selection. None means no selected photo has that kind of context.



People assigned to selected demonstration photos.



An event assigned to selected demonstration photos.

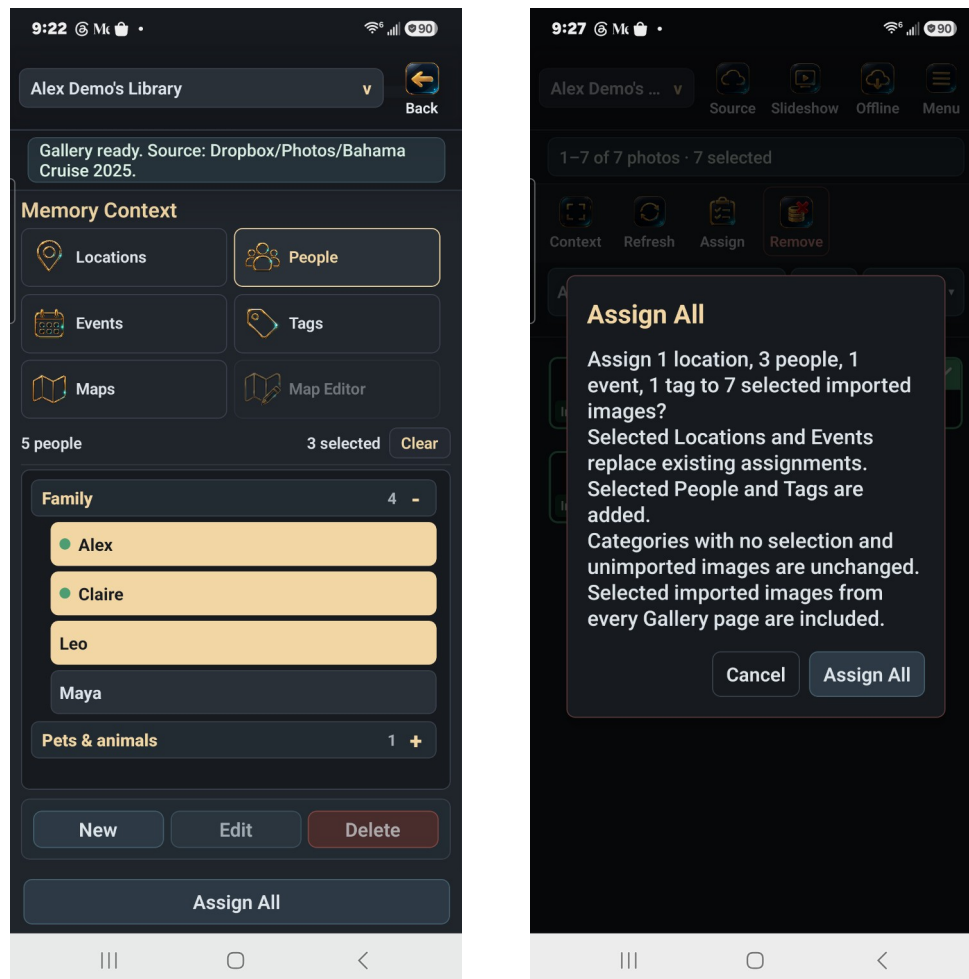


Location, event, people, and tags can provide context for a photo.

Assign all selected Memory Context on Android phones

Select the imported photos in Gallery, then tap Context. Choose the Location, People, Events and Tags you want to apply. Selections remain available as you move between context categories. Assign All at the bottom becomes available when both context and imported images are selected and you have online editing access.

Tap Assign All. Studio returns to Gallery and asks you to confirm the context counts and number of selected imported images. Review the summary, then choose Assign All to apply it or Cancel to leave the images unchanged. The action includes selected imported images across every page of the current filtered Gallery; it does not select every image automatically.



Phone Memory Context and the counted confirmation shown after tapping Assign All.

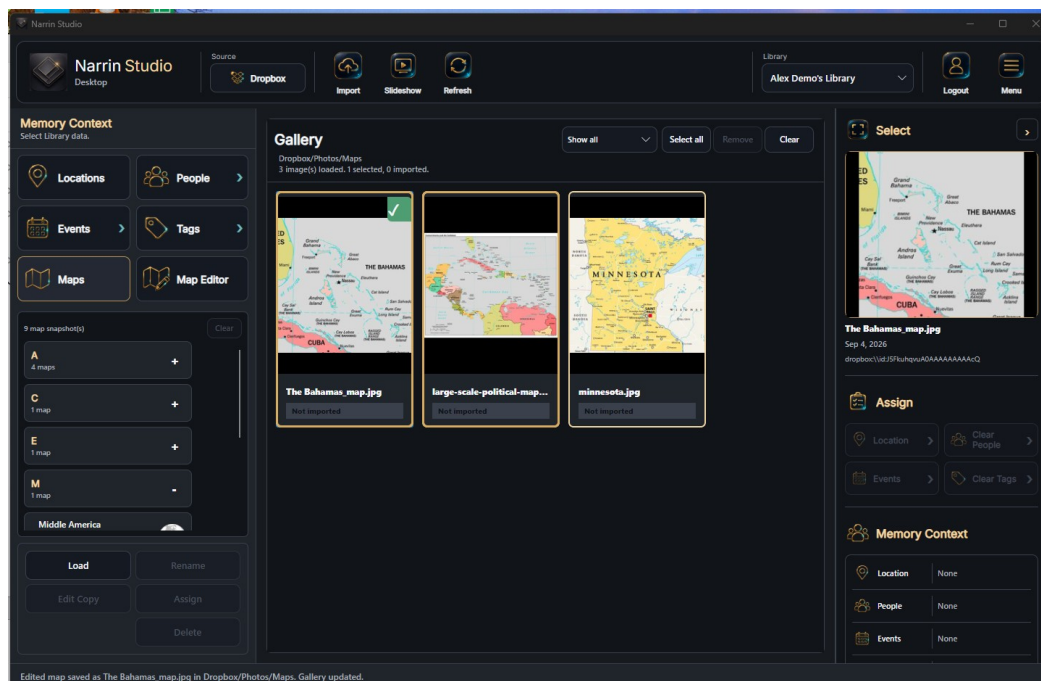
Selected Locations and Events replace their existing assignments. For multiple target images, selected People and Tags are added to existing assignments; for one target image, they replace existing assignments. Categories with no selected context, unselected images and unimported images are left unchanged. Read the confirmation before applying changes.

Assign a loaded map to the matching location.

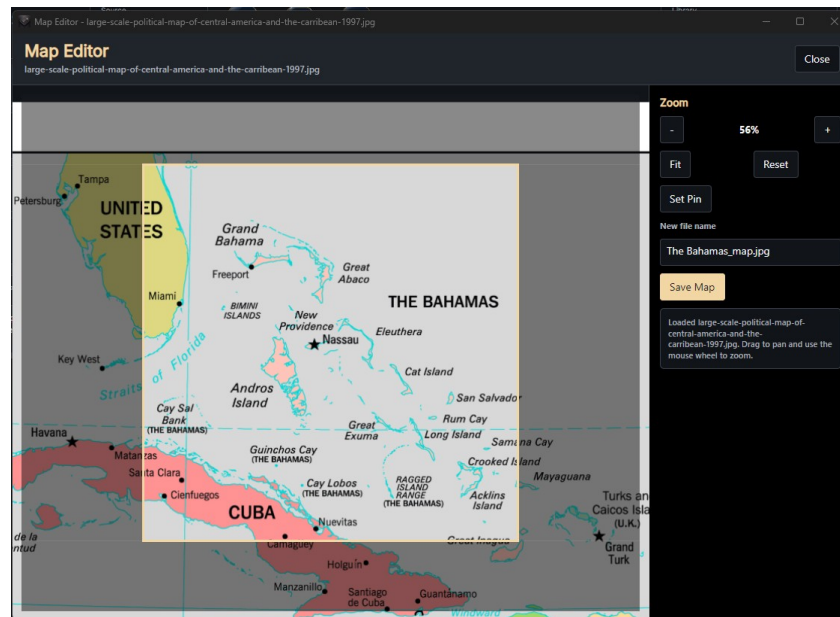
Use Map Editor

Narrin's maps require a 500x500 pixel resolution. The build in Map Editor allows to load any map in jpeg or png format, modify (pan, zoom, and set a pin) the original map and save it in the required format.

1. Choose a source in the top-bar Source selector.
2. Select a map that you would like to modify.
Note: The map editor can open any image – it doesn't have to be map (it could be a cabin or fishing boot picture, too).
3. Choose Map Editor to open the selected map.
4. Zoom / Pan the map until the center square shows the desired map.
5. Use the "Set Pin" button to create a pin if needed.
6. Drag the pin to it's destination.
7. Set a file name for the new map.
8. Then save the map.



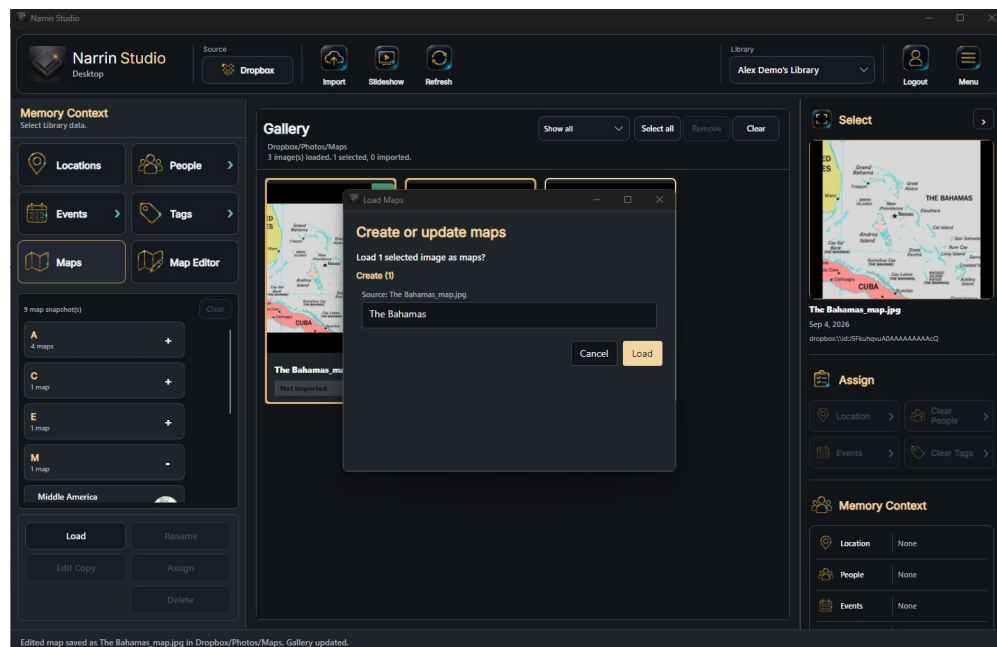
A map ready to load from the Maps list.



Map Editor with a loaded map ready for changes

Load a map into the library

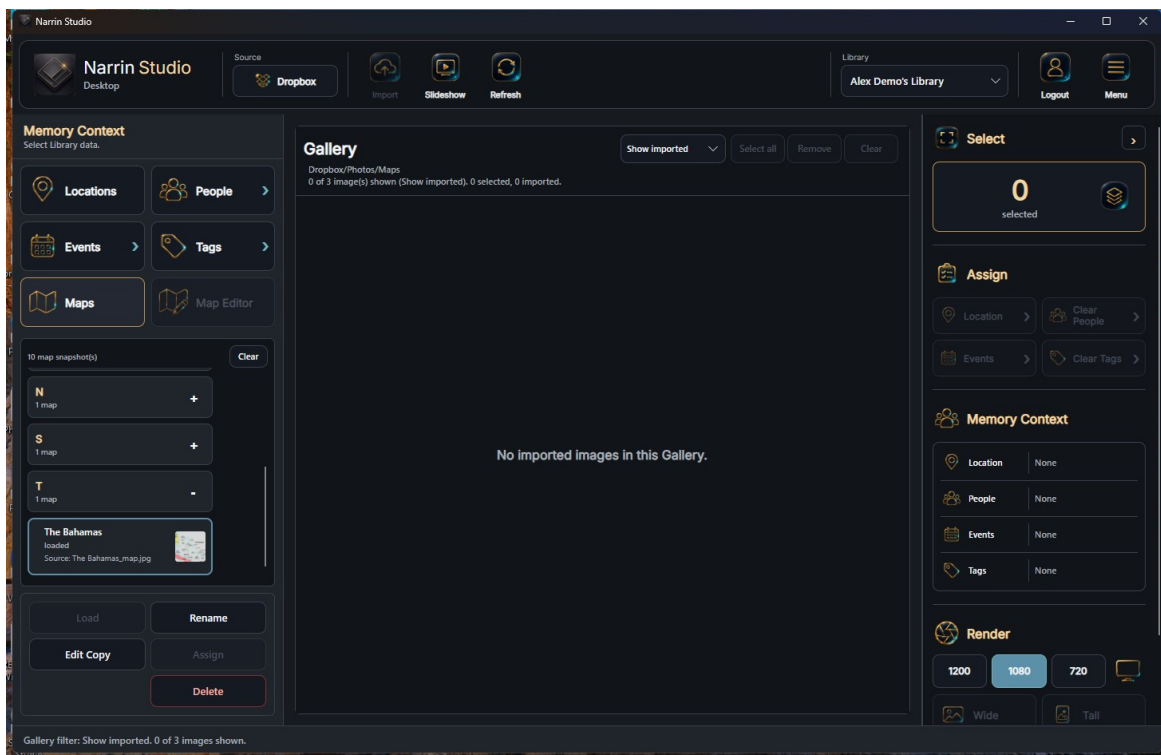
1. Choose a source in the top-bar Source selector.
2. Select a map from the Gallery that you would load into the library
Note: The map requires a 500x500 pixel resolution
3. Choose Maps and Load to create or update a map
4. You can give your map a Name
5. Choose Load to update or create a new Map



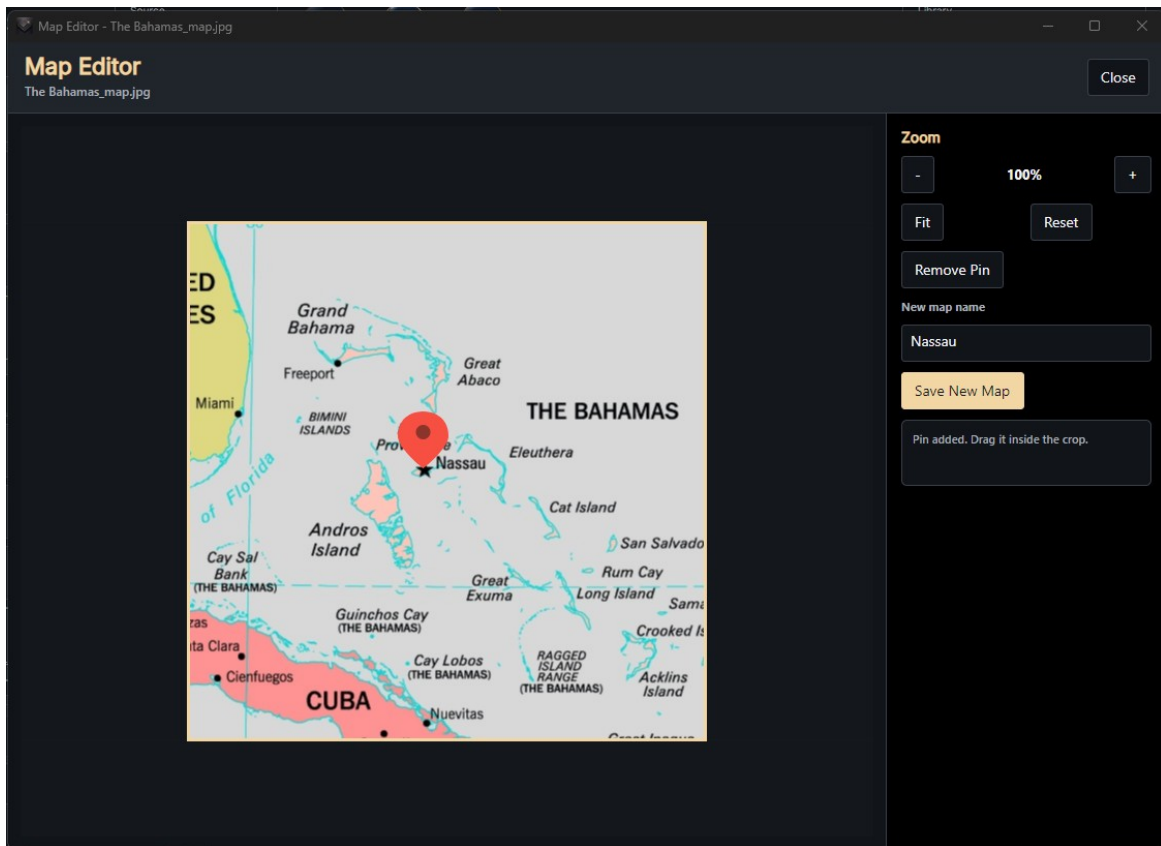
Create or update a map after it has loaded.

Modify an existing map

9. Open Maps in Memory Context.
10. Select the map you want, then choose Edit Copy.
11. The map is loaded into the map editor.
12. Make the desired changes (use a state map, set a pin at a city and use the city as the new map name)
13. Choose “Save New Map” to store it in the library.



Use Edit copy to preserve the existing map while creating a revised version.

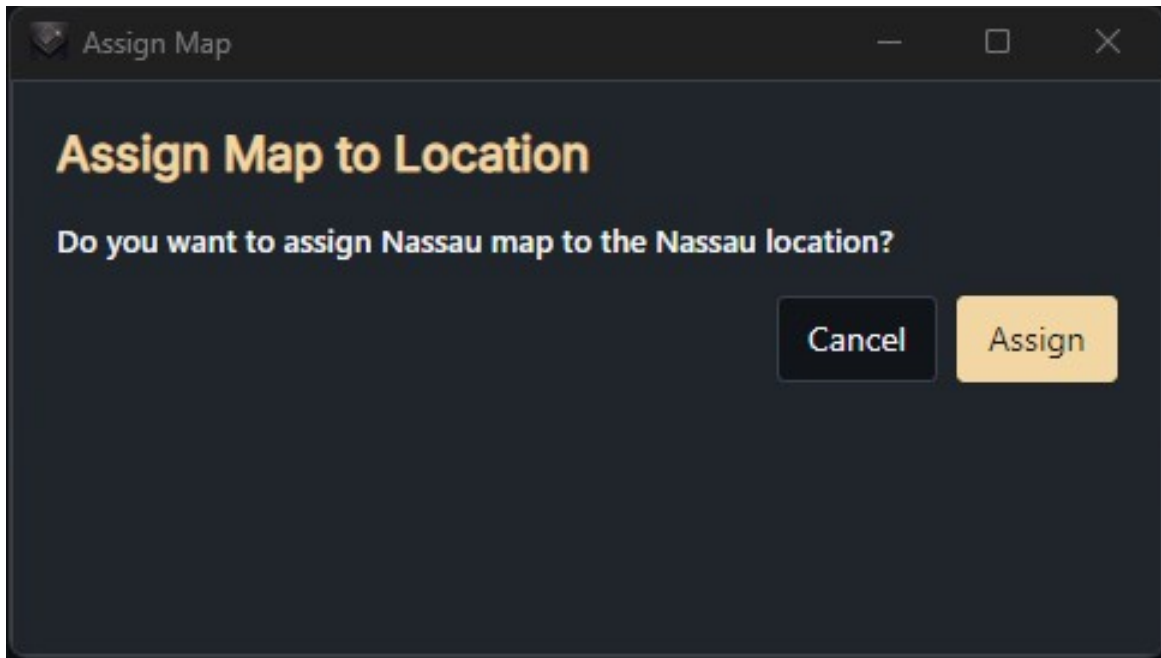


Map Editor with a copied map ready for changes.

Assign a map to a location

1. Open Locations in Memory Context.
2. Select the location that should use the map
3. Open Maps in Memory Context
4. Select the map you want, then choose Assign and confirm the action

A map ready to load from the Maps list.

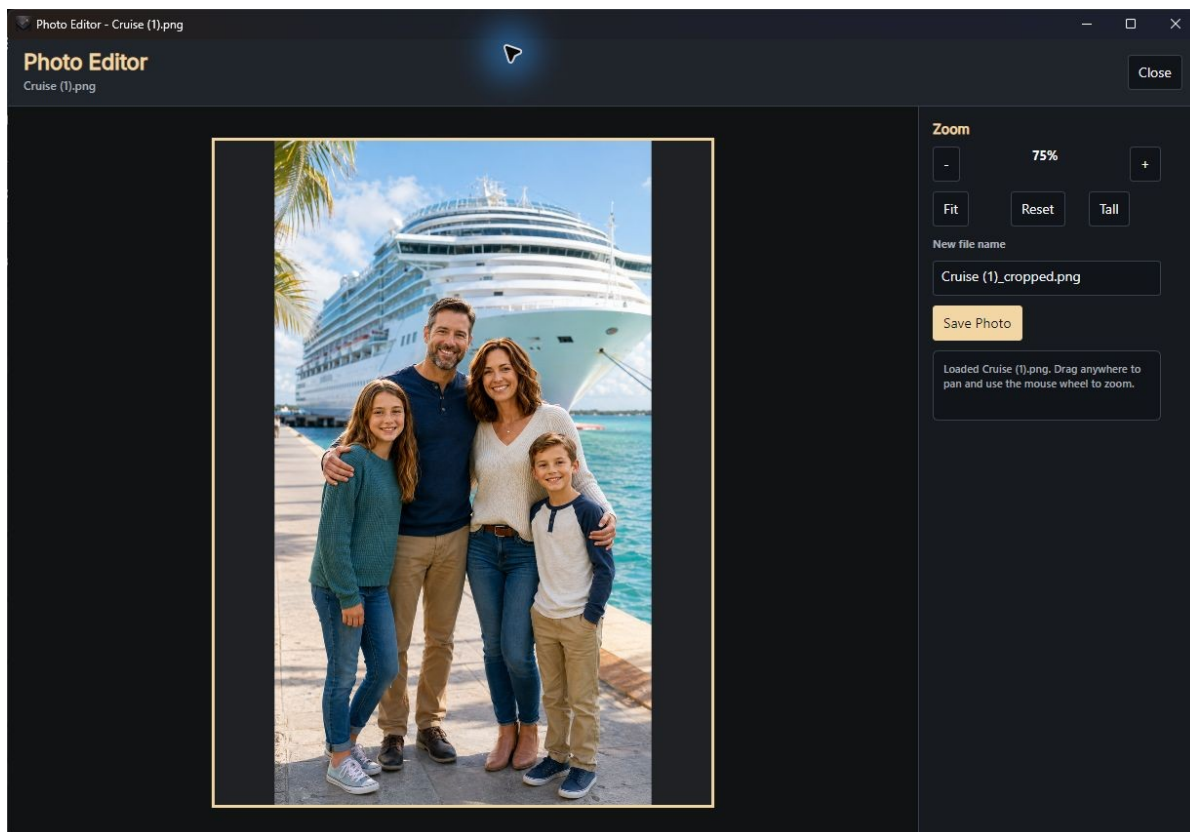


4. Photo Editor

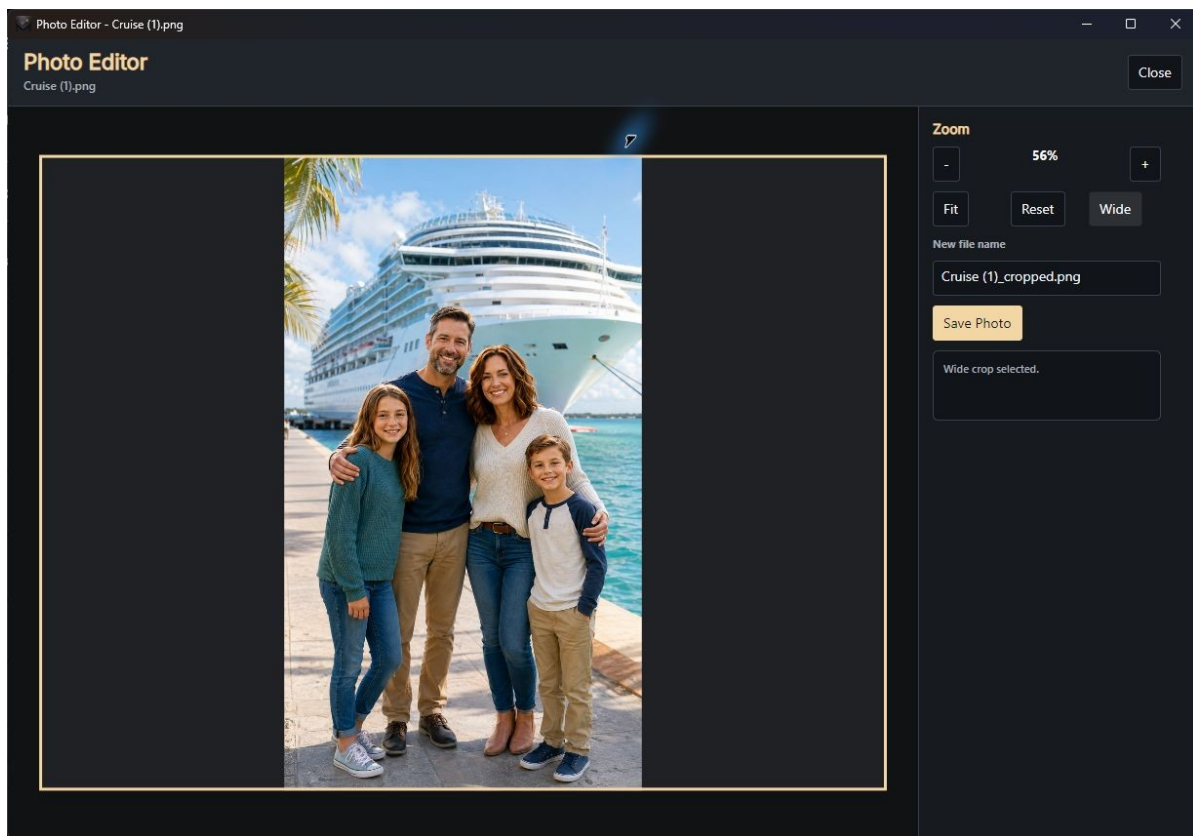
Photo Editor creates a cropped copy of one imported Library photo. It is useful when you want a Tall or Wide composition that differs from the original image.

5. Select exactly one imported Gallery photo.
6. Open Photo Editor in the top bar.
7. Drag the photo to pan and use the mouse wheel or Zoom controls to zoom. Toggle Tall or Wide, and use Fit or Reset as needed.
8. Choose Save Photo.

Choose a new filename before saving the cropped copy. The suggested name includes `_cropped`. The original photo is not overwritten.



A cruise photo opened from the top-bar Photo Editor. The current crop is Tall.



Wide crop. Pan and zoom to compose the photo before choosing Save Photo.

5. Render Library

Render Library is where Narrin keeps ready-to-use versions of your family photos. These are called renders.

A render is a prepared story image that combines a photo with its Memory Context, such as location, event, people, and tags. Narrin can use these prepared images instead of repeatedly working with the original full-size photos.

Why use Render Library?

Render Library helps Narrin View create personalized slideshows quickly and efficiently.

- Faster slideshow playback.
- Lower data use.
- Less processing on phones and tablets.
- No need to share access to the original photo collection.

Render Library outputs are stored in the location selected for your Library. Your original photos remain where they are.

Narrin View uses Render Library

Narrin View is the companion to Narrin Studio for tablets and phones. It requires Render Library to display Narrin slideshows.

Narrin View does not have access to your original photos. Instead, it uses the prepared renders in Render Library to create fast slideshows that are optimized for the current screen resolution.

You can use the same Event, Person, Tag, Year, and Location filters in Narrin View that you use in Narrin Studio to find the photos you want. Narrin View selects the matching prepared renders, but it does not create a new render.

How Render Library is created

Narrin Studio can add renders to Render Library in two ways:

- **Single-image rendering:** Select one imported Gallery photo, then open **Present > Render** in the top bar.
- **Slideshow rendering:** Open **Present > Create Slideshow**, preview the photos that match your filters, then use **Add to Render Library**.

In both cases, you choose the image resolution and orientation that best fits the screen where the photos will be displayed.

Sharing Render Library

When a Library is shared, its Render Library settings are shared too. Choose a location that is available to the people who need the rendered images.

The Render Library is useful when family members want to enjoy selected photos and slideshows without needing access to the original photo folders.

6. Single-Image Rendering

Open Present > Render in the top bar to create a story image from one imported photo and its assigned Memory Context.

Use Render Library

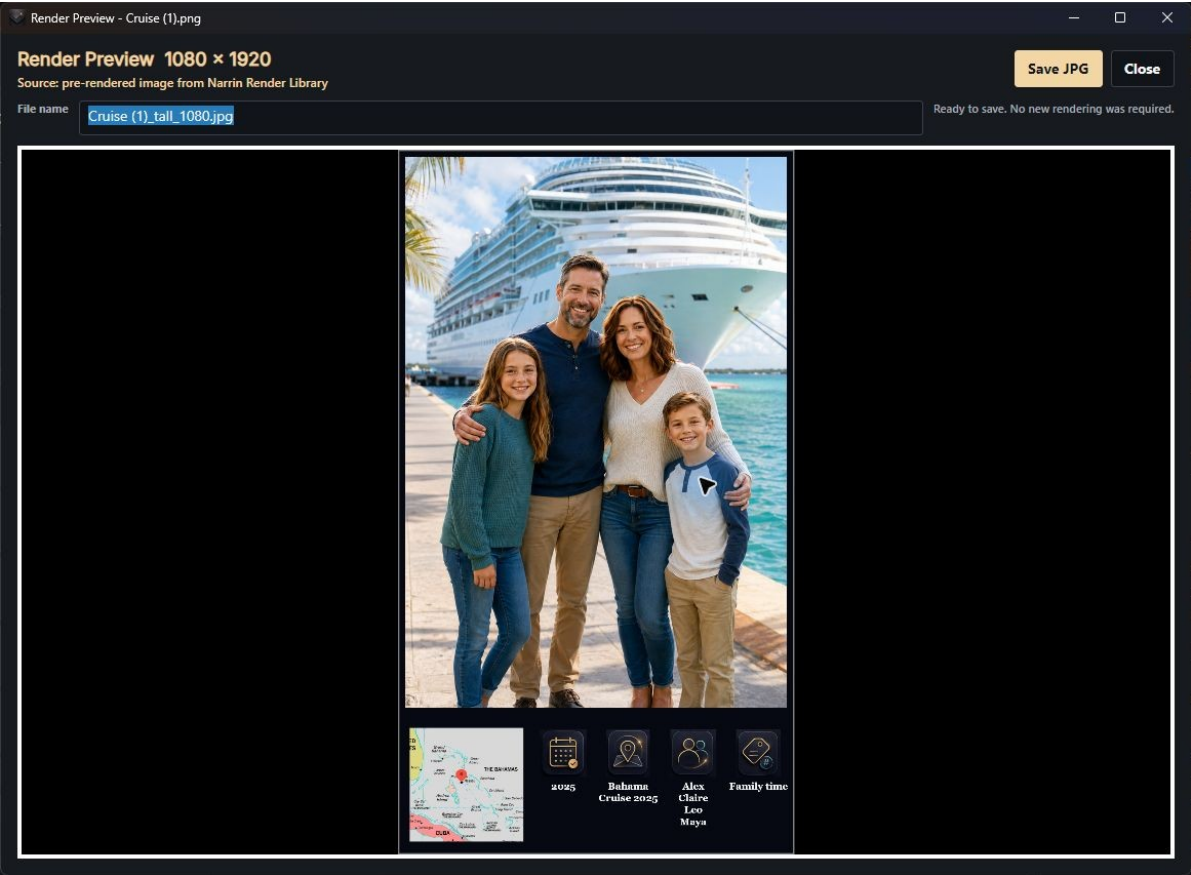
For an overview of Render Library and why it is useful, see [Render Library].

Select one imported Gallery photo, then use Present > Render. Narrin can reuse an existing matching image from Render Library.

Render one image

1. Select one imported Gallery image.
2. Open Present > Render, then choose a resolution.
3. Choose Tall or Wide.
4. Wait for the preview to open.
5. Choose Save JPG if you want to save a copy of the preview.

Available profiles include 1200, 1080, and 720. Tall and Wide use the selected resolution with the appropriate orientation.



A Tall 1080 preview reused from Render Library, with Save JPG available.

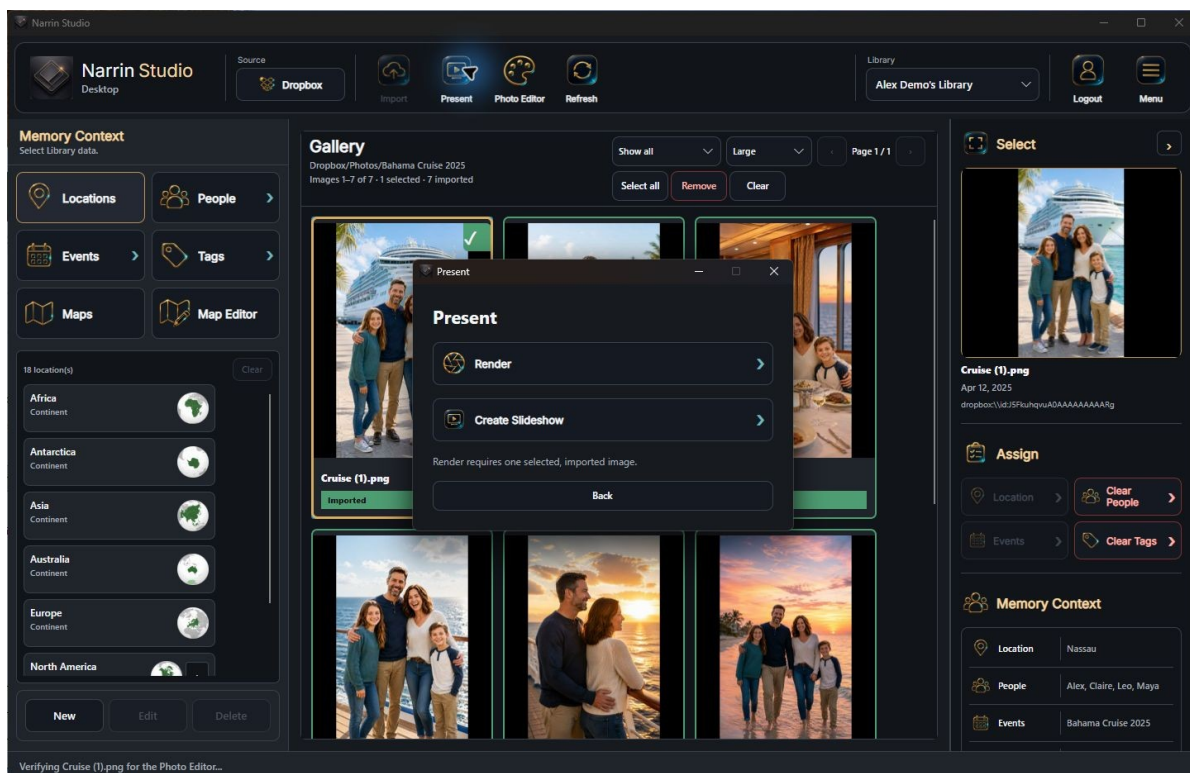
7. Slideshows

Open Present in the top bar, then choose Create Slideshow. Slideshows find imported Library photos across folders using Memory Context. Choose filters and preview before creating output.

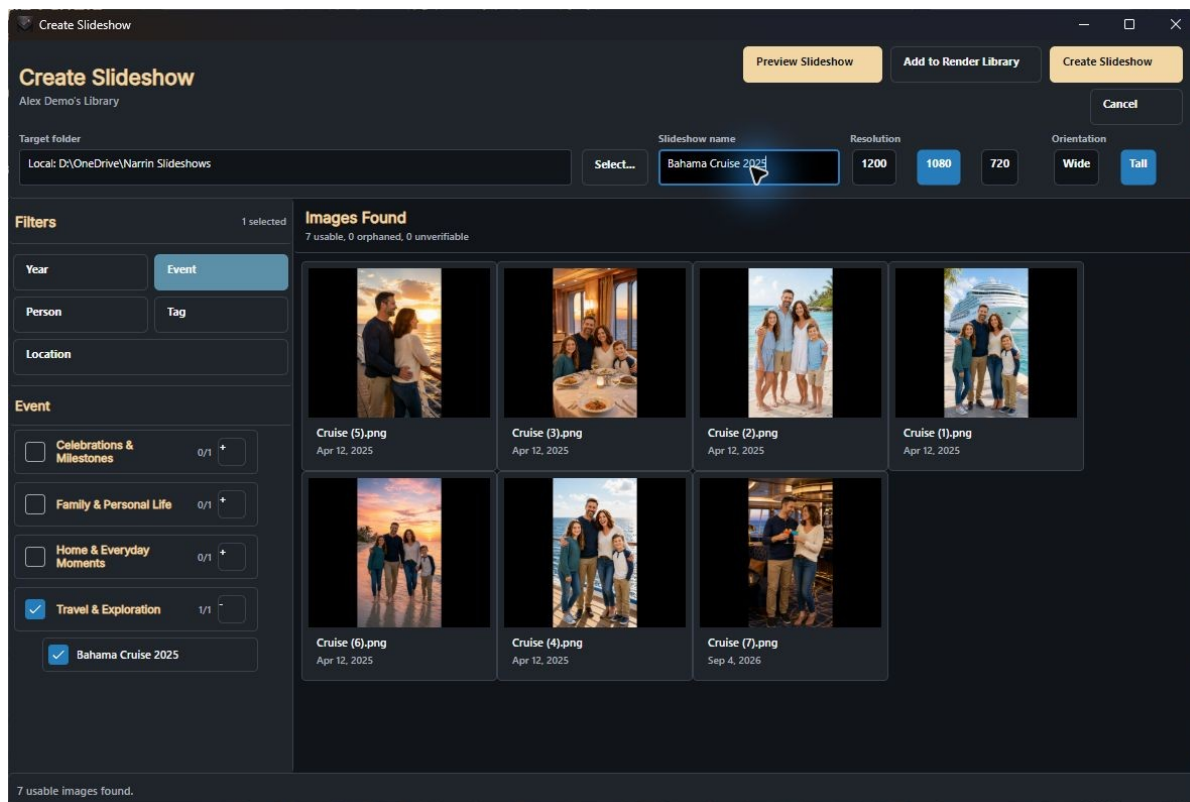
Filter slideshow photos

Event, Person, Tag, Year, and Location filters can be combined. Narrin uses an intersection across the chosen filter types, so each additional filter narrows the result. A parent Location includes photos assigned to its child locations.

1. Choose one or more filters.
2. Choose Preview Slideshow and review the matching photos in Images Found.
3. Change filters if needed, then choose your output method.



Present opens separate Render and Create Slideshow workflows.



Bahama Cruise 2025 selected under Travel & Exploration. The preview finds seven usable images.

Add to Render Library

For an overview of Render Library, see [Render Library].

Add to Render Library creates reusable slideshow renders from the photos that match your selected filters. Choose one or more resolutions and one or both orientations. It does not create a separate photo folder. The default is 1080 Tall.

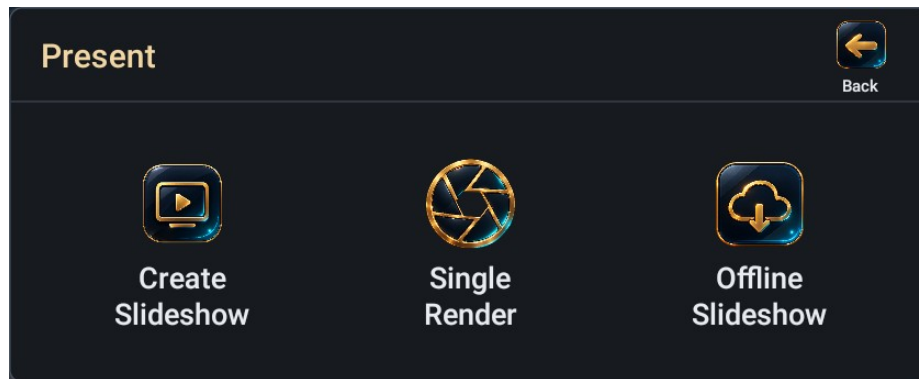
Create Slideshow

Create Slideshow writes JPEG images to a folder you choose. Select exactly one resolution and one orientation, name the slideshow, then choose the destination folder. If a filename already exists, Narrin adds a number to keep both images.

Preview first. Use the slideshow preview to confirm the matching photos before you create output.

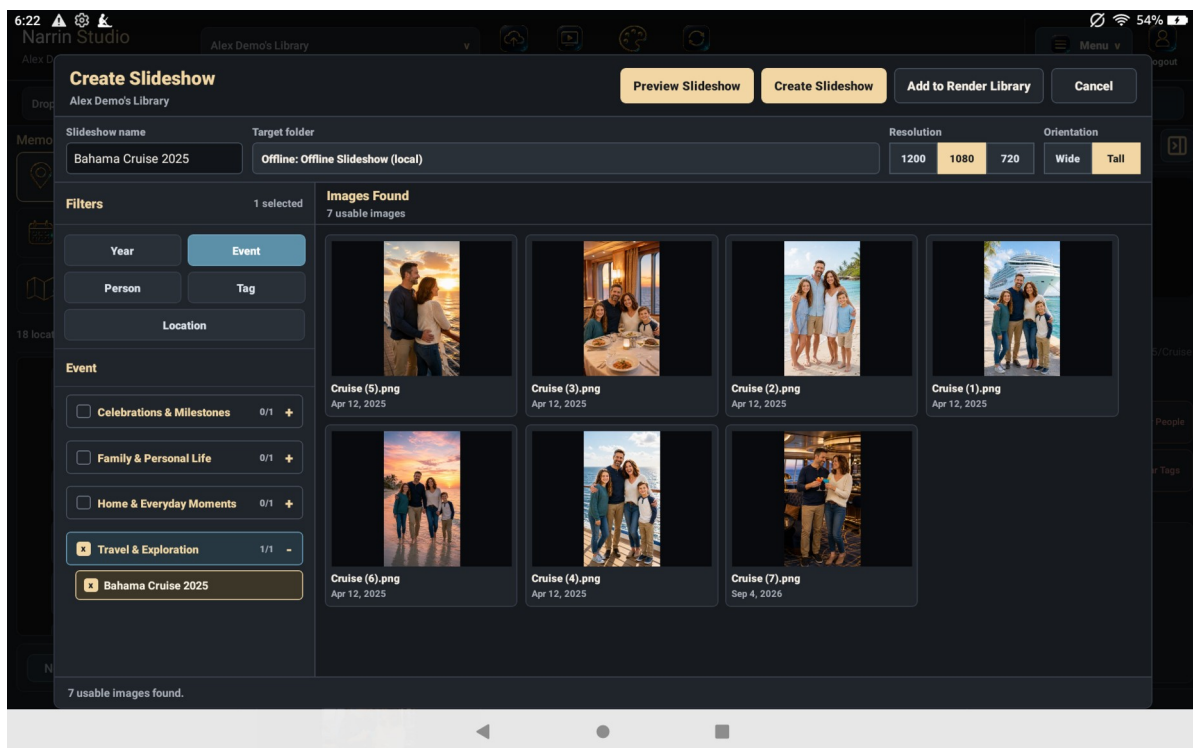
Android tablet — create an offline slideshow

On Android Studio, Present also includes Offline Slideshow. Use Create Slideshow to prepare a saved slideshow, and Offline Slideshow to open and play one already saved on this device.



Android tablet: Present includes Offline Slideshow. Detail from a landscape capture.

In Create Slideshow, enter a name and choose Target folder > Offline Slideshow (local). Choose one resolution and Tall or Wide. Select a filter category, choose its values, then tap Preview Slideshow to review Images Found. No filter category is selected when the window first opens.

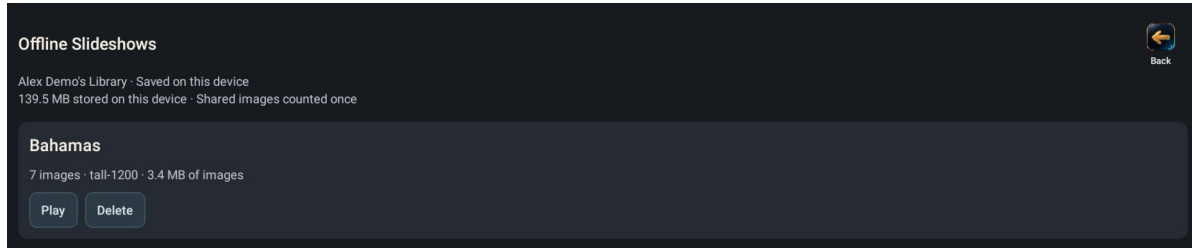


Android tablet: seven Bahamas photos previewed with Offline Slideshow (local) selected.

Tap Create Slideshow to save the slideshow on this device. Creating it does not start playback. Open Present > Offline Slideshow when you are ready to play it.

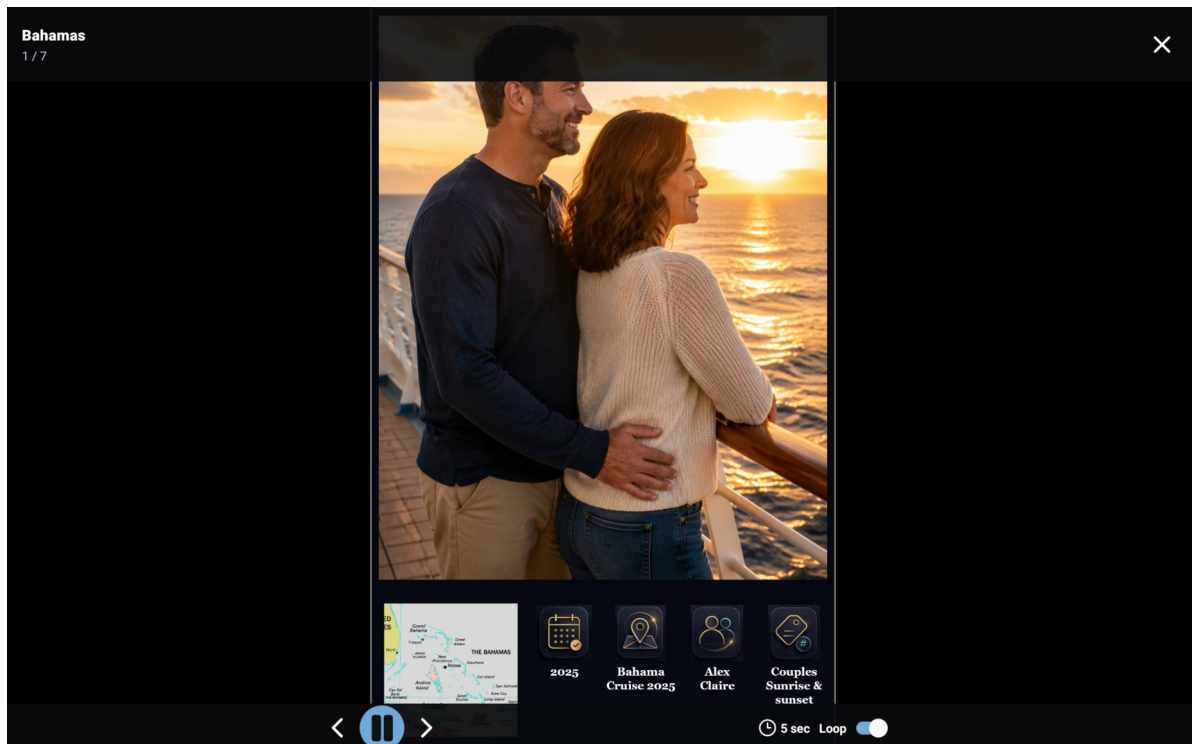
Android tablet — play a saved slideshow

Open Present > Offline Slideshow. Find the saved slideshow and tap Play. Each entry shows its image count, orientation, resolution and image storage size. The Bahamas example below contains seven images at Tall 1200.



Android tablet: the saved Bahamas slideshow has a separate Play button. Cropped landscape capture.

Tap the playing slideshow to reveal the controls. Use previous or next, pause or play, the slide interval, and Loop. Tap the X at the upper right to close playback and return to the saved list.



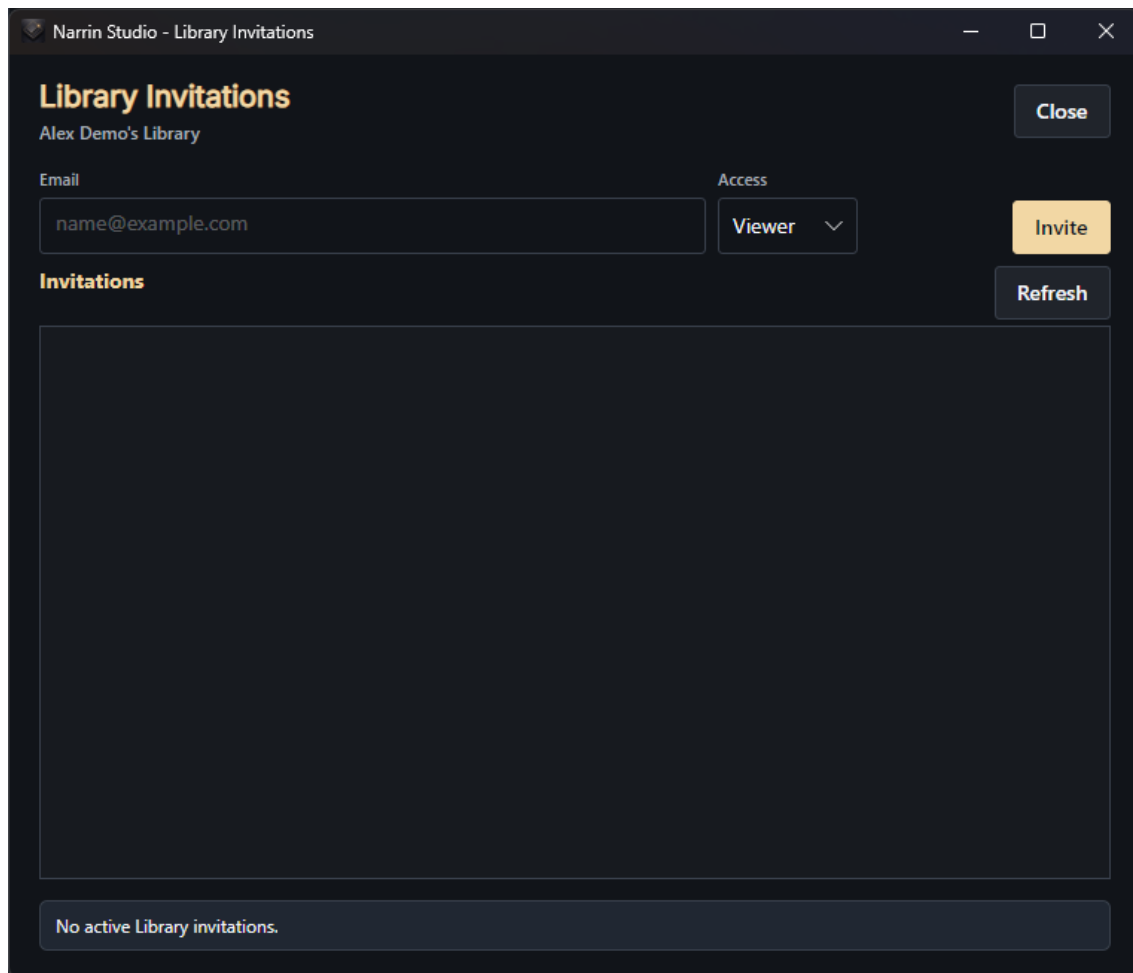
Android tablet: Tall 1200 playback in landscape, with the slideshow count and playback controls visible.

Tall slides remain tall when the tablet is held in landscape, leaving space at the sides. The tablet stayed in landscape for these captures; the saved slideshow orientation was not changed.

8. Libraries, Invitations, Profile, and Subscription

Invite Library members

Administrators and owners can invite people to a Library. Select the least access needed: Viewer, Editor, or Administrator. Invitees sign up or sign in with the invited email address, confirm their account, and accept the invitation.



Library invitations show the people invited to the active Library.

Update your profile

Open Menu > User Profile to review or update your display name, email, address, and phone information. Profile details are separate from Memory Context.

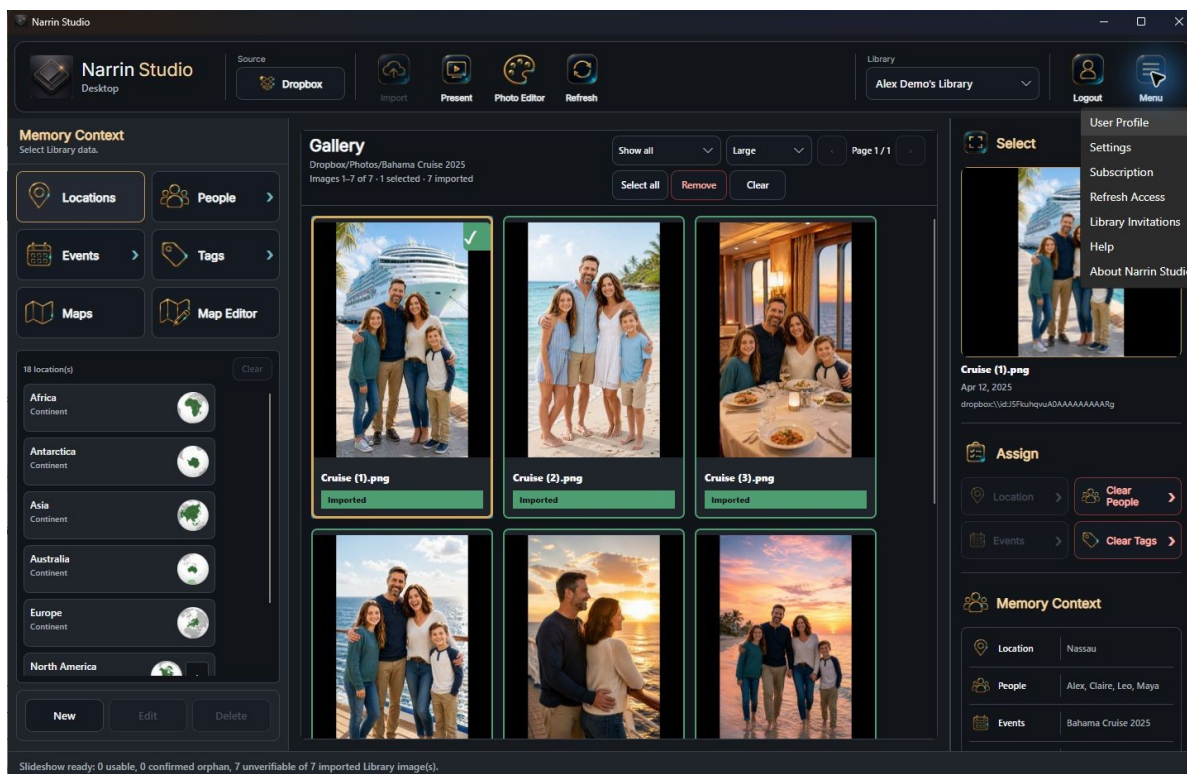
Review a subscription

The Library owner can open Menu > Subscription to view the Library subscription and available plans. A person needs an enabled Narrin account and a Library invitation before using shared Library content.

9. Settings and Troubleshooting

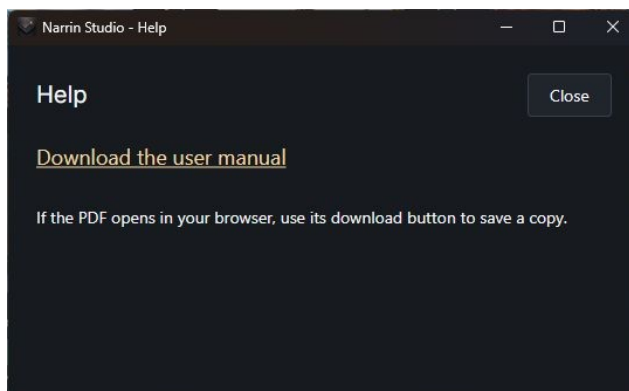
Settings and About

Open Menu > Settings to choose the preferred Library and manage application preferences. Choose Menu > About Narrin Studio to check the installed version. Menu also provides User Profile, Subscription, Refresh Access, Library Invitations, and Help.



Windows Menu includes Help and About Narrin Studio.

Choose Menu > Help, then Download the user manual. If the PDF opens in your browser, use the browser download button to save a copy.



Help provides the user manual download link.

Common issues

I cannot sign in

- Check the email address and password.
- Use Forgot password? to request a reset.
- If your account is new, confirm the account email.
- Use Resend confirmation if required.

I cannot see a Library

- Choose the Library from the top-bar selector.
- Confirm that you accepted the invitation to that Library.
- Ask a Library administrator to check your access.

A source will not load

- Choose the source again and complete sign-in if prompted.
- Browse to the intended folder and choose Use this folder.
- Choose Refresh after the Gallery opens.

My slideshow is missing photos

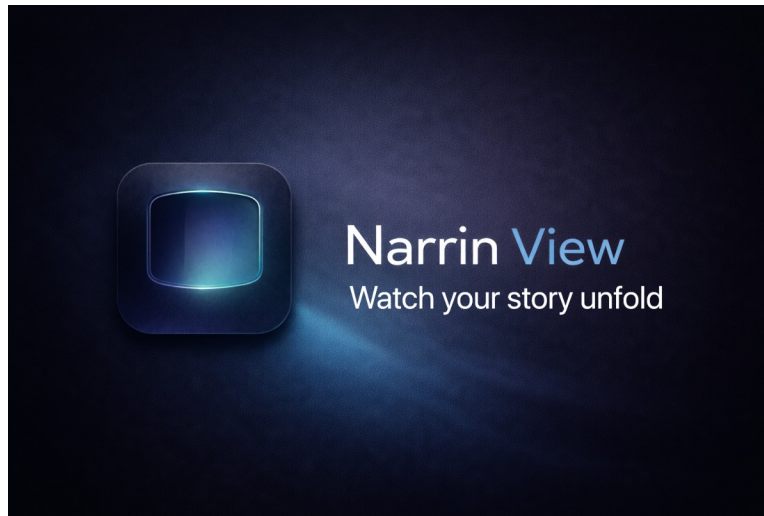
- Check that the photos are imported into the active Library.
- Check each chosen filter. Filters are combined, so each additional filter narrows the result.
- Open the preview before creating output.

Privacy and security

Use strong account passwords, keep your sign-in details private, and invite only people who should have access to the Library. Review invitations and access levels regularly. The Alex Demo Library and its sample family shown in this manual are demonstration content, not personal content.

Revision note. Windows workspace, Photo Editor, Present, rendering, slideshow entry points, and Menu/Help were reviewed against Studio 0.66.1 on September 29, 2026. Other Studio illustrations retain the earlier baseline.

10. Narrin View



Narrin View — Watch your story unfold.

Narrin View lets you enjoy the story images prepared in Narrin Studio. It uses Render Library to build and play slideshows on Android tablets and phones, iPad, and iPhone. It does not create new renders or edit your original photos. For preparing renders, see chapter 5, Render Library, and chapter 7, Slideshows.

Use View on tablets and phones

Tablets provide more space for filters and playback controls. Phones provide the same viewing functions in a compact layout; scroll to reach controls that are outside the visible area. Follow the action names in these instructions rather than a fixed screen position.

Narrin Studio on Android and iOS also includes viewing functionality. The steps in this chapter describe the separate Narrin View app; the entry point and arrangement within Studio can differ.

The screenshots in this chapter show Narrin View 0.29.3 (build 60) on an Android tablet. Portrait and landscape examples use the Alex Demo Library. Phone and Apple layouts may arrange the same actions differently.

Before you begin

You need a Narrin account, access to the Library you want to view, and prepared images in that Library's Render Library. A Library administrator can help with membership. A Studio user must publish the images in the orientation and resolution you plan to use.

Connect to the internet for sign-in, Library selection, preparation, and downloads. Access to a Library and access to its Render Library storage are separate: complete the storage connection when View asks you to.

Sign in and choose a Library

1. Open Narrin View and sign in with your Narrin account. If you are new, create and confirm your account, then accept the Library invitation using the invited email address.
2. Check Current Library on the Home screen. Select Switch to choose another Library when more than one is available.
3. Open Settings to check the Render Library connection. Use the displayed Connect or Reconnect action and complete the provider sign-in when required.

Home provides Start Slideshow, Resume, Offline Slideshows, Settings, and About. Resume is available when there is a slideshow to continue. Use About to check the app version when requesting help.

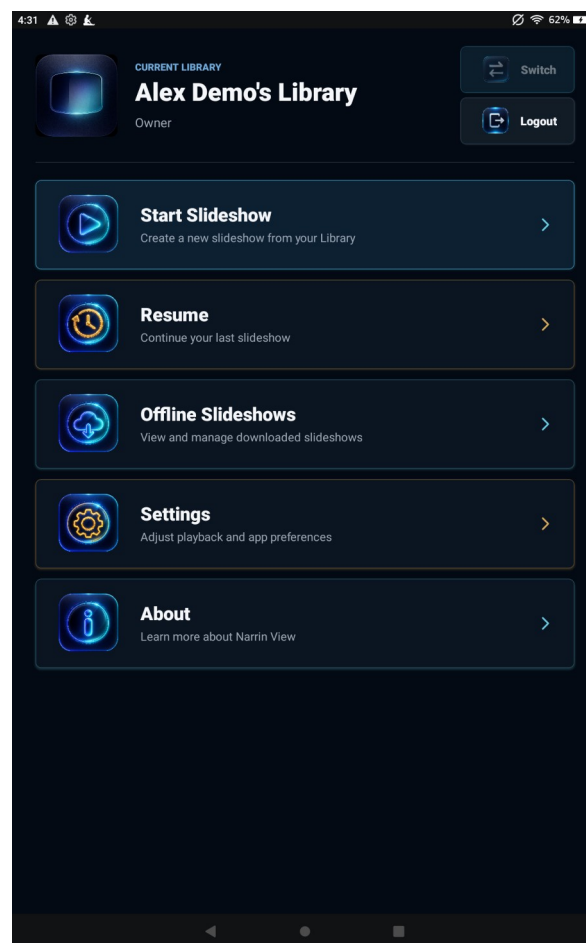


Figure 10.1. Android tablet Home with the current Library and Resume available.

Prepare a slideshow

1. From Home, select Start Slideshow. Wait for Memory Context and the Render Library connection to be ready.
2. Enter a Slideshow Name, or keep the suggested name.
3. Choose a Render Profile. Tall is portrait; Wide is landscape. Choose a resolution for which the Library already has prepared renders.
4. Select filters for Event, Person, Tag, Year, or Location. Leave filters clear when you want all eligible images.
5. Select Prepare Offline Slideshow. Keep Narrin View active while images download. Playback can begin before every image is ready.

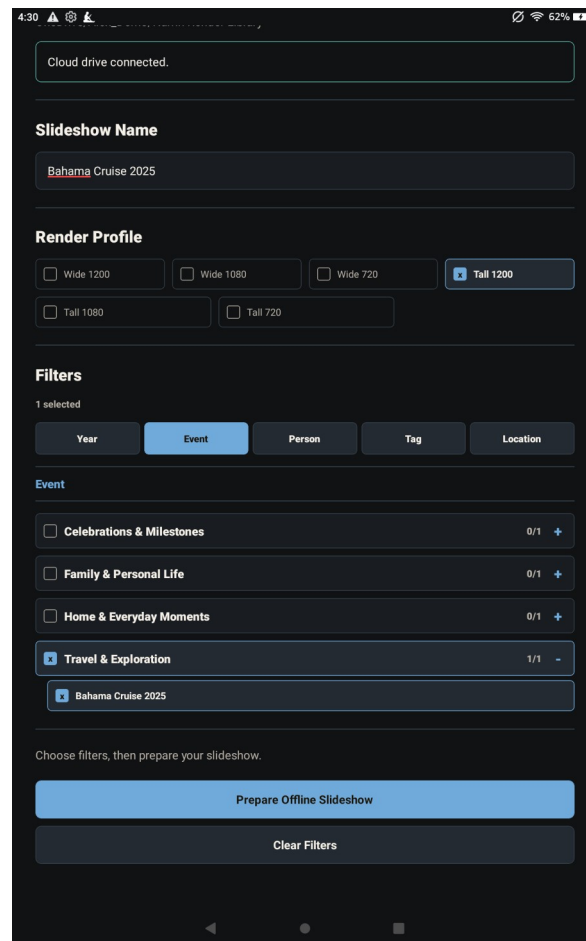


Figure 10.2. Preparing Bahama Cruise 2025 with the Tall 1200 profile and Event filter.

Choose filters

Different filter types narrow the result together. For example, a Year and a Location select photos that match both. A parent Location also includes its child locations. For multiple People or Tags, select Match All (AND) to require every selected value, or Match Any (OR) to accept any selected value within that group.

Year choices are grouped into decades. Older selects photos captured before 1930. Clear Filters removes the current selections so you can start again.

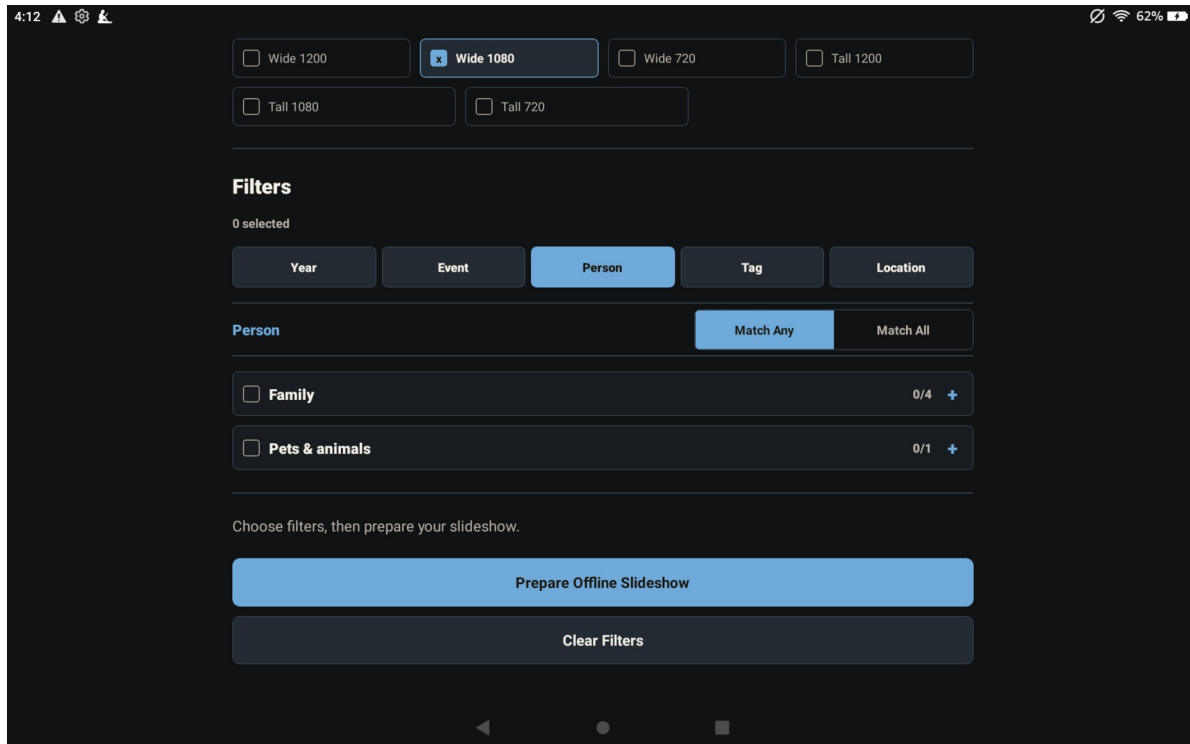


Figure 10.3. Person filters in landscape with Match Any and Match All.

Choose a render profile

View reads existing renders for the selected profile. A matching photo may still be unavailable if Studio has not published that orientation and resolution. Choose another profile, or ask a Studio user to add the required renders to Render Library.

When no photos match the filters, adjust the filters and prepare again. When photos match but no usable renders exist for the chosen profile, View reports the missing profile. When only some matching renders are available, the slideshow can contain fewer photos than expected.

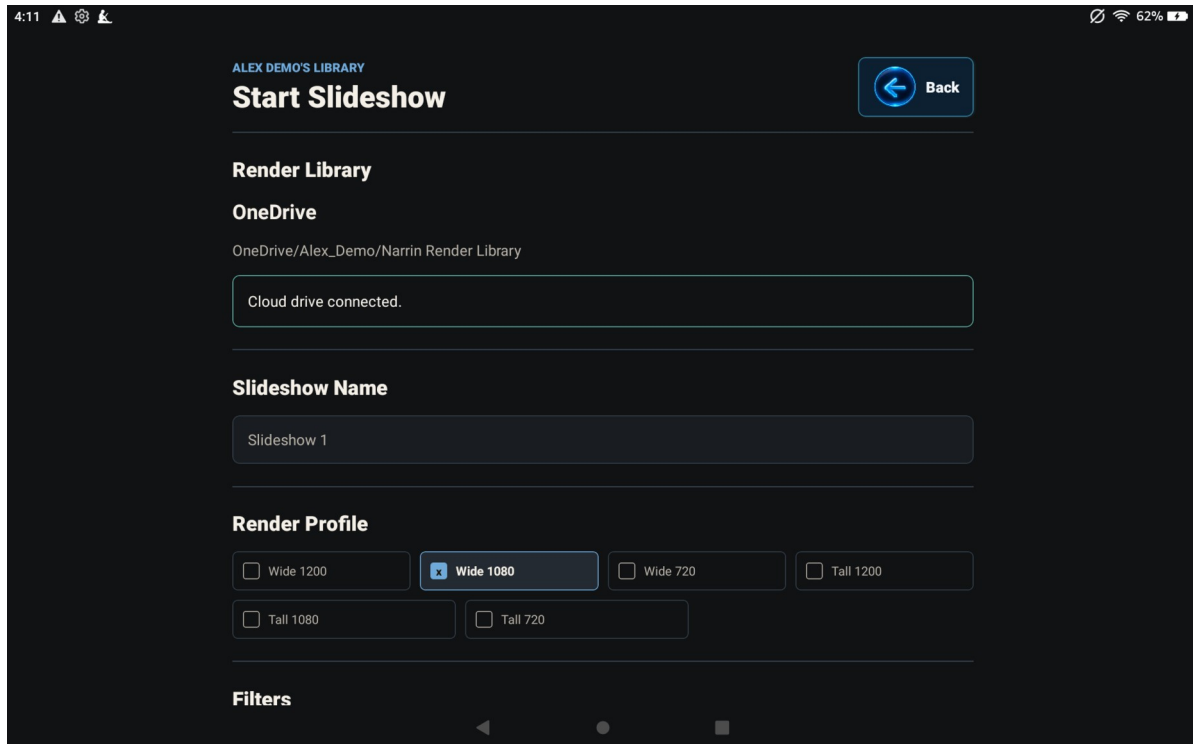


Figure 10.4. Render profiles in landscape. Select a profile already published in Render Library.

Play and resume

Tap the slideshow image to show or hide the controls. Use Previous and Next to move between slides, and Pause or Play to stop or continue automatic playback. Tap the X in the upper-right corner to exit the slideshow.

Slide duration controls how long each image stays on screen. Loop repeats the slideshow. Shuffle changes the playback order. These controls are available during playback; Settings also lets you save preferences for new slideshows.

To continue the last slideshow, select Resume on Home. To choose a different saved slideshow, open Offline Slideshows and select Play beside its name.



Figure 10.5. Tall playback with navigation, pause, duration, loop and shuffle controls.

Save slideshows for offline viewing

1. Prepare the slideshow while connected to the internet.
2. Open Offline Slideshows and check the saved image count and whether Play is available. Keep View active while preparation and downloads finish; compare the saved count with the images you expect.
3. If a download fails, restore the connection and use Retry when it is offered.
4. Before relying on the slideshow without a connection, confirm that all its images are ready and test playback on that device.

A saved slideshow and its downloaded images are local to the device. Preparing it on a tablet does not download it onto your phone. New slideshow preparation and missing-image downloads need a connection.

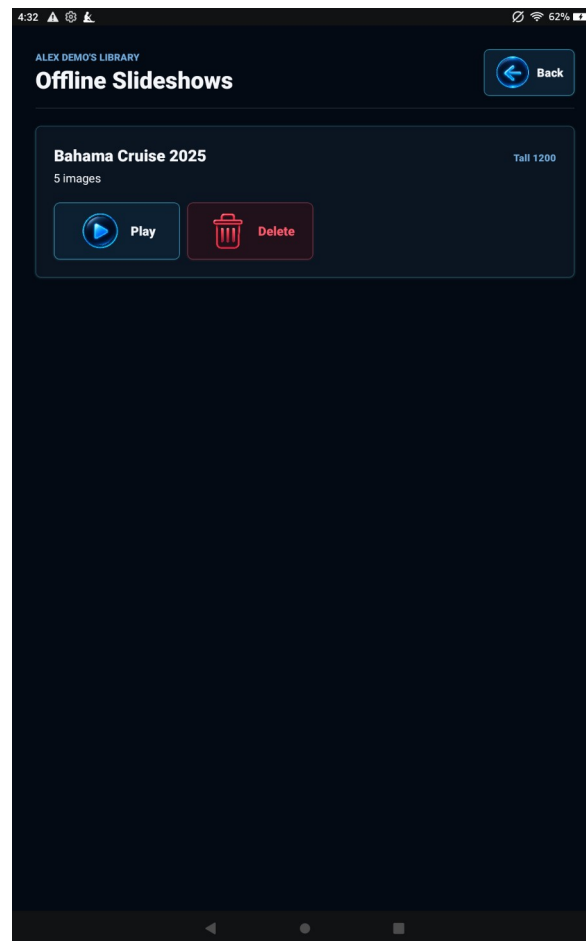


Figure 10.6. A saved Tall 1200 slideshow with five downloaded images and Play available.

Remove a saved slideshow

In Offline Slideshows, select Delete beside the slideshow and confirm the deletion. This removes the saved slideshow from this device. Cached images needed by another saved slideshow are kept. Your original photos and the published Render Library are not deleted by this action.

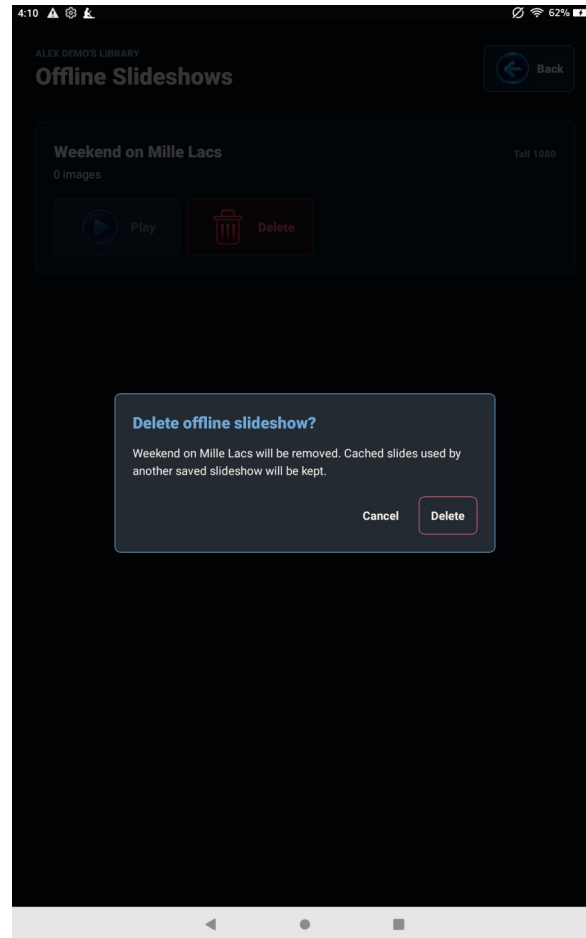


Figure 10.7. Confirm deletion or select Cancel to keep the saved slideshow.

Settings and help

Open Settings to choose a Preferred Library and select Save Preferred Library. Set Slide duration, Loop, and Shuffle, then select Save Slideshow Settings. Settings also shows the Library subscription, Render Library connection, and Offline Storage use.

If saved slideshows exceed the selected storage limit, delete an unneeded slideshow to reclaim space. Check that important slideshows are downloaded on the device where you will use them.

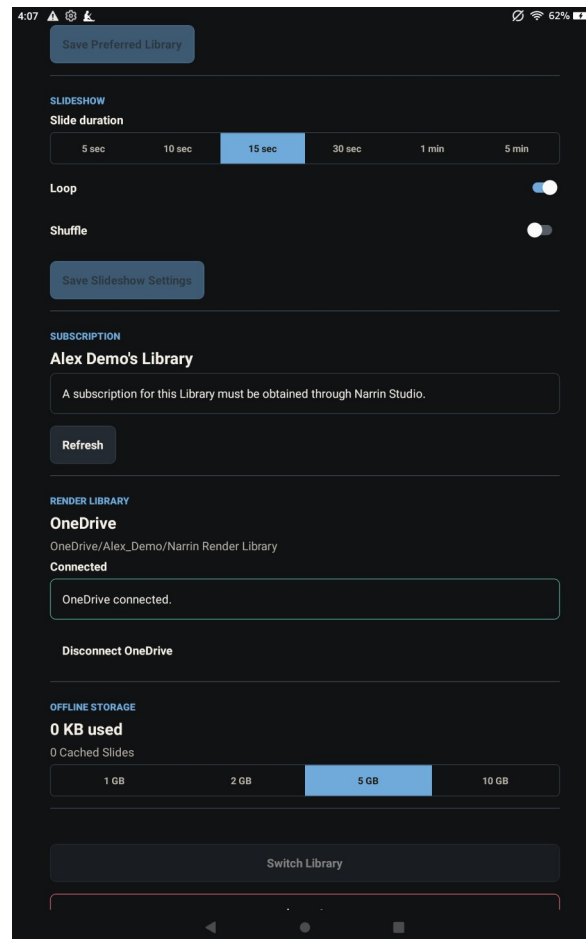


Figure 10.8. Playback preferences, connected OneDrive storage and the offline storage limit.

I cannot see my Library

Check that you signed in with the invited account and accepted the invitation. Use Switch if another Library is selected. Ask a Library administrator to check your membership if the Library is still missing.

I cannot prepare a slideshow

Check your internet connection and the Render Library connection in Settings. Reconnect the storage provider if requested. Confirm that the Library has prepared renders and that your selected orientation and resolution are available.

My slideshow is missing photos

Check the selected Library and filters. Clear unnecessary filters and try again. Ask a Studio user to confirm that the missing photos have the expected Memory Context and published renders for your chosen profile.

Playback has no ready slides

Check the saved image count in Offline Slideshows. Reconnect to the internet and keep View active while images download. Use Retry if offered, or prepare the slideshow again. Confirm that the slideshow is saved on this device and in the selected Library.

Use a shared device

Keep your account details private. Use Logout when you finish on a shared device. Before changing accounts or relying on offline playback, check that you have saved the slideshows you need under the correct account and Library.

11. Digital Photo Organization Guide

Preparing Your Memories for Narrin Studio

A simple folder or album system helps you find photos for import and revisit them as your Library grows. You can begin with a handful of images; you do not need to organize your entire collection first.

Keep originals safe

Keep a protected copy of your photos beyond your phone, using your preferred storage and backup arrangement. Narrin enriches photos with Memory Context; it does not replace storage for your originals. Importing into a Narrin Library does not move the source files.

Group photos around memories

Use recognizable event or trip names, such as Bahama Cruise 2025 or Family Birthday 2026. Add a few subfolders when they help, but avoid a deep hierarchy that makes photos difficult to find. Shared family collections can bring together photos from different devices.

Try a small collection first

Create a folder or album outside Narrin and add a few photos. Open it through a source available on your platform, review the Gallery thumbnails, and import the photos you want. Then select imported photos and assign their Location, People, Events, and Tags.

Return to the same collection

Reopen that folder or album in Gallery whenever you want to revise Memory Context, import newly added photos, or remove duplicate entries from your Library. The Gallery's import-status filter helps distinguish photos already in the Library from those not yet imported. Removing a Library entry does not delete the original source photo.

Further reading: [Narrin blog — Digital Photo Organization Guide](#)

The blog provides general preparation advice. Use the source options available in your version of Narrin Studio; storage-service availability varies by platform.

Albums and folders

An album groups photos. A folder stores files. This difference determines where Narrin can save your slideshows and Render Library.

An album, such as one in Apple Photos or Google Photos, is a collection of photos managed by the photo service. It is not a storage folder. The same photo can appear in several albums, such as “Family,” “Summer Vacation,” and “Favorites,” without creating a separate file for each album. Removing a photo from an album does not delete it from the main photo library.

A folder, also called a directory, is a storage location on a local drive or a service such as iCloud Drive, OneDrive, Google Drive, or Dropbox. It can contain photos, other files, and additional folders called subfolders or subdirectories.

A photo file normally lives in one folder. Copying it into another folder creates another copy of the file. This differs from adding the same photo to multiple albums.

Albums do not contain sub-albums in the way folders contain subfolders. Apple Photos does let you group albums inside folders, but those folders organize your photo library. They are not file-storage folders that Narrin can use to save its output.

For Narrin slideshows, each slideshow has its own name and can be saved in its own subfolder under a “Slideshows” folder. For example:

- Slideshows/Family Vacation
- Slideshows/Birthday Memories
- Slideshows/Our Favorite Moments

These must be stored in a supported folder location, rather than a photo-library location such as Apple Photos or Google Photos.

The Narrin Render Library also requires a folder location because it uses subfolders to organize the display-ready images Narrin creates. A photo album cannot provide that folder structure.

Be careful with similar names: iCloud Drive is different from iCloud Photos, and Google Drive is different from Google Photos. Choose a supported Drive or folder location when saving Narrin slideshows or setting up your Render Library.

Further reading: [Apple Support — Create and work with photo albums](#)