

Excire·Foto

Version 1.2.2

User Manual

August 2021

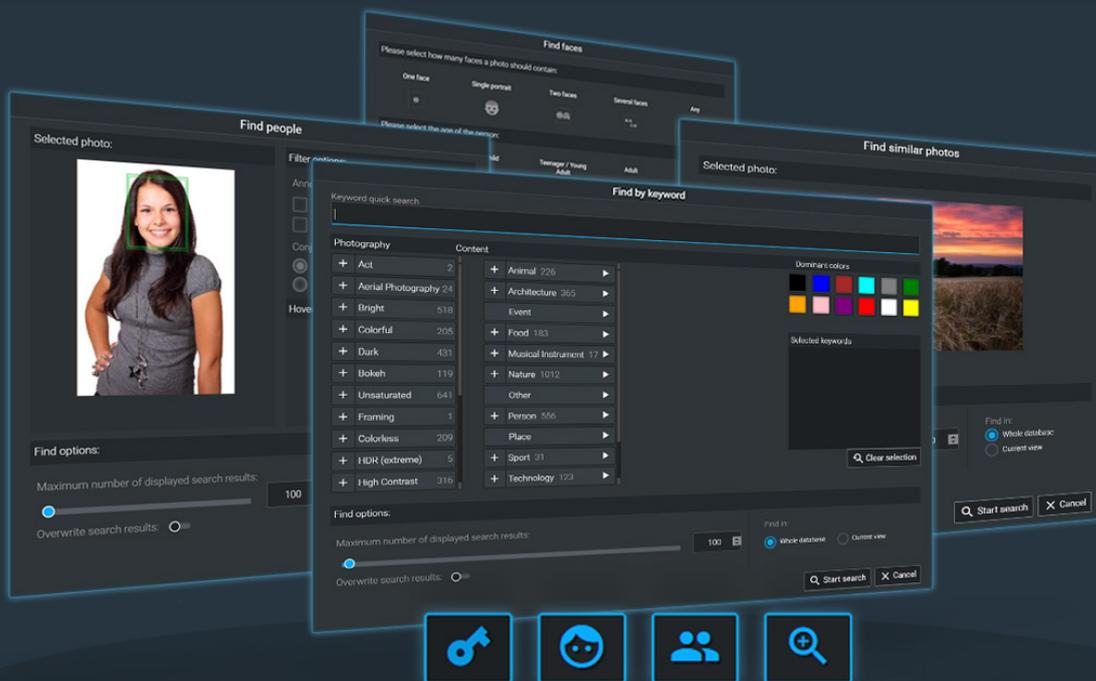


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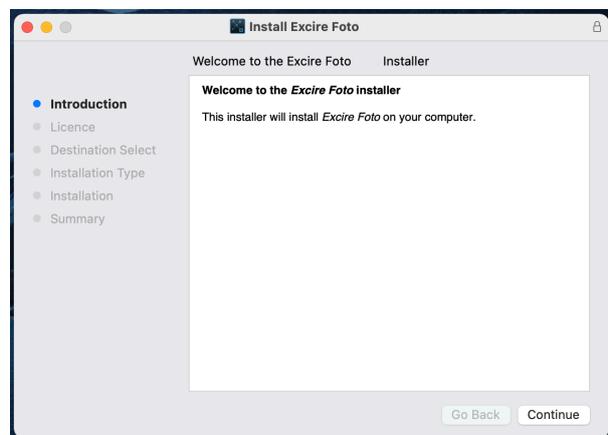
1. Installation

Once you have downloaded our software, you must install Excire Foto on your computer. Under macOS please unpack the appropriate ZIP file and mount the disk image (DMG file).

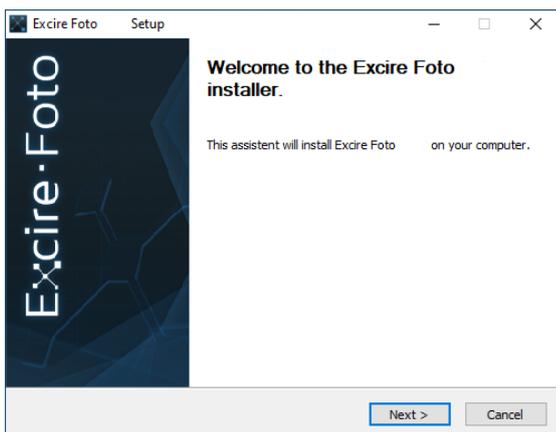
Now you only have to start our installation program, which will guide you through the installation step by step. Windows users only need to run the downloaded executable file (*.exe) and follow the installation instructions.



macOS Disc Image



Mac installation program

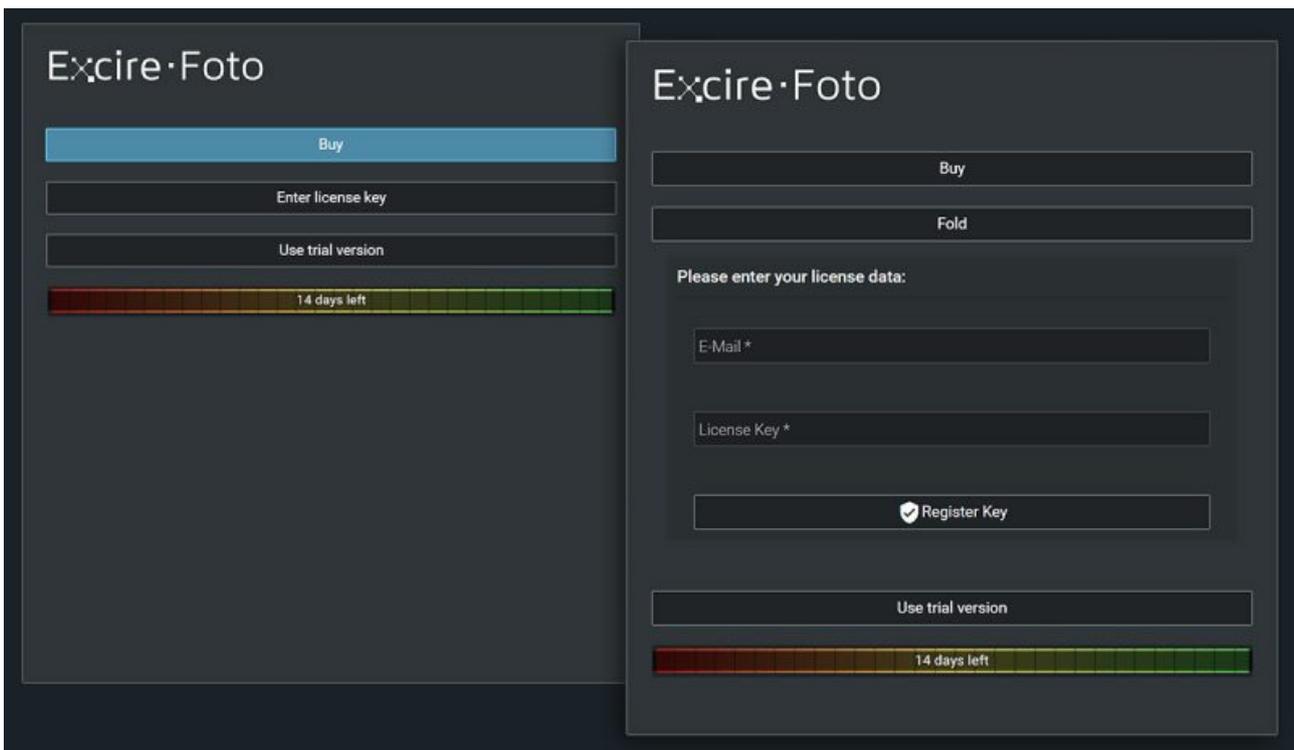


Windows installation program

2. Registration

After successful installation please start Excire Foto. Then a welcome window will appear where you have the possibility to buy our software, enter a valid license key or start a 14 days trial.

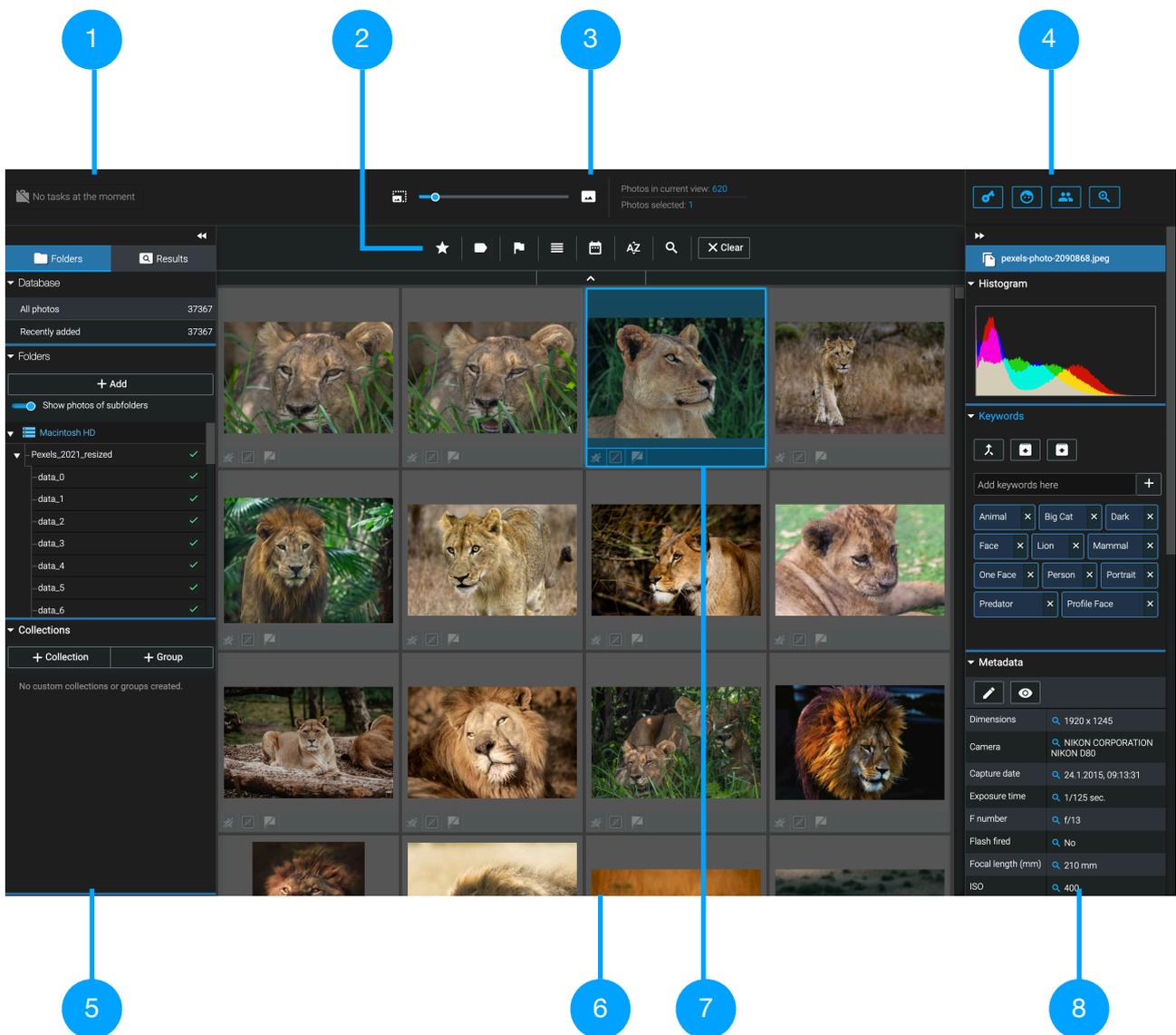
If you already have a license key, please enter it here.



3. Graphical User Interface

Excire Foto has two main views (gallery and preview) and a full screen mode. Its elements are described below.

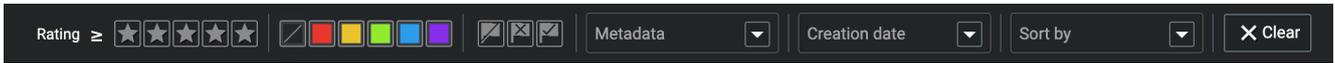
Gallery View



- 1 Status area, in which the processes that are currently running are displayed.
- 2 Toolbar for filtering by ratings, colors, flags, metadata and date. This bar can be expanded and collapsed.
- 3 Slider to change the thumbnail size in the photo grid.
- 4 AI bar with the various functions for searching the database. When you move the mouse over the symbols, a corresponding tool tip appears.
- 5 This panel contains information on the state of the Excire Foto database, the folders added and the existing collections and groups of collections. Next to the folder tab is the results tab. When you select it, this section of the gallery view will display an overview of the different search results. By combining the mouse button and CTRL (Windows) / COMMAND (Mac) or SHIFT you can also select multiple folders or collections. The whole left panel can also be hidden.
- 6 In the central area of the gallery view, there is a photo grid that displays the photos in the selected folder or collection.
- 7 Selected photos are marked with a blue frame. Below a selected photo, various properties may appear, such as the number of stars given or whether this photo is available. As soon as you place the mouse over a photo, the symbols for the similarity and people search appear in the upper right corner. In the case of stacked photos, a stack icon appears in the upper left corner, indicating that the photo is a stack of photos.
- 8 The right panel contains information about the file name, the histogram of a photo, the keywords section, the keyword hierarchy, and the metadata section. This panel can also be hidden.

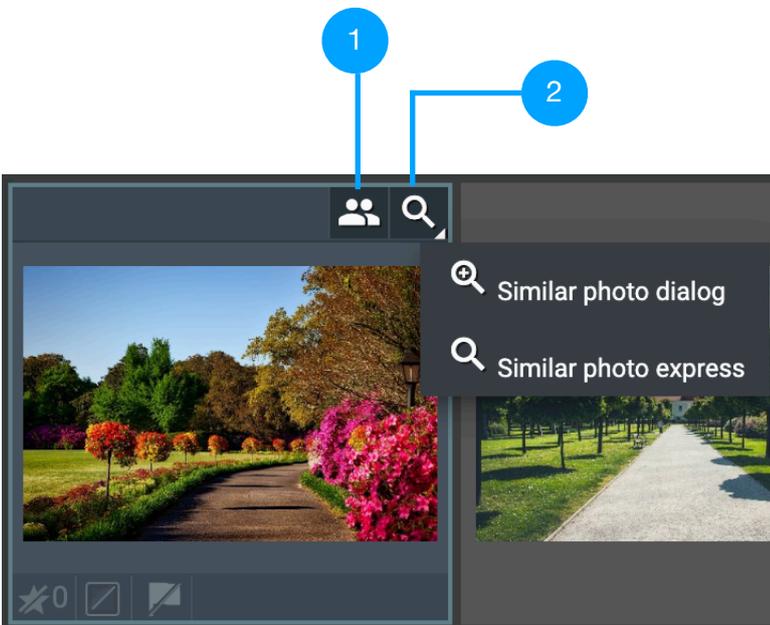
Filter Bar

The filter bar offers various options for filtering. In addition to filtering by stars, colors, or flags, photos can also be filtered by metadata or the date of creation. Depending on your screen resolution, parts of this bar may also be collapsed. When fully collapsed, the bar looks like this:



Quick Search

Excire Foto provides two quick ways to search for photos in the gallery view. The corresponding icons appear when you hover the mouse over a photo.



- 1 Starts a people search with the current photo and displays the search dialog.
- 2 Starts a similarity search with the current photo. With the right mouse button you can choose whether a dialog should be opened before starting the search. When searching without a dialog, the search is carried out with the parameters set in the corresponding search dialog. Depending on the configuration, the symbol may change. The empty magnifying glass indicates express search without a dialog. As soon as you click on it, the similarity search starts, thus enabling quick navigation.

Context Menu

By clicking (right mouse button) on a photo in the photo grid, a context menu appears, that lets you chose a few useful functions:

Open with: This option allows you to open a photo with an external photo editing program. You can use all the applications that you can use in your file browser.

Show in file browser: Opens the file browser and displays the corresponding photo there.

Remove photo(s): Function to remove a photo from Excire Foto.

Add photo(s) to collection: Allows you to add one or more tagged photos to a collection.

Stack photos: Creates a stack from the selected photos. This function is available for folders and custom collections.

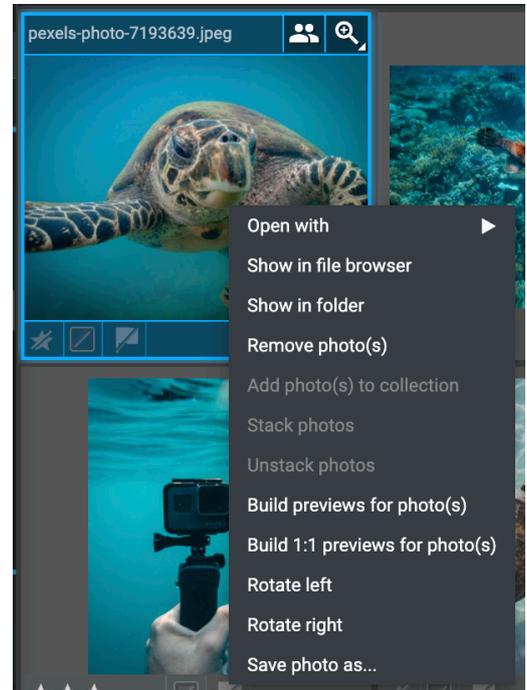
Unstack photo(s): Function to undo a previously created stack.

Build previews for photo(s): If some previews are missing you can generate them afterwards.

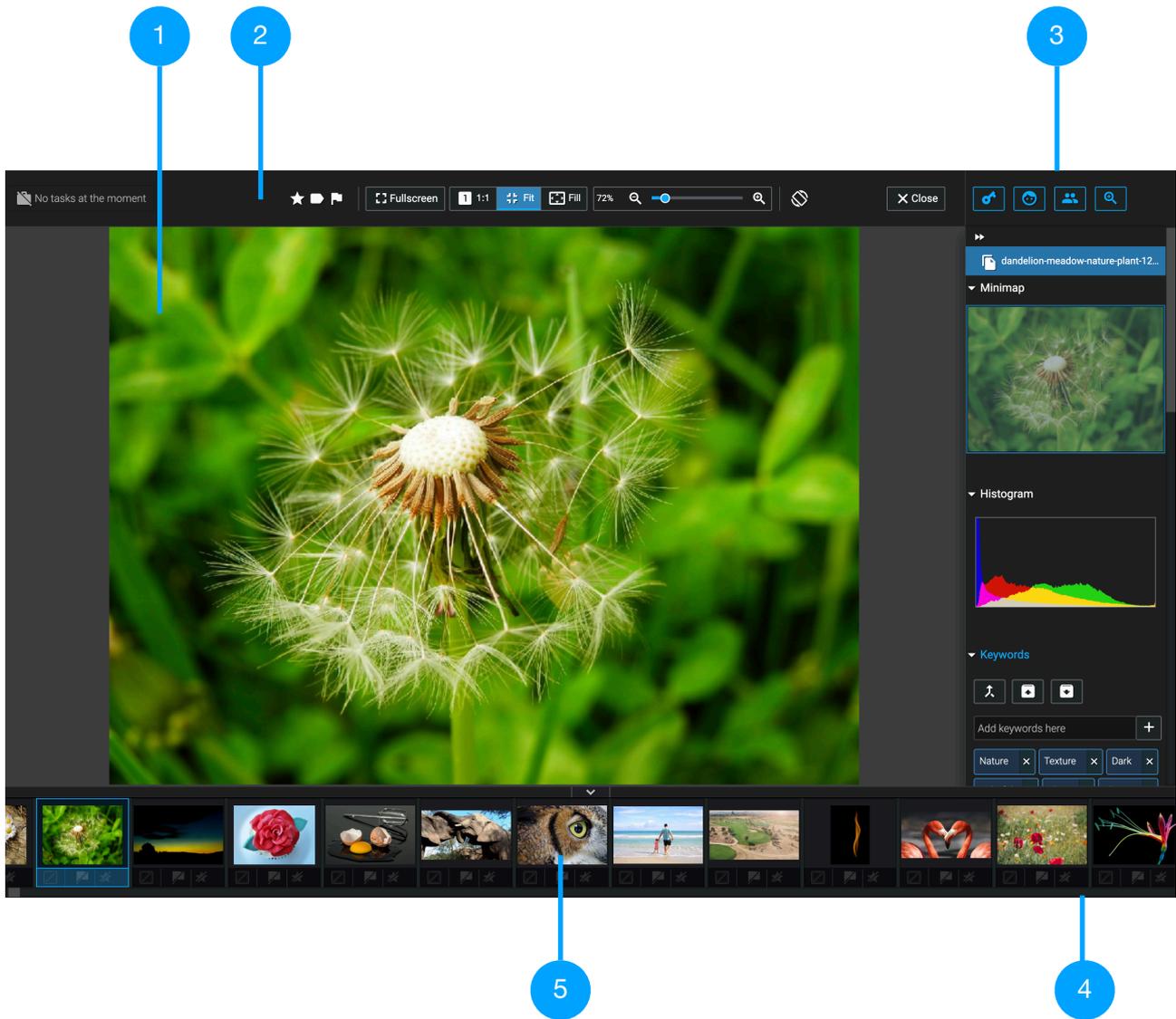
Build 1:1 previews for photo(s): Generates 1:1 previews for the selected photos.

Rotate left / right: Allows you to correct the orientation of a photo.

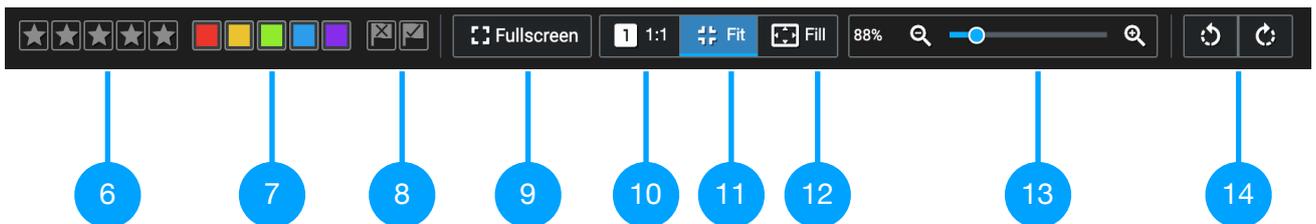
Save photo as...: Function for saving a photo with a new file name



Preview



Fully Collapsed Toolbar



- 1 Main view with the currently selected photo
- 2 Toolbar for ratings, colors, flags, different views and rotation. If the desktop resolution is high enough the toolbar is collapsed.
- 3 AI bar with the different search options
- 4 The right bar contains information about the file name, the histogram, the keywords section, the keyword hierarchy and the metadata section.
- 5 Thumbnail bar for navigation (Filmstrip)
- 6 Star ratings (assign and show)
- 7 Color labels (assign and show)
- 8 Flags (assign and show)
- 9 Switch to full screen mode
- 10 Switch to the 1:1 view. Note that 1:1 previews must first be created. This is possible for selected photos or whole folders.
- 11 Fit photo
- 12 Fill photo
- 13 Popup for different zoom levels
- 14 Buttons to rotate 90° to the left or right

Full Screen Mode

In full screen mode, a photo can be displayed full screen. By operating the mouse wheel or the touchpad, the displayed photo can be zoomed in or out. Use the "left" and "right" arrow keys to navigate through the photo inventory of a folder or collection. Press the ESC key to exit full screen mode.

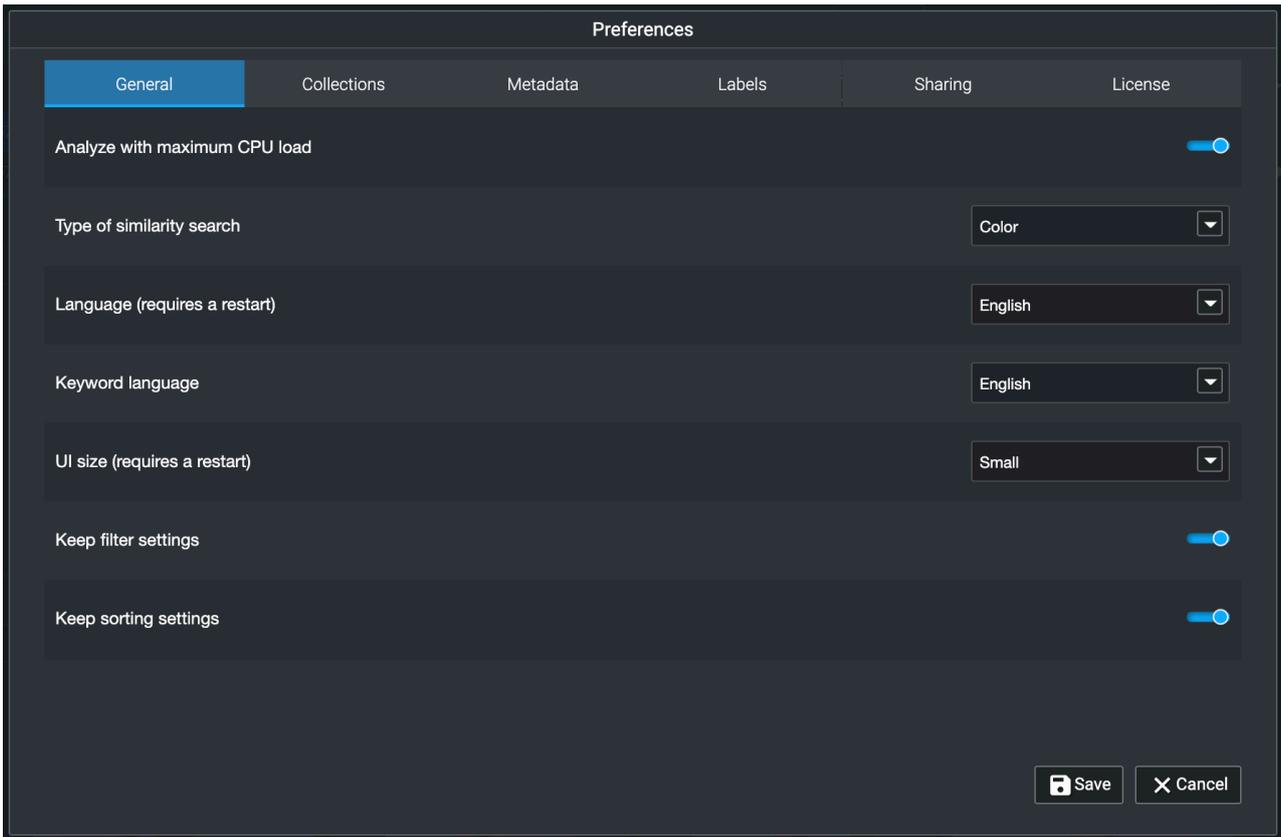


- 1 Display and assignment of stars, colors and flags. This field can be closed using the arrow button and reopened by clicking on the corresponding icon.
- 2 Minimap to move the image section. This field can be closed using the arrow button and reopened by clicking on the corresponding icon. You can use the mouse to move the active region.

4. Preferences

Various settings can be made in Excire Foto via the menu "Excire Foto -> Preferences" (Mac) or "File -> Preferences" (Windows).

General

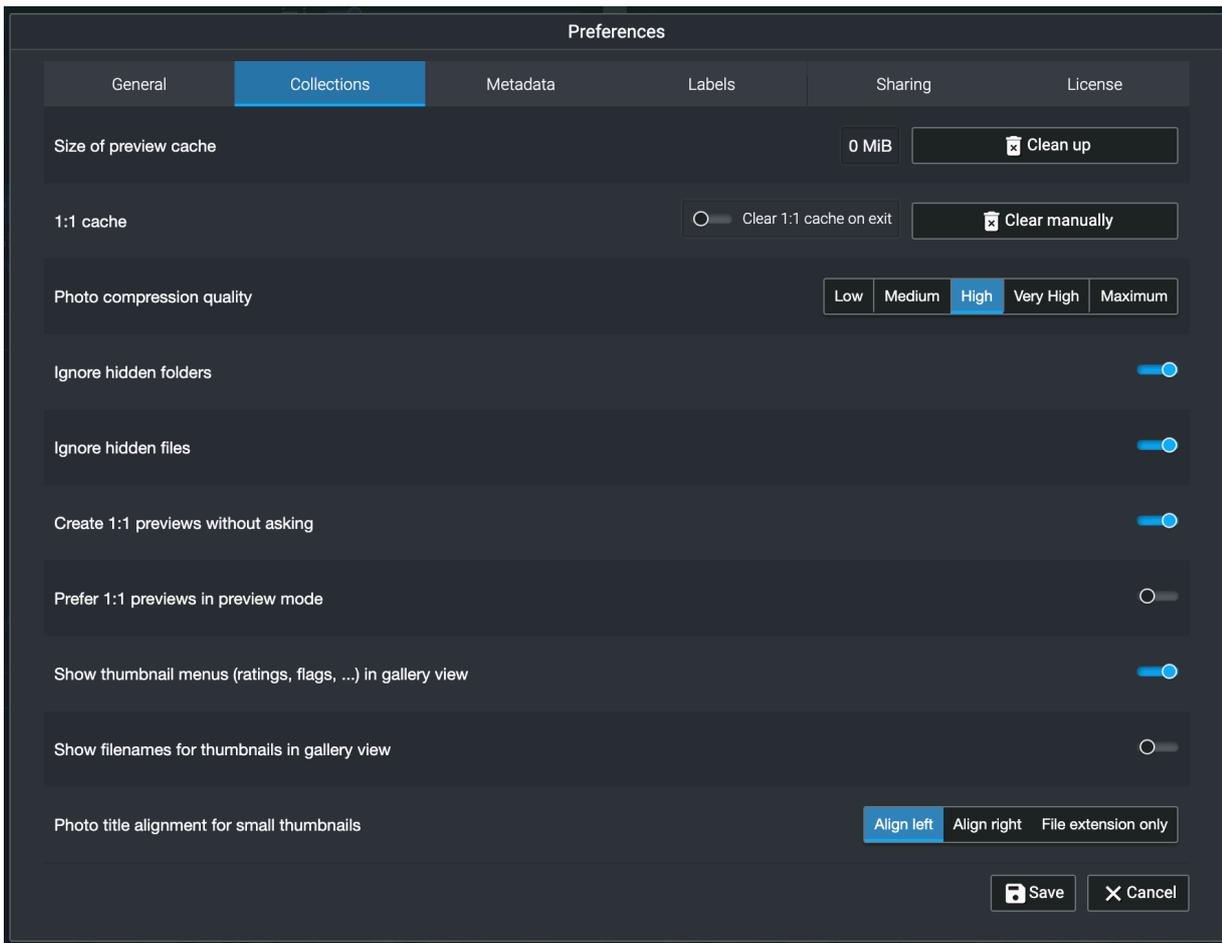


If you have activated maximum CPU load, Excire Foto will use all your processor cores for the analysis of your photos. You can choose between "content" and "color (refers to the color distribution of a photo)" as different features for the similarity search.

You can also change the language of Excire Foto. Currently, Excire Foto supports German and English. Currently, German and English are also the languages available for the Excire keywords. Only one language can be used for Excire keywords.

You can change the font size according to your requirements. With the option "Keep filter settings" Excire Foto remembers your configuration of the filter bar when you switch between folders and collections. After a restart, however, these settings are reset. It is also possible to keep sorting settings.

Collections

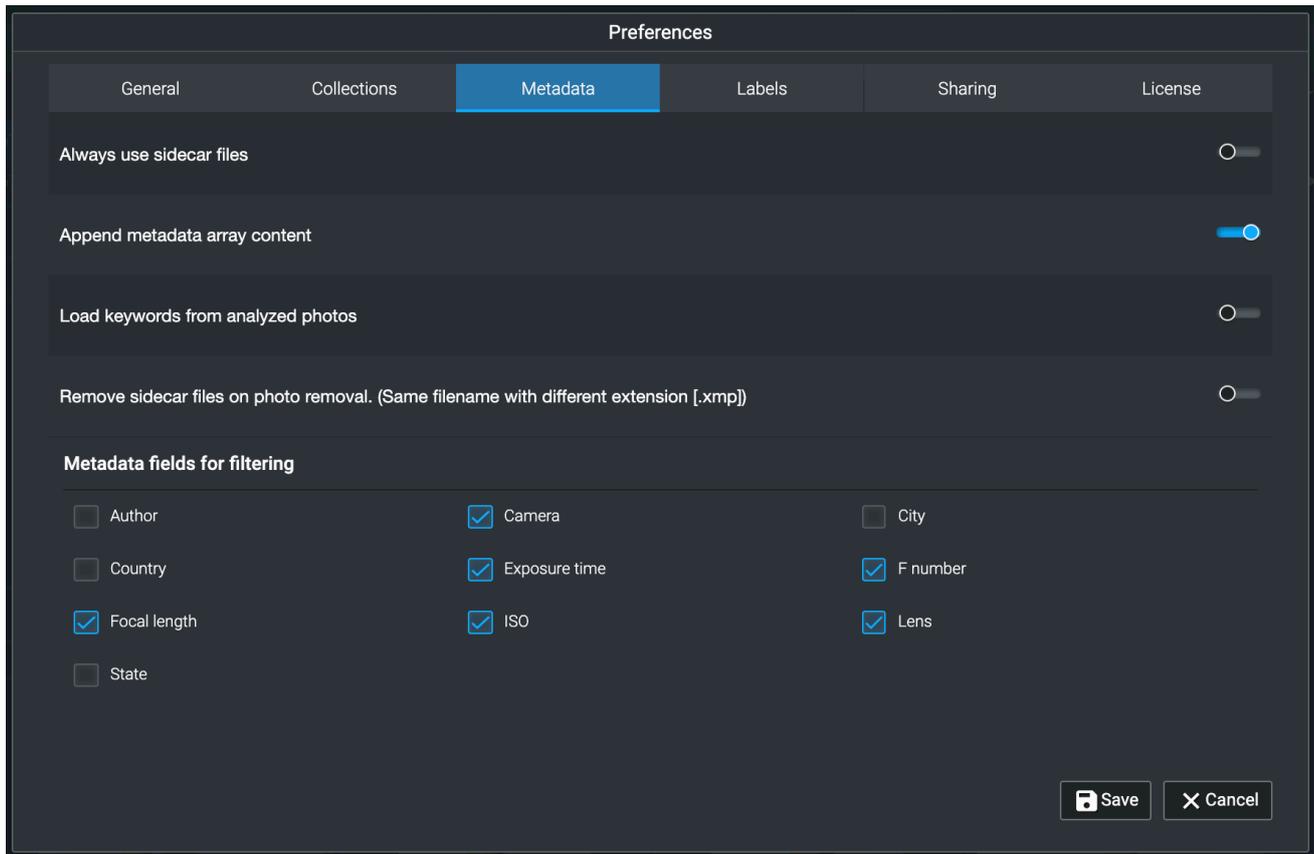


Under "Collections" you can clean up the space used for previews - the previews that Excire Foto does not need will be deleted. You can delete 1:1 previews manually if you wish. Alternatively, you can activate the option so that 1:1 previews are deleted each time you exit Excire Foto. In addition to the quality of the photo compression of the previews, you can also specify whether hidden files or folders should be ignored.

If you want to have the photo menu of a photo and its name always displayed in the photo grid, simply activate the corresponding options in these settings. Furthermore you can specify the alignment of the photo title for small thumbnails.

Please notice that Excire Foto provides for each setting a corresponding tooltip.

Metadata



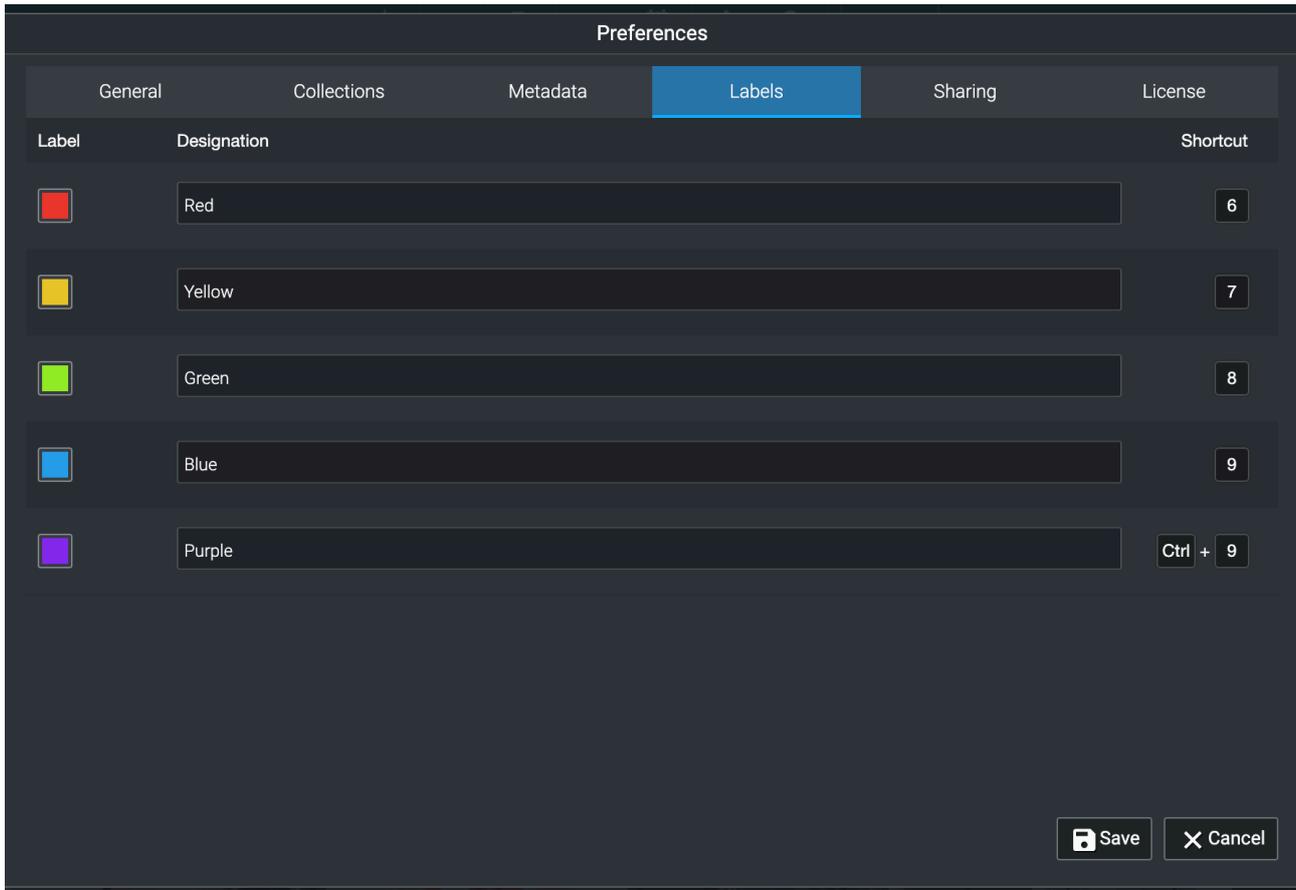
Under "Metadata" you can define whether Metadata should always be stored in XMP files. This would then be effective not only for raw formats, but also for JPGs, for example. Note that the metadata of raw formats are always saved in XMP files.

If keywords already exist for your photos, they can be read from a photo or the corresponding XMP file. Just activate the option "Load keywords from analyzed photos". Please notice, that the external keywords will only be loaded if the added photos will be analyzed as well. So you have to enable the „analyze photos“ option.

NOTE: This option ("Load keywords from analyzed photos") is important if your own keywords are already in an XMP file or are linked to a photo file and should be loaded into Excire Foto. It doesn't matter if this is conducted when adding folders or afterwards with the "Load metadata" function. It should be noted that Excire Foto only reads keywords from the <dc:subject> IPTC section, where keywords are "flat". Keyword hierarchies are not part of the IPTC standard, therefore Excire Foto does not read them.

You can also select the metadata you want to use for filtering in the gallery view. Currently, this is limited to the metadata shown above.

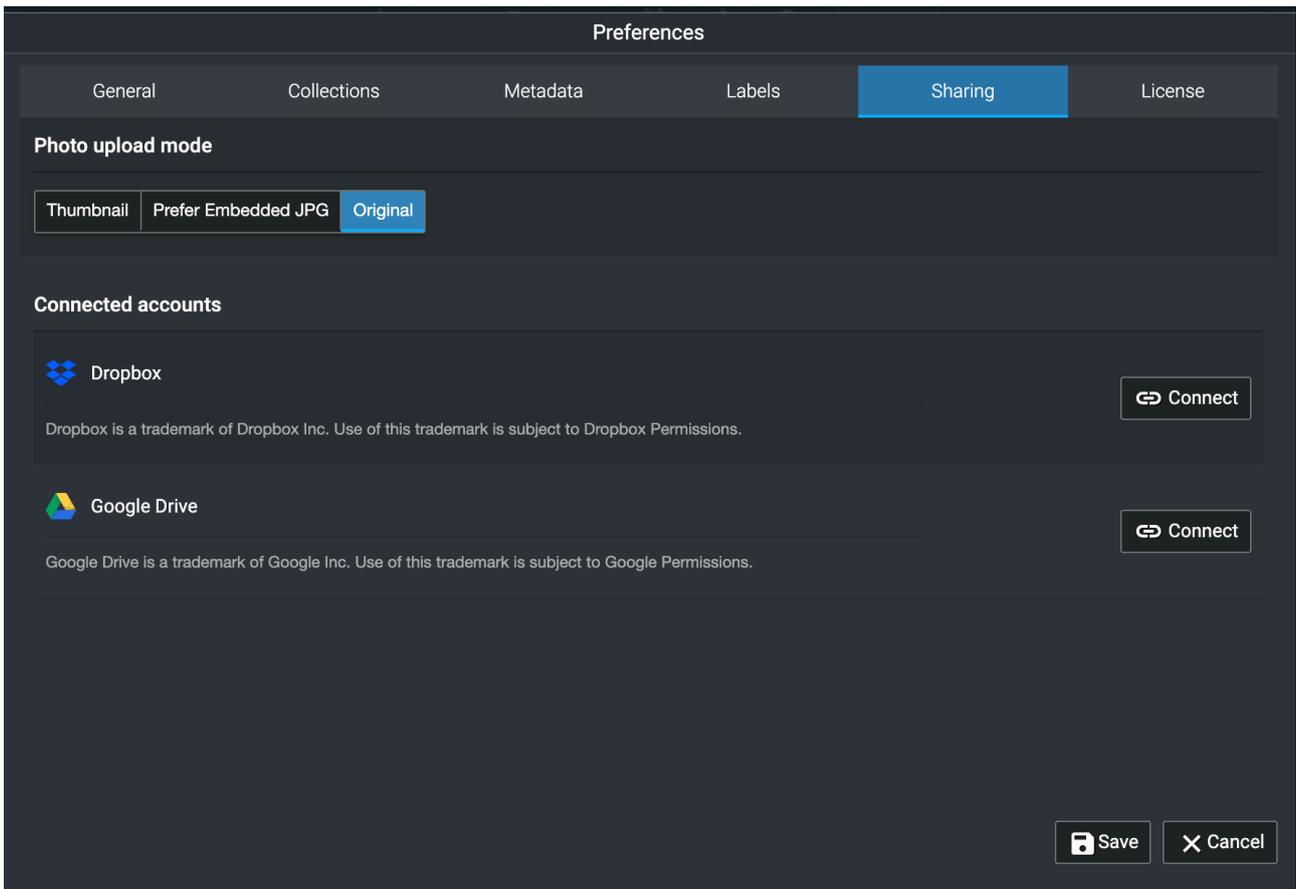
Labels



In addition to the star ratings, you can also save color labels in photos or the corresponding XMP files ("Save Metadata" option in the "Photo" menu) to use them outside of Excire Foto. For this purpose, a color is mapped to a string, which is saved under the XMP tag "xmp:label". This allows you to import this information into other programs such as Adobe Lightroom Classic or Capture One, so that your photos will have the color labels assigned in Excire Foto.

It is important that colors are mapped to the correct strings used in these programs. The default settings are shown above. Excire Foto sets these automatically according to the language you have set. However, if the assignment of color label to name is not correct on your computer, you can use the above mask to correct the mapping from color label to name. Please note that upper and lower case letters have to match.

Sharing



Here you find various settings for sharing your photo folders or collections. First, you determine the format in which you want to upload photos. You can choose between thumbnail, embedded JPG or original.

To use a cloud service, you need to connect to it. Currently, Dropbox and Google Drive are supported. Excire Foto remembers these settings, so you can share your photos with a few simple steps. You can learn more about sharing in the section "10. Sharing and Editing Photos".

License

In the tab "License" you can enter your registration data. If you have already done so successfully, you will find information about the registered Excire Foto version here.

Preferences

General Collections Metadata Labels Sharing **License**

Please enter your license data:

Email address *

License Key *

Register Key

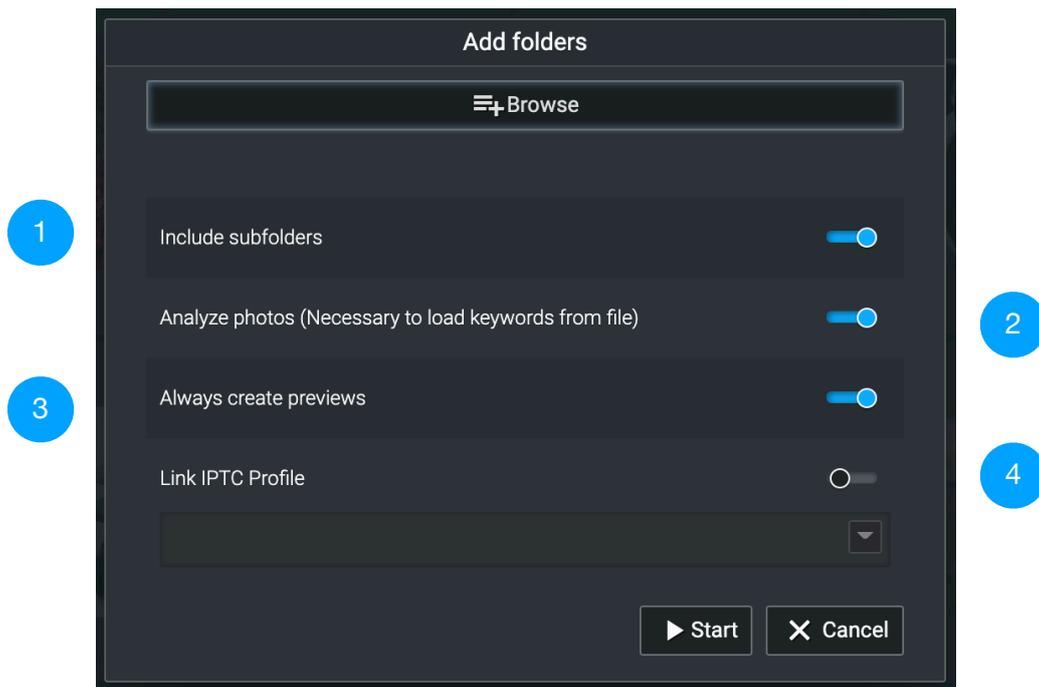
Registered products

Excire Foto Standard Version

5. First Steps

After successful installation you can start organizing your photos. Similar to Adobe Lightroom Classic and other photo management apps, you must first add your photo folders to Excire Foto.

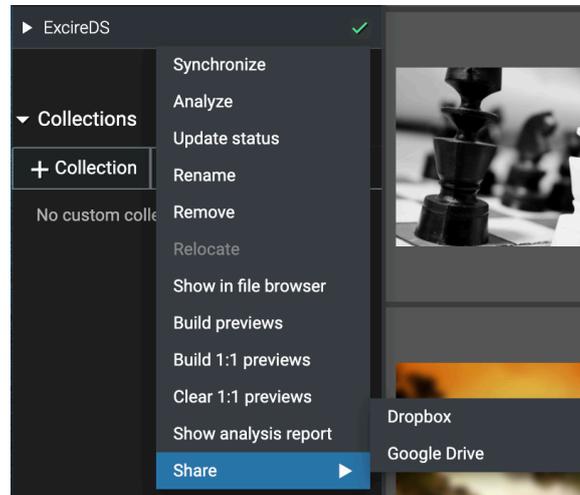
To do this, simply click on the "Add" button in the left column of the gallery view. In the dialog that appears, you can then make various settings:



- 1 To add or register folders including subfolders you should activate this option. Then a directory tree is recursively searched for photos.
- 2 If this option is enabled, once the photos are registered, they will also be automatically analyzed and the corresponding keywords will be saved in Excire Foto.
- 3 If you often work offline and need larger previews of your photos, you should activate this option. The size of the previews is 1280 pixels at the long edge. Please note that for RAW formats such previews are always generated and that they occupy space on your local hard drive.
- 4 Photos can also be linked with an existing IPTC profile.

Once you have added photos or folders to Excire Foto and the photos have been analyzed, you can use the Excire AI functions to browse your photo collection.

In the application, there are also different context menus available. To do so, simply right-click on an element of the interface, such as an added folder:



Synchronize: Function to synchronize the Excire Foto folder with the corresponding folder in the file system. Photos that are new in the file system are now registered or displayed in Excire Foto.

Analyze: If the photos in a folder have not yet been analyzed, you can start the analysis with this function.

Update status: Updates the status of a folder, e.g. if a network drive was not available, but has been mounted in the meantime.

Rename: Function to rename a folder.

Remove: Function to remove a folder.

Relocate: Function to locate moved folders.

Show in file browser: This function allows you to display a folder in the file browser of your operating system.

Build previews: If some previews of some photos of a folder are missing you can generate them afterwards.

Build 1:1 previews: With this function you can create 1:1 previews of the photos in the folder.

Clear 1:1 previews: Function to delete the 1:1 previews for a folder.

Show Analysis Report: Detailed report on the status of the analysis.

Copy and Add

If you want to copy photos from an external storage device, such as an SD card, and add them to Excire Foto, you should use this function. The dialog that appears will look like this:

1 Option to copy all photos to a destination folder. If this is not activated, the original names and directory structure are retained.

2 Field to define a prefix to be placed before the original name.

3 Field to define a new base name to replace the original file name.

4 Field to define a suffix that is placed after the original name.

5 Here you can define a numerical sequence to be added before or after a file name.

6 Additional standard options.

In the "Copy and Add" dialog you can set source and destination folders to copy your photos from an external device to another location.

If you want to copy your photos to a single destination folder, you will need to adjust the final file names of your photos to prevent photos from being overwritten if they have identical names.

If you want to keep the structure of a source folder in the destination folder, simply uncheck this option.

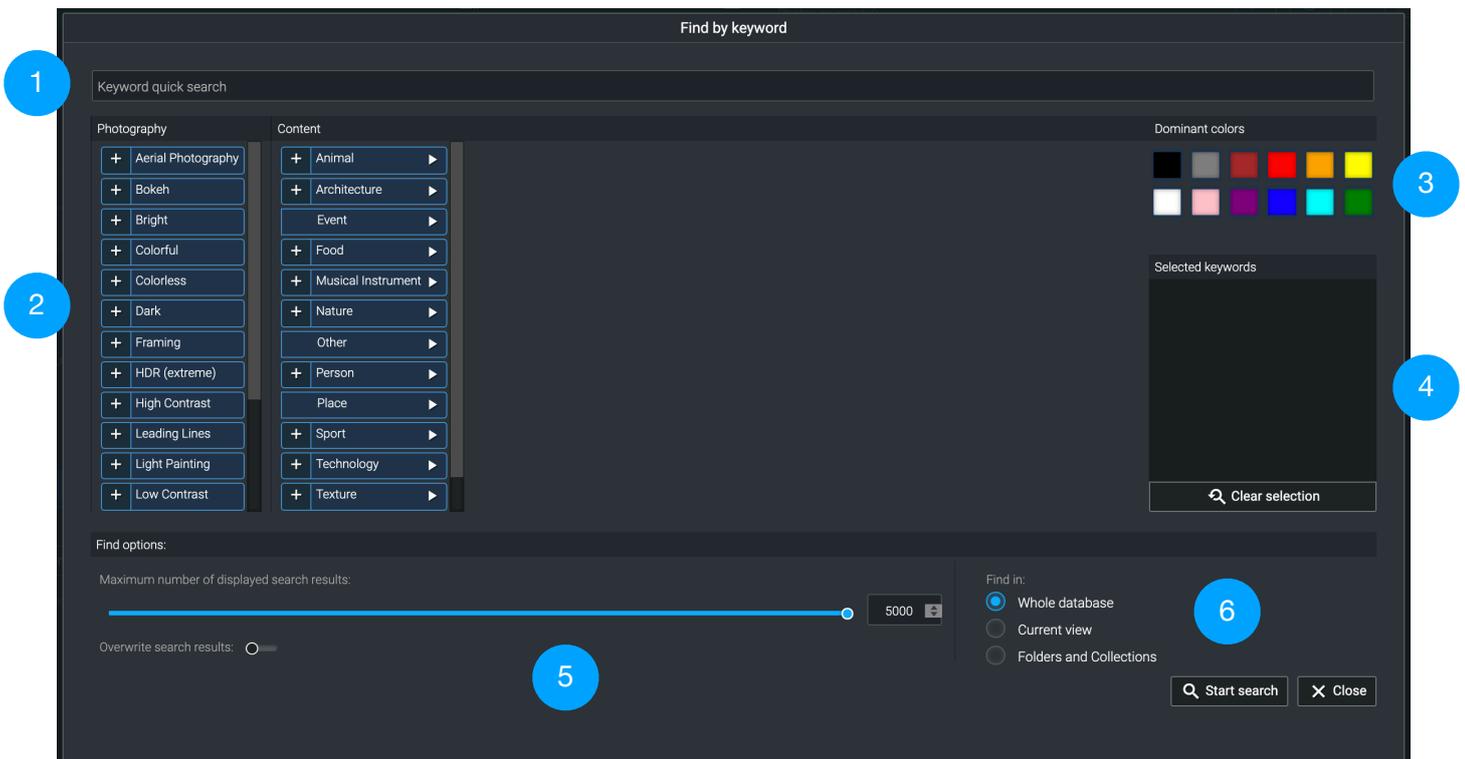
Furthermore, you can specify whether a source folder should be searched recursively and whether these photos should also be analyzed after registration in Excire Foto.

If you want to preview these photos, set the corresponding option.

6. AI Functions

Excire Foto provides various functions based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) that allow you to browse through your photo inventory quickly and easily. These functions can be accessed either via the AI bar, the icons in the individual photos or via the menu item "Find". The corresponding dialogs of these functions are explained below.

Find by Keyword



1 Text field for entering a keyword

2 Section to select from the different keywords

3 Selection of dominant colors for filtering

4 Display of the selected keywords, which are always linked by „AND“

5 Option to set the scope of the result and overwrite previous results

6 Set search space

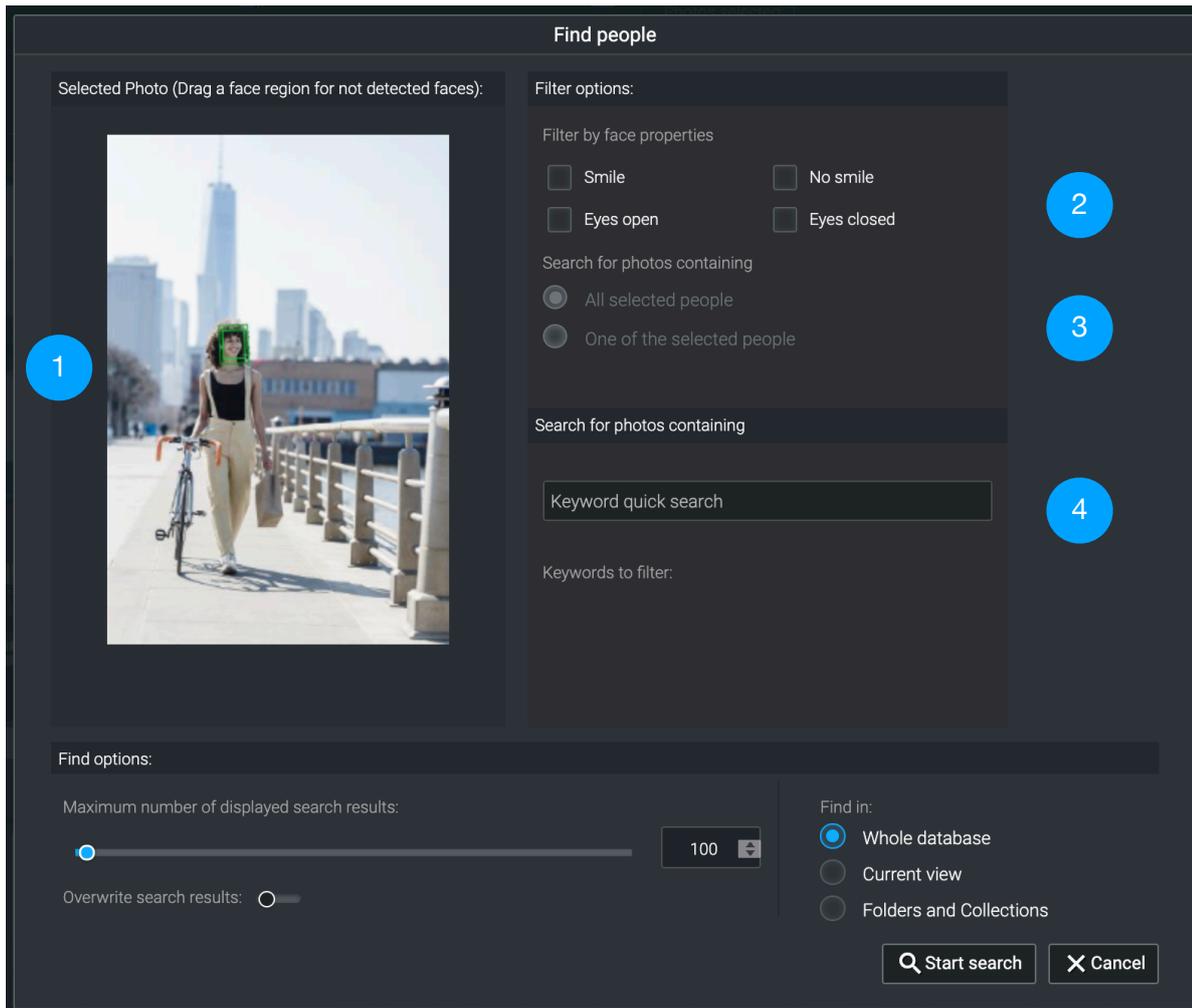
Find Faces

The screenshot shows a 'Find faces' dialog box with the following sections:

- Section 1:** 'Please select how many faces a photo should contain:' with options: One face (selected), Single portrait, Two faces, Several faces, and Any.
- Section 2:** 'Please select the age of the person:' with options: Baby / Toddler, Child, Teenager / Young Adult, Adult (selected), and Elderly.
- Section 3:** 'You can enable further face attributes and how dominant they should be:' with two sliders: 'Male' (checked) and 'Female' (unchecked); 'No smile' (checked) and 'Smile' (unchecked).
- Find options:** 'Maximum number of displayed search results:' (slider at 100) and 'Overwrite search results:' (unchecked).
- Find in:** Radio buttons for 'Whole database' (selected), 'Current view', and 'Folders and Collections'.
- Buttons:** 'Start search' and 'Cancel'.

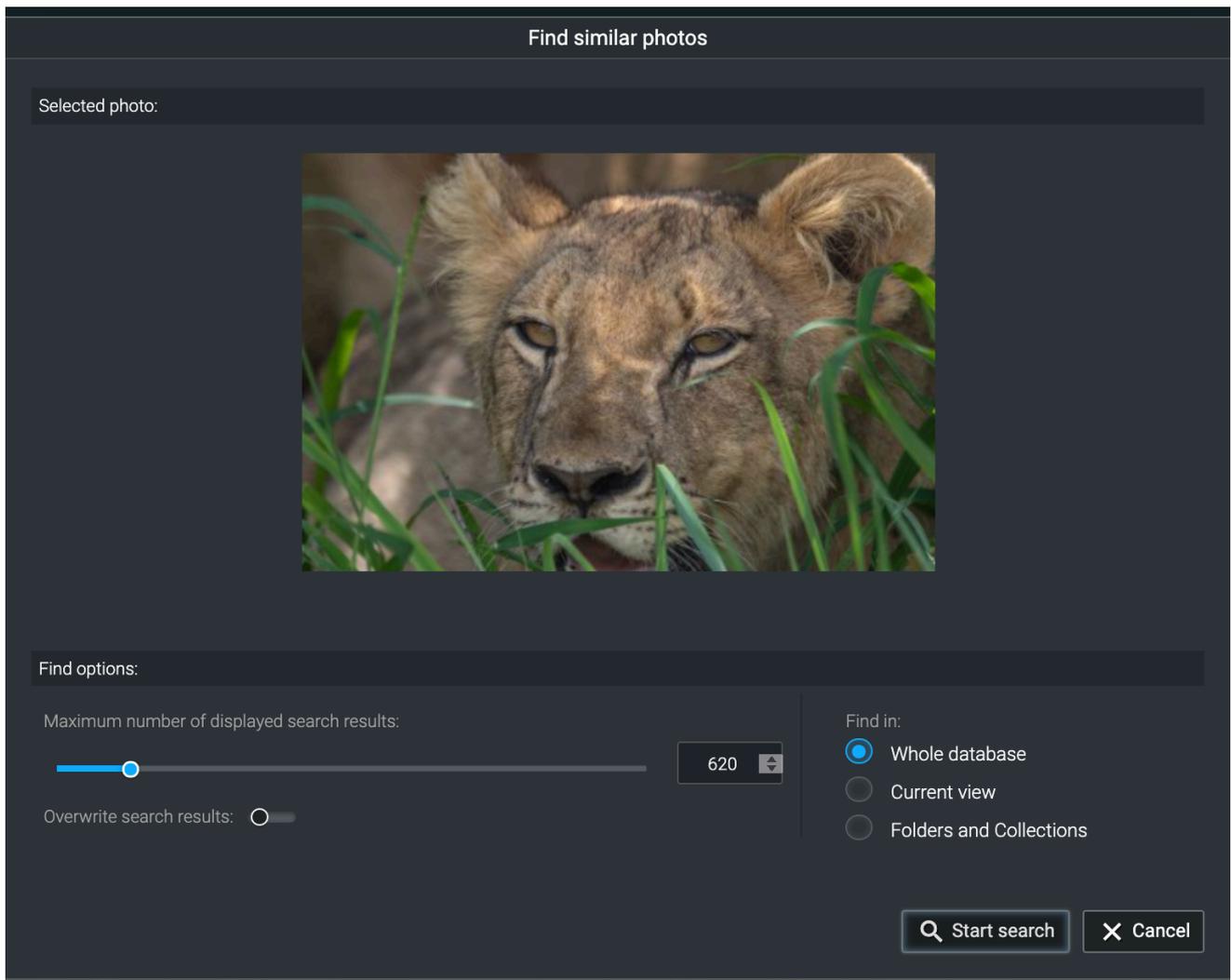
- 1 Selection whether to search for one, two or more faces. Further options are "Portrait" or "Any".
- 2 Here the age can be specified. Depending on the selection in 1, multiple selections may be possible.
- 3 Select the gender and whether a person should smile or not. The sliders become relevant in case of multiple faces.

Find People



- 1 Display window in which the detected faces are displayed and can be selected. If necessary, frontal faces can also be marked manually (left mouse button + draw rectangle). Use the mouse to select one or more faces. To delete selections, use the right mouse button.
- 2 Additional filter options
- 3 If several faces are selected, you can specify whether to search for photos showing all people or whether a separate search should be performed for each person.
- 4 Adding Excire keywords to the filter. For example, photos of a person on a beach can be found by adding the keyword "beach".

Find Similar Photos



This dialog shows the selected photo and the search options. You can set the maximum number of photos for the search result, whether previous search results should be overwritten, and whether to search the whole Excire Foto database or just the current view (folder or collection).

7. Collections

Collections are a central element in Excire Foto, and of two different types: result collections and custom collections. The latter can also be grouped.

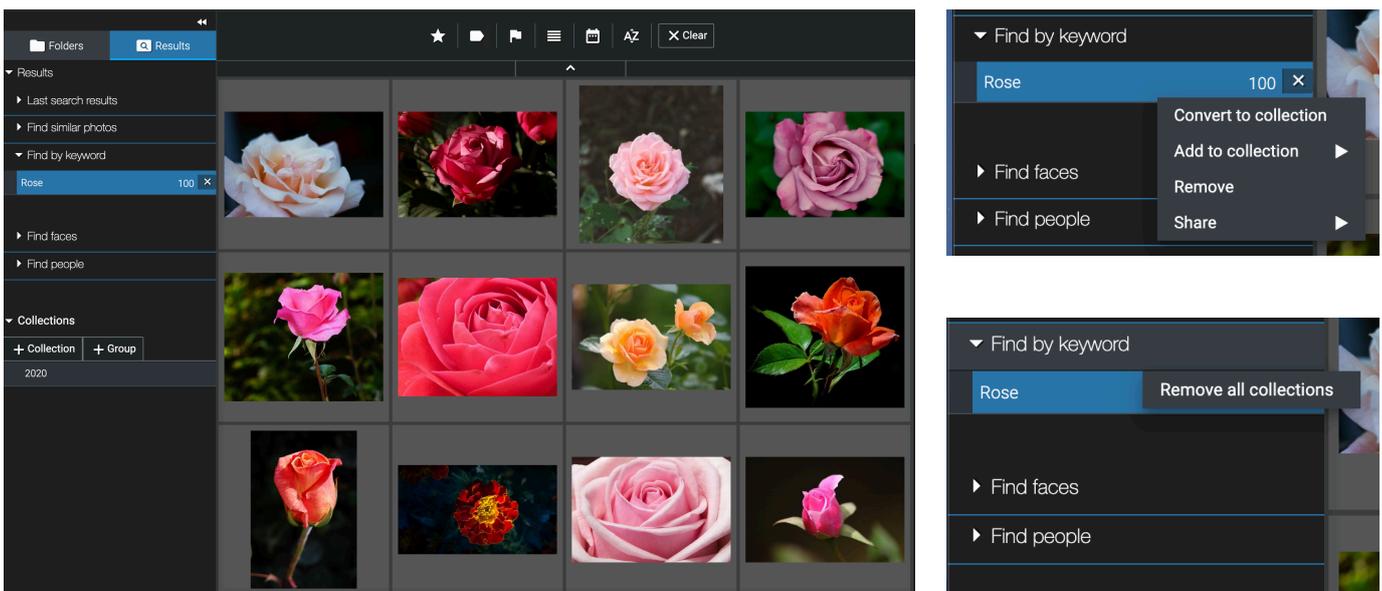
The result collections are differentiated according to their type:

- **Last search results:** A search result is always displayed in this collection if you have selected the option "Overwrite previous results" in the various search dialogs.
- **Find similar photos:** The results of a similarity search are displayed here.
- **Find by keyword:** The results of a keyword search are displayed here.
- **Find faces:** This is where the results are displayed when you search for faces.
- **Find people:** This is where the results are displayed when you search for specific people.

Using the corresponding context menu (right mouse button) you can delete individual search results or an entire history.

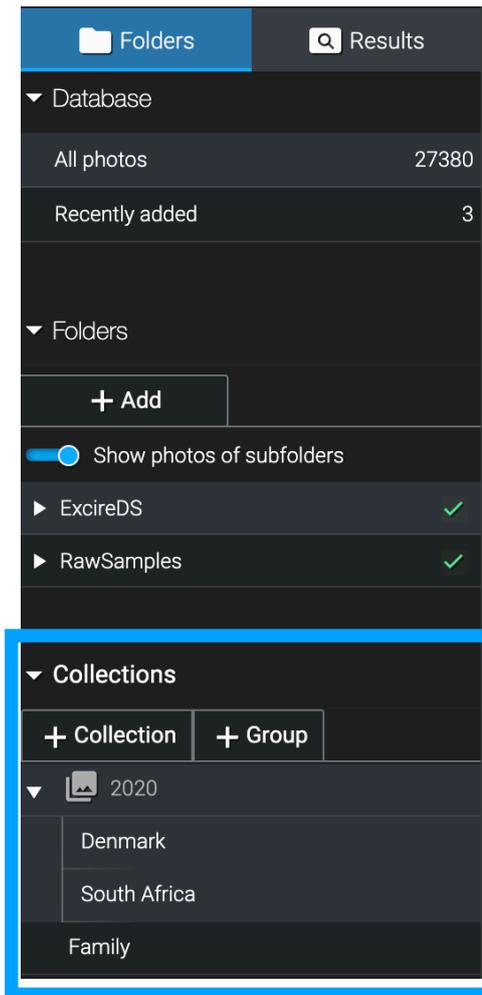
You can convert or add a results collections to a custom collection. To do this, simply right-click on a results collection.

By combining the mouse button and CTRL (Windows) / COMMAND (Mac) or SHIFT you can select multiple collections.



An important function is the creation and grouping of user-defined collections. In combination with the AI functions of Excire Foto, you can quickly create personal collections that you can share with others or export.

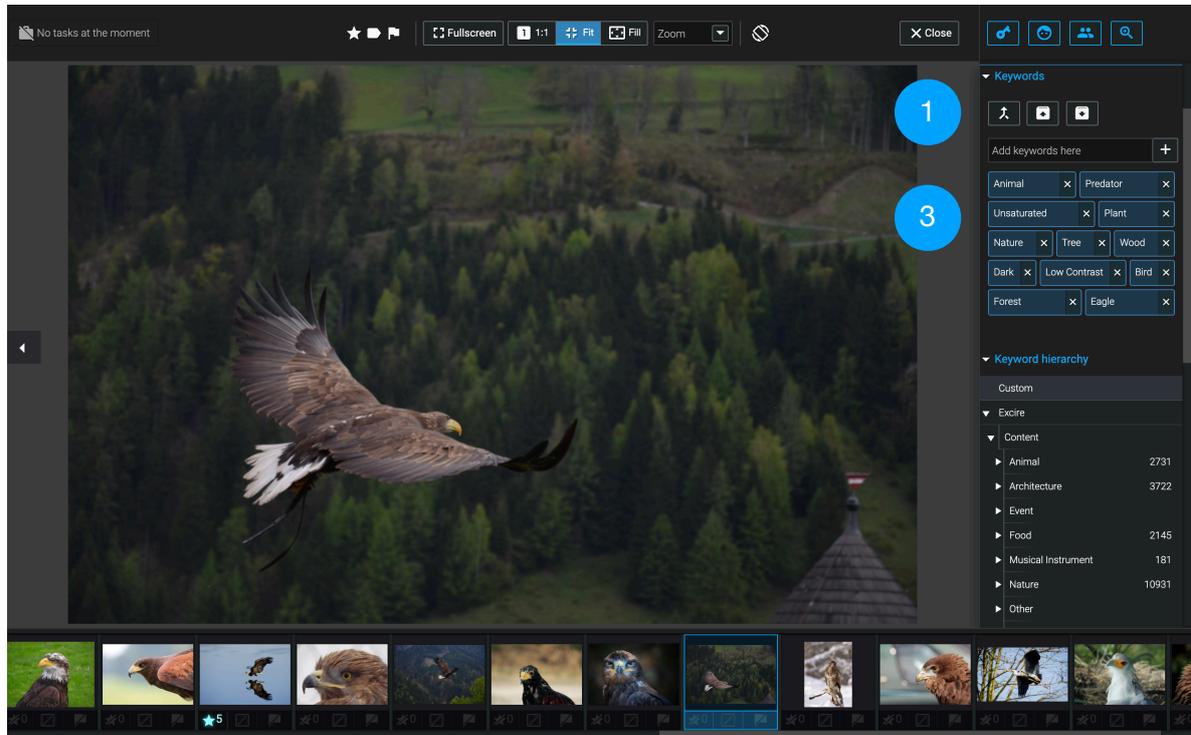
You can create, delete and rename collections via the context menu that appears when you click the right mouse button.



Collections and groups of collections can be created with a few clicks. Here, for example, a group "2020" was created, which contains the collections "Denmark" and „South Africa“. Furthermore, the collection "Family" has been created at the top level.

8. Keywords and Keyword Hierarchy

In both views, gallery and preview, the assigned keywords and the keyword hierarchy are located in the right column of the application.



- 1 Buttons and functions for joining, copying and pasting keywords. This makes it easy to transfer keywords from one photo to another.
- 2 Input field to assign user-defined keywords. These are displayed on a grey background and can therefore be distinguished from Excire keywords, which are highlighted in blue.
- 3 Here the keywords of a selected photos are shown. These can be deleted if necessary. Furthermore, by clicking on a keyword, all the photos for which this keyword has been assigned are displayed. This allows you to navigate quickly and easily through a photo inventory.
- 4 The keyword hierarchy shows the keywords and how often they occur. By clicking on a keyword, all the photos for which this keyword has been assigned are displayed.

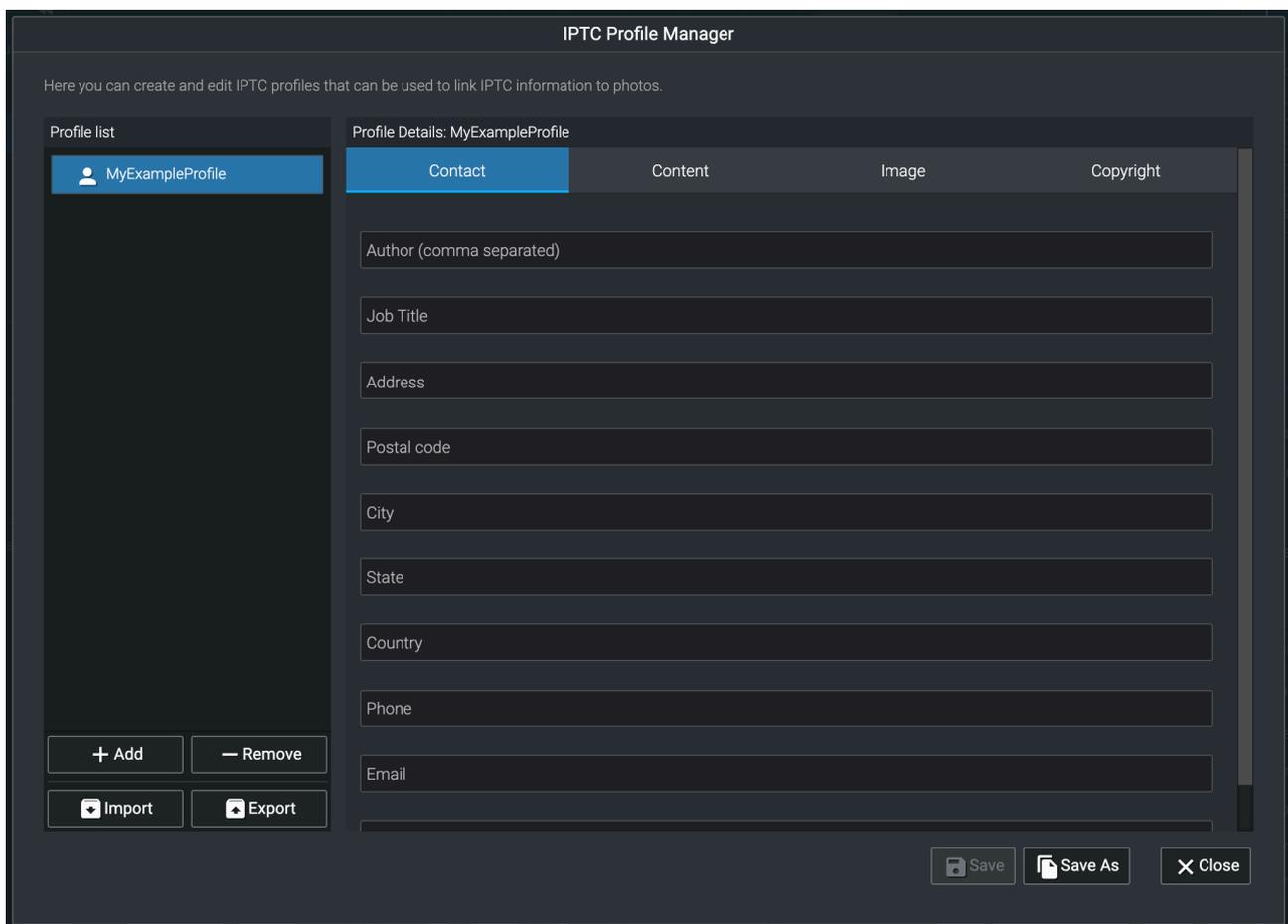
9. IPTC Profile Manager and Metadata Editor

In Excire Foto you can create so-called IPTC profiles using the IPTC Profile Manager, which can be linked to photos when adding folders or by using the Metadata Editor.

The IPTC Profile Manager is shown in the following picture. The interface is intuitive and a user can easily create profiles by adding, e.g., author, job title or address. A profile has a name and is organized in the categories contact, content, photo and copyright.

A created profile can be deleted as well as exported. The corresponding file can also be re-imported.

Before you leave the dialog, you must save your created profiles. It is not necessary to fill in all fields.



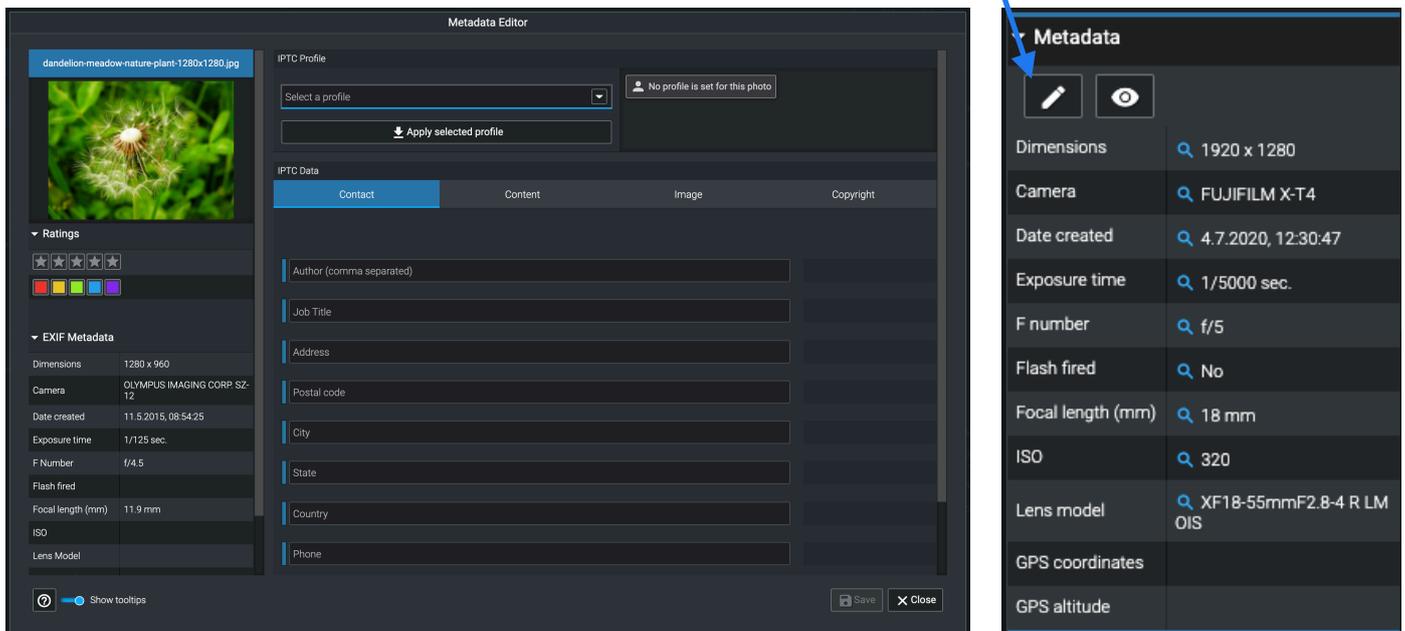
The Metadata Editor allows you to edit the metadata of one or more photos. To do so, simply select the corresponding photos in the main view and press the edit button above the metadata of a photo (right column / see figure on the right). The Metadata Editor opens immediately.

If you have activated the tooltip option in the editor, you will see usage hints for all elements. While the left area shows EXIF information as well as stars and color labels, you can edit the different metadata in the right area. It is also possible to assign an IPTC profile.

By clicking on the question mark symbol in the lower left corner, a help window with explanations of the most important functions of the editor will appear.

You must save your changes before closing it.

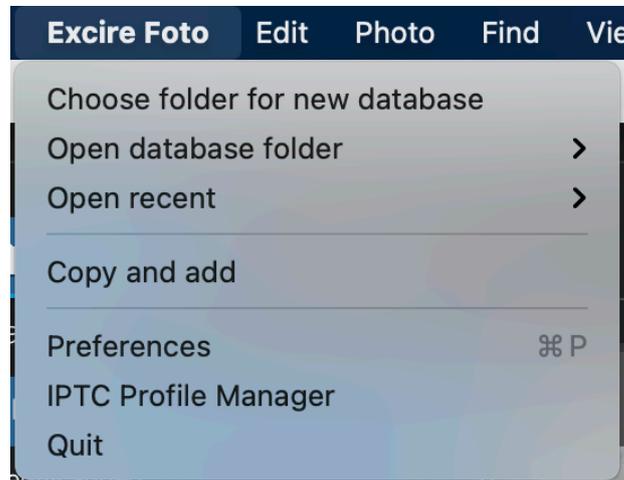
Open Metadata Editor for selected photo



Quick search with EXIF data: Please also note that Excire Foto provides a quick search for the various EXIF data. This is symbolized by a blue magnifying glass in the metadata. You can search for photos taken with the same camera, for instance, by clicking on the camera name.

10. Menu

The Excire Photo menu provides various functions, which are explained briefly below.

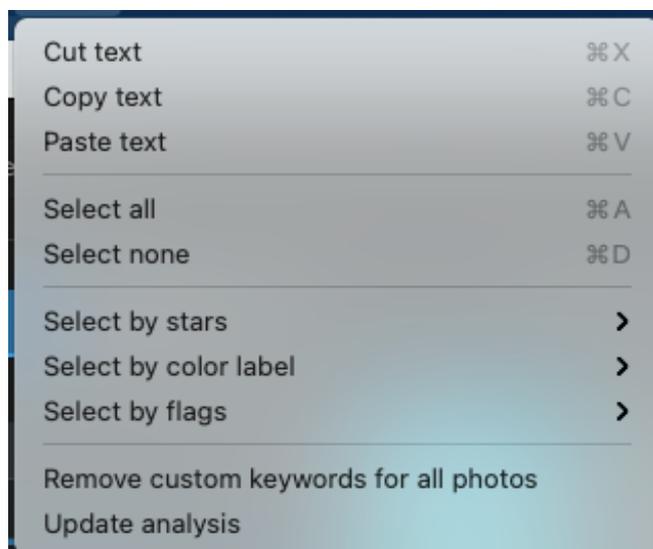


Excire Foto allows you to manage multiple databases, so that, for example, private and professional photos can be managed separately. To create a new database, all you have to do is select a folder where the database and all other files will be stored ("Chose folder for new database"). If an Excire Foto database already exists, you only need to open the corresponding folder ("Open database folder"). Alternatively, you can also use the standard database that Excire Foto creates by default.

If you want to copy photos from an external storage medium, such as an SD card, to another location and add them to Excire Foto, simply use the "Copy and Add" function.

The menu is completed by the „Preferences“, the „IPTC Profile Manager“ and the „Quit“ functions.

Edit



Text cut, copy and paste: These caching functions allow you to cut, copy and paste text and are operating system specific.

Select all / none: These functions can be used in the gallery view to select or deselect photos.

Select by stars: This function allows you to select photos by the number of stars

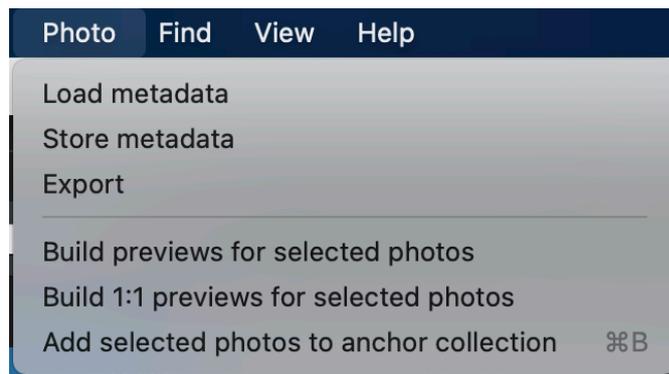
Select by color label: This function allows you to select all photos that have a specific color label or no color label.

Select by flags: With this function you can select all photos that have a certain flag or no flag at all.

Remove all custom keywords: Deletes manually assigned keywords from Excire Foto and also the corresponding hierarchy.

Update analysis: Analyzes photos that were not analyzed yet.

Photo



Load metadata: Loads the corresponding metadata (ratings, color label and keywords) for the selected photos from the photo file or the corresponding XMP file.

Store metadata: Saves the corresponding metadata (ratings, color label and keywords) for the selected photos in the photo file or the corresponding XMP file.

Export: Function for exporting selected photos. Further options can be set in the corresponding dialog.

Build 1:1 previews for selected photos: Function to create 1:1 previews. The photos must first be selected.

Add selected photos to anchor collection: Adds the selected photos to the collection previously set as reference via the context menu.

Find



Find similar photos: Function to find similar photos. At least one example photo must be selected first.

Find people: Function for finding people. You must first select at least one photo of the person you are looking for.

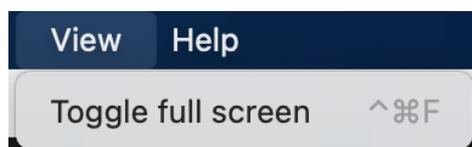
Find by keyword: This feature allows you to search your photo collection based on keywords and dominant colors.

Find faces: This function allows you to find photos that show faces with different characteristics.

Find similar photos with external photo: Function for finding similar photos, using an external photo as a sample photo.

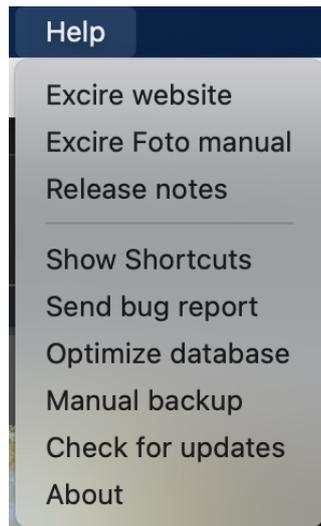
Find people with external photo: Function for finding people on the basis of an external photo, in which the corresponding frontal face must be selected.

View



Toggle full screen: Function to switch to full screen mode

Help



Excire website, manual and release notes: Link to the Excire website, the Excire Foto Manual and information about the current Excire Foto version.

Show Shortcuts: Opens a window where all shortcuts are depicted.

Send bug report: Function to send a bug report to the Excire Support Team.

Optimize database: Starts an optimization of the Excire Foto databases. This process should be carried out at regular intervals. We recommend to conduct this optimization once in a month.

Manual backup: This function is used to make a backup of the Excire Foto databases.

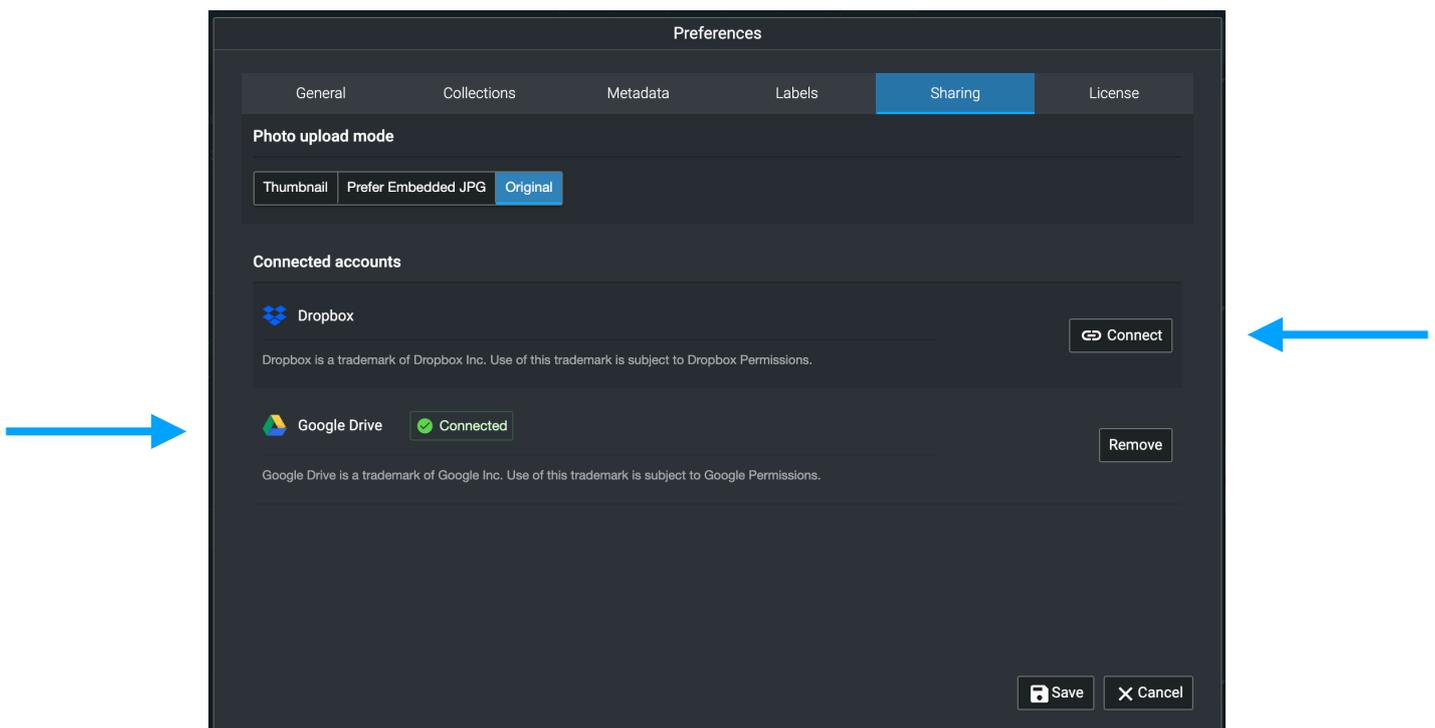
Check for updates: Function to search for Excire Foto updates.

About: Information about Excire Foto

11. Sharing and Editing Photos

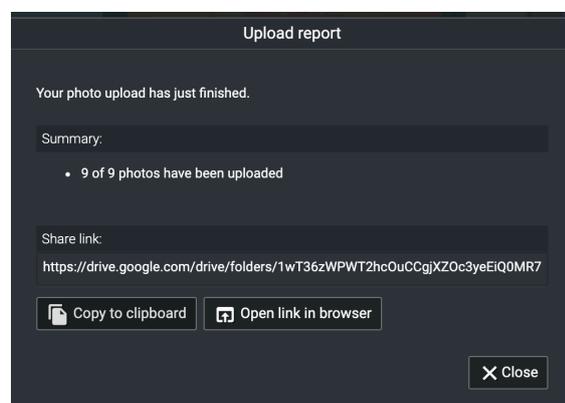
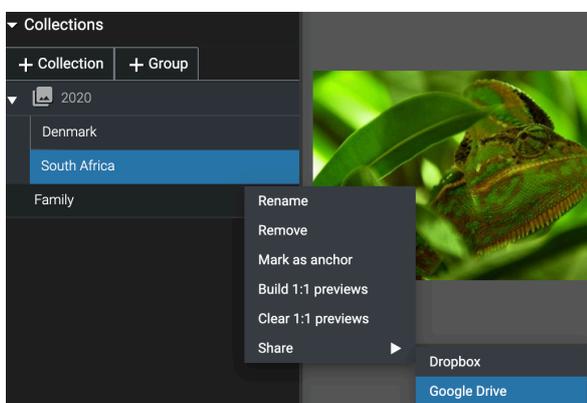
For sharing photos with friends, Excire Foto supports Dropbox and Google Drive. You can share folders, custom collections and result collections. The corresponding option appears in the respective context menu.

To use these services, you must first connect to your own Dropbox or Google Drive:



Next, for example, a custom collection can be shared via Google Drive:

Finally, you will receive a link that you can share:

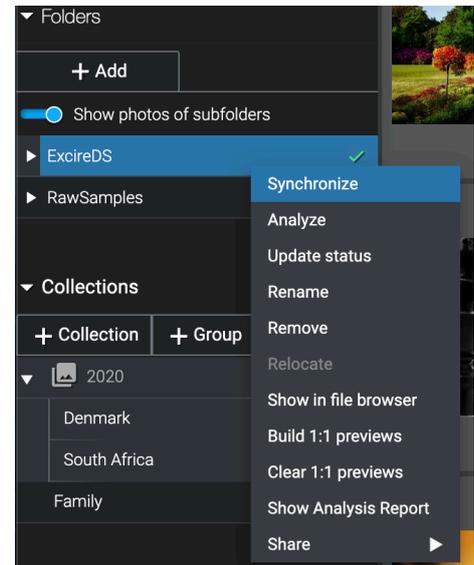
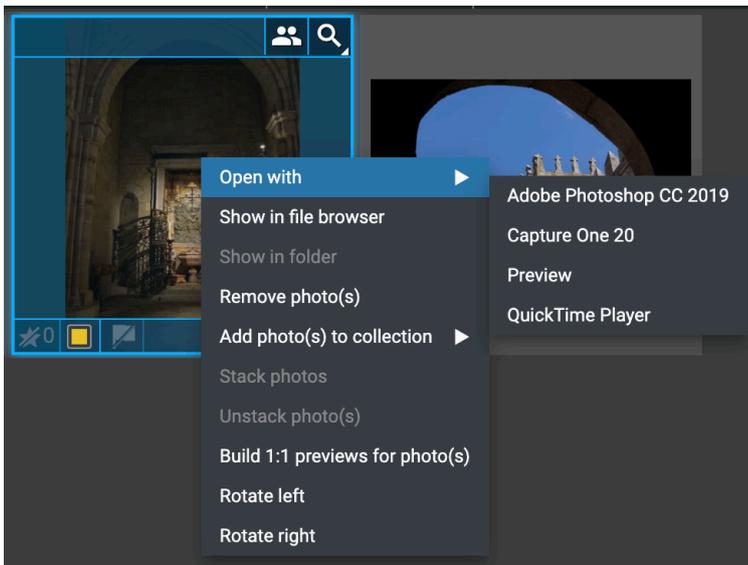


Editing Photos

To ensure a smooth workflow, Excire Foto provides the "Open with" function in the context menu. This allows you to select your favorite application for image editing. Please note that this menu lists all the applications that are also displayed in the corresponding menu of your file browser. If you miss your main program, you have to configure it for the respective file type in your operating system.

Once you are finished with editing a photo and you want the result to appear in Excire Foto, simply save the photo in a supported format next to the original photo. If you simply add a suffix such as "_ps" to the file name of the original file so that "DSC123456.arw" becomes "DSC123456_ps.arw", the new file will be right next to the original one.

In the final step, all you need to do is synchronize the corresponding folder in Excire Foto and the new file will appear next to the original. If you like, you can merge these two photos into a stack.



12. Keyboard Shortcuts & Version Information

Keyboard Shortcuts

In Excire Foto there are several shortcuts available to make working with Excire Foto more comfortable and faster. All shortcuts are given in the Excire Foto help menu.

Version Information of Excire Foto 1.2.2

- Added 'Save as...' option to the context menu of photos
- Sidecar files can now optionally be deleted when deleting photos
- Added a separate option to keep sorting settings
- Added an option to prefer 1:1 previews in preview mode
- Added error reports to 'Load Metadata' and 'Share' features
- Folders are now displayed separately by drive
- The 'Copy and Add' function can now also be used with already existing folders as target
- Added option to search in specific folders or collections
- Improved handling and user feedback when renaming custom keywords
- Renamed 'Anchor' collection to 'Target' collection and 'Creation Date' to 'Capture Date'
- Added tooltips to the settings dialog
- Shortcut 't' for 'Toggle fit and 1:1' has been added to the shortcut list and now also works in fullscreen mode
- The synchronization report now also informs about optionally removed images and folders
- Adding, synchronizing or analyzing folders now always ends with a report including the required time
- When creating a collection, a mouse click no longer causes the cancellation but the creation of the collection
- DropBox API calls have been updated to the latest version
- Fixed ability to reset color label and star rating when storing metadata
- Fixed a bug that could cause a crash with .tiff files containing corrupted metadata
- Fixed a bug that prevented the creation of custom keywords
- Minor bug fixes, design changes and improvements

13. System Requirements

Supported Languages	German, English
Current Version	1.2.2

Minimal System Requirements

Processor	Multi-core processor with 64-bit and AVX support Older AMD processors like AMD Phenom(tm) II X6 1100T and AMD Phenom(tm) II X (also known as AMD Athlon II X4 640) are not supported. Intel Core 2 Duo processors are not supported. For Mac we provide an Intel and M1 (ARM) version.
Operating System	macOS 10.14 (or higher) or Windows 10 (64bit)
Memory	min. 8GB, but we recommend 16GB RAM or more
Storage	For 100.000 photos Excire Foto requires around 250MB. The corresponding preview cache is about 25GB if highest quality is chosen and if previews are created for all photos.

14. Frequently Asked Questions

What image file formats does Excire Foto support?

We support the following image formats:

.3fr, .arw, .cr2, .cr3, .crw, .dcr, .dng, .erf, .gpr, .heic, .heif, .iiq, .kdc, .mef, .mos, .mrw, .nef, .nrw, .orf, .pef, .ppm, .raf, .raw, .rw2, .rwl, .sr2, .srf, .srw, .bmp, .jpg, .jpeg, .jpe, .jfif, .png, .pgm, .tif, .tiff

Please note that some compressed variants of these formats are not supported. Therefore we recommend to test Excire Foto with your own photos before buying.

For windows users we recommend to install the Microsoft Raw Extension:

[To Download](#)

Files with the extension .heic or .heif are supported since version 1.1.1. Nothing else needs to be done under macOS. Here the HEIC format is processed automatically.

Under Windows, the HEIC format is not natively supported. For .heic files to be displayed, the system must support HEVC compression. To do this, you can install the following two extensions from the Microsoft Store, for example, which are offered by the Microsoft Corporation:

[HEIF image extensions](#) (free) and [HEVC video extensions](#) (chargeable)

Do I receive regular updates?

In the future you will receive regular updates such as error corrections or minor improvements free of charge. Only upgrades, i.e. major improvements and significant new features will be charged. However, existing customers always receive a significant discount for such upgrades.

What further developments are planned for Excire Foto?

We will continue to develop Excire Foto to improve the AI, but also to add functions that support the management and selection of photos. There are also plans for basic functions for image editing and enhancement.

Can I train the Excire AI myself?

Unfortunately this is not possible. The AI has been trained with several million photos on special hardware. All this is done in an elaborate offline process that takes several days. This is the only way to achieve the maximum recognition performance. We would like to point out that our solution is optimized for best recognition performance and minimum runtime, because our software does not run in a cloud but on customer computers.

Where can I get help?

If you need help, just have a look at our forum on www.excire.com.

Will my photos be loaded into a cloud for analysis?

No. Privacy is important to us, so our AI will analyze your photos on your computer. We do not use a cloud solution.

15. Workflows

Excire Foto can be used in many different ways, depending on the user's workflow and the additional apps he likes to use. A few possible workflows are outlined below.

Excire Foto as Main App

Managing your photos with Excire Foto is efficient, safe and fun. That is why we recommend using Excire Foto as your main program. Depending on the camera you use and your preferences, you can then use your favorite program to edit photos by using the "Open with" function in the context menu of a photo in the gallery view.

We recommend the following additional programs for developing and editing: Adobe Camera Raw, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom Classic, Phase One Capture One, DxO Photolab, Affinity Photo, Skylum Luminar 4.

Excire Foto for Keywording

That would be the minimal workflow: Excire Foto is used to assign keywords for each photo, these can be stored in the respective photo file or XMP file and are then available in any other program or for an agency. These keywords can then also be used in the Spotlight search of Windows and macOS.

Excire Foto for Keywording and Culling

In addition to keywording, Excire Foto can be used to rate images. The usual stars, flags and colors are available for this purpose. Thus a selection of relevant photos can be made in a short time.

Content recognized by Excire Foto, such as "eyes closed" and "smile", can support culling. In the future, Excire will offer a whole range of additional tools for culling, such as an intelligent sharpness control.

Excire Foto and Lightroom (or Capture One) as a Duo

Using Excire Foto and Lightroom Classic or Capture One in parallel may be efficient by first analyzing and culling with Excire Foto and then editing with Lightroom or Capture One.

In Excire Foto, one would:

1. Analyze, cull, and create user-defined collections. These collections can be exported and then imported to Lightroom or Capture One.
2. Analyze, cull, and rate, e.g. with stars. Once selected and rated, metadata/keywords and ratings are stored in the photos or in a corresponding XMP file. Once imported into Lightroom or Capture One, the assigned ratings and keywords are also available there and can be used for navigation.

Alternatively, Lightroom Classic can be used with the Excire Search Plugin. Capture One users finally have access to the Excire technology with Excire Foto.