Artelia 360 Tutorial How to use Mi Sphere Camera

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The objective of this document is to explain the different steps needed to take pictures with the Mi Sphere Camera and process them for their later use in virtual tours.

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Step 0: Preliminary Steps

REQUIREMENTS

- The Mi Sphere Camera app must be downloaded and installed on the mobile phone. You can use a phone from any brand, though some of them might not be compatible. If you are going to buy a phone solely for this purpose we highly recommend ensuring its compatibility.





Step 0: Preliminary Steps

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Check that the camera is charged and has enough battery. As a good practice, the person returning the camera should return it fully charged. You may verify whether the camera is totally charged or not by checking that the battery indicator has a still blue light.
- Check that the camera has a memory card with free space available.







Step 1: Taking Pictures

A PIECE OF ADVICE FOR TAKING PICTURES

- Pictures can be taken by simply pressing the corresponding button in the camera.
- It's not necessary to have a mobile phone with the app to take pictures. However, we do not recommend this procedure since you'll be unable to check the picture taken and verify it's correct.
- We highly recommend the use of a tripod. If you don't happen to have one with you or it's unavailable, put the camera as steady as possible over your head and take the picture, trying to keep it straight.





Step 2: Connecting camera & phone

LINKING THE CAMERA WITH THE PHONE

- To link the camera with the phone you'll need to press the button with the Wi-Fi symbol on it. A blue light will start flashing.





Step 2: Connecting camera & phone

LINKING THE CAMERA WITH THE PHONE

a) Next open the app and press the icon looking like a camera

b) A Wi-Fi network with a similar name to MJXJ-xxxxx should appear in the list, alternatively, search within available networks. Choose this network and connect. Default password is 12345678

c) If everything went fine you'll receive live feed from the camera and you'll be ready to use it.



Step 3: Using the app

VIDEO MODE / PICTURE MODE

- Pressing the button at the lower right we can alternate between video and photo mode.
- In the middle part we will see a red button if we are making a video while in photo mode this button will turn white.
- Inside each mode there are several sub modes which we can explore (small texts on top of buttons)





Step 3: Using the app

ACCESSING THE GALLERY AND DOWNLOADING PICTURES

- From the camera screen or the main menu we can access the gallery pressing the buttons highlighted in the pictures.
- Inside the gallery we can check our pictures taken and press on download if we also want to keep a copy of the picture on the phone.





Step 3: Using the app

SETTINGS

- Once in camera mode you can Access the adjustments. There you can tune several parameters such as White balance, lightness, etc. On the top bar you'll also find a direct Access to the adjustments and an indicator of the battery status.
- Within the resolution adjustments we recommend using the "3456x1728 (Stitched)" option. This way all pictures taken by the camera will be ready to be used in any virtual tour and won't need any extra processing.





Step 4: Preparing images for tours

EXPORTING PICTURES

- If you used the "3456x1728 (Stitched)" option, you'll only need to extract the SD card from the camera and open the contents on your computer. Pictures are normally contained in the DCIM folder. Alternatively you can copy the pictures from the ones you downloaded on your phone.
- If you didn't use that option, the only possibility is to download them from the camera to the phone with the app. In doing so, the camera will automatically convert them to a panorama usable for the tours. With this method you'll have to copy pictures from the phone to your computer.



Pictures produced should look similar to this one unless something went wrong.



Next steps: repeat previous steps until you have all desired pictures from your virtual tour

When you finish with all pictures it is your responsibility to name them properly and store them on right folders of the server. Once you've finished and to keep things clean, delete your pictures from the camera so other people can use it.

With these pictures we can proceed to the next step and create our virtual tour with the tool of our choice!

