Hugin Panoramic Stitcher Version (0.7)

Getting Started

Works with both Windows and Mac – and it's free.

Download from http://hugin.sourceforge.net and install.

Start Hugin from the desktop or menu.

Preferences

In the File/Preferences, Assistant tab: tick 'Automatically align images after loading' and set 'Downscale final pano' to 100%. Press OK.

Use the Assistant

In the Assistant tab: Load Images..., select all the images that need to be joined and press Open. The 'Finding control points' window opens and the program stitches the image together. (If it doesn't do it straight away, press Align...)

Panorama preview

In the 'Panorama preview' window set the projection from the drop-down list (Equirectangular is a good one to start with.) Use the sliders at the bottom and right to show the whole image.

Final stitching to a new image file

Close the 'Panorama preview' window. If you are happy with the stitch and want to create a new image then select the 'Stitcher' tab. If you want to create a JPG instead of TIFF alter the 'File formats: Normal Output:' drop-down to JPEG. Press the 'Stitch now!' button. *Stitching always takes a few moments...*

Finishing off

Close Hugin – it will prompt you to save the project file – you don't have to but you might like to save if you are going to do this stitch again some time.

Finally, open the image in Photoshop or similar and crop/resize/curves/sharpen or whatever and save your image.

Printing

You will need to make sure that your photo-editing tool and/or printer can support custom size paper, this might be in the Print... option or in the Printer... settings. Ensure that the image is set at about 300dpi/ppi in Image Resize. Set the size of the paper very precisely and adjust the output size accurately. A3 paper cut lengthwise is a good test. Printing tips at: http://www.redrivercatalog.com

Circular images

Stitch together a 360 degree view with Hugin and crop the top and bottom in Photoshop. Resize the image to a square – you will need 'Constrain proportions' unticked. Rotate 180 degrees. Select Filter/Distort/Polar Coordinates, select Rectangular to Polar and press OK. Rotate, edit and sharpen. Also try it without the 180 degree rotation step.