What is TeslaMate?

Your Tesla. Your Data. Your Server.

TeslaMate is a free, open-source data logger that records every drive, charge, and vehicle state your Tesla reports — permanently, privately, and on hardware you control.

> I run TeslaMate on a small cloud server that costs about $6 a month. Enough people have asked me what it is that it seemed easier to write it down once.— Paul

Written September 2026, against TeslaMate 4.2.0 on Ubuntu 24.04. TeslaMate moves quickly and this page does not — before following anything here step by step, check docs.teslamate.org for what is current.

LICENSE	DATA LOCATION	TYPICAL COST	HISTORY KEPT
Free & Open	**100% Yours**	**~$5–6/mo**	**Forever**

TeslaMate is a self-hosted data logger and visualization tool for your Tesla. This means every trip, kilowatt, state of charge, charge duration, sleep time, internal and external temperature reading…virtually anything data related is now able to be passively captured for your analysis. Data geeks, rejoice!

What is TeslaMate?

WHY RUN IT

Everything your car remembers — kept longer than it does

Tesla's own app shows you the last handful of trips before older ones quietly disappear. TeslaMate keeps all of it — drive by drive, charge by charge, forever — in a database that lives on hardware you own or rent, not inside a company's cloud you don't control.

It runs quietly in the background, waking only when your car does, so it adds no meaningful extra drain to the battery. Everything it collects becomes searchable, chartable history: how your battery is aging, what a specific trip actually cost in energy, or exactly where the car has been parked over the last three years.

> *"It's your car. It should be your data too."*

What you get

- High-precision drive & charge history, kept indefinitely
- No added vampire drain — the car sleeps normally
- Automatic address lookup for every stop
- Geo-fencing for custom named locations
- Charge cost tracking, down to the session
- Battery degradation tracked over the life of the car
- Home Assistant & Node-RED integration via MQTT
- Supports multiple vehicles on one account
- Light, dark, or system-matched dashboard themes

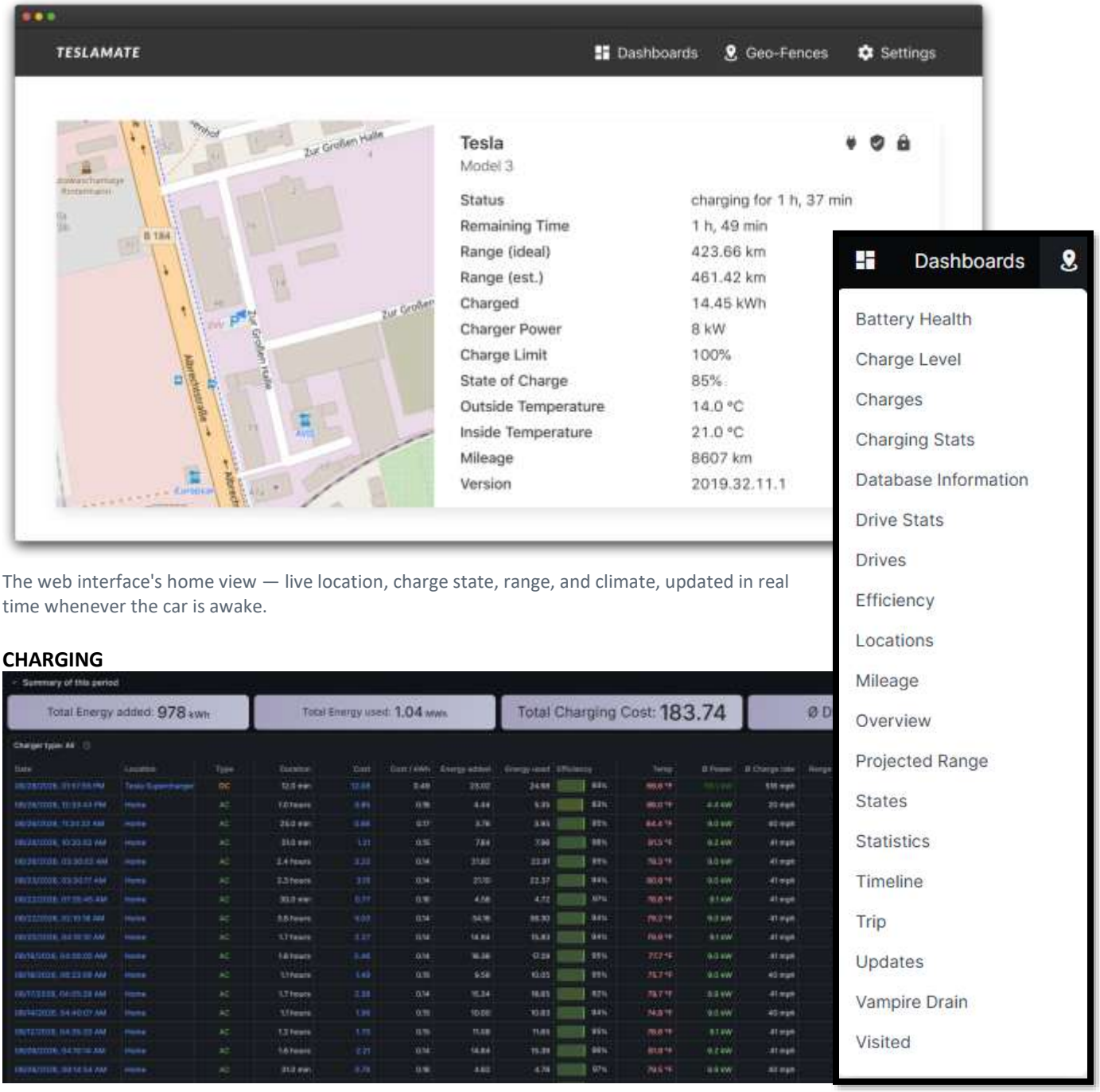
What is TeslaMate?

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

Dashboards built from your own history

A live status view, plus nearly two dozen pre-built Grafana dashboards covering drives, charges, efficiency, and long-term battery health.

LIVE STATUS



The web interface's home view — live location, charge state, range, and climate, updated in real time whenever the car is awake.

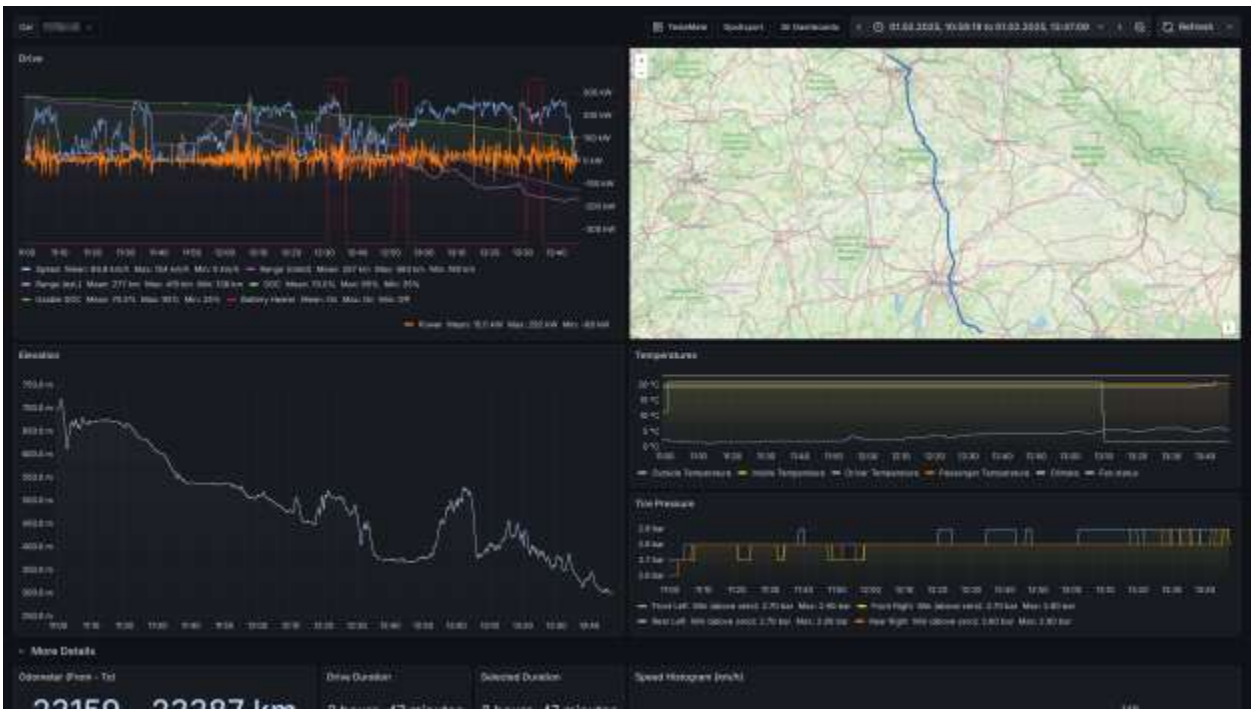
CHARGING

Every charging session logged — energy added, cost, efficiency, and duration, with running totals across any date range.

Live Status screenshot courtesy of the official TeslaMate project – github.com/teslamate-org/teslamate. Charging and dashboard-list views are from a live personal instance.

What is TeslaMate?

DRIVE DETAIL



Every drive broken down by speed, power draw, elevation, temperature, and tire pressure — plotted alongside the actual route driven.

BATTERY HEALTH



Long-term battery capacity and estimated degradation, tracked against odometer mileage over the life of the car.

Screenshots courtesy of the official TeslaMate project — github.com/teslamate-org/teslamate

What is TeslaMate?

WHAT YOU NEED

Modest requirements, two ways to host it

TeslaMate is a lightweight workload — it doesn't need powerful hardware, just something that stays on.

- 1 vCPU minimum
- 1–2 GB RAM
- 25 GB storage, grows slowly over years
- Docker & Docker Compose
- A domain name, recommended for HTTPS
- 24/7 uptime so it never misses a drive

CLOUD HOSTING

- Rent a small virtual server (e.g. Vultr) for roughly $5–6/month, all-in
- The provider handles power, networking, and physical hardware
- Reachable from anywhere the moment it's deployed
- Best starting point if you don't already have always-on hardware at home

LOCAL HOSTING

- Run it on a spare computer, Mac Mini, or small Linux box at home
- You take on what a cloud provider normally handles: a reachable IP, port forwarding, and uptime
- Little to no recurring bill beyond a few dollars a month in electricity
- A good fit if you already have suitable hardware sitting idle

What is TeslaMate?

WHAT IT COSTS

Cloud vs. home: the real monthly numbers

Cloud hosting bundles everything into one predictable bill. Home hosting trades that bill for a small amount of electricity — plus whatever the hardware itself cost, if you don't already own something suitable.

CLOUD (VULTR, ALL-IN)	HOME ELECTRICITY (TYPICAL)
$5–6 / month	**$0.50–1.30 / mo**

Device	Typical idle draw	Est. electricity / mo	Approx. hardware cost
Raspberry Pi 5 (8GB)	~4 W	~$0.52	$100–120 new kit
Mac Mini (Apple Silicon)	~7 W	~$0.91	$0 if repurposed, $499+ new
Generic mini PC (Intel N100-class)	~10 W	~$1.30	$150–200 new, less if used

Electricity estimates use the U.S. national average residential rate of 18.4¢/kWh (EIA, August 2026) and each device running 24/7. Idle power draw is sourced from public third-party measurements and varies by specific model, OS, and configuration — treat these as ballpark, not a guarantee for your exact hardware. Hardware costs are rounded market estimates, not quotes, and don't include your own time to set up and maintain the machine, which cloud hosting mostly removes from the equation.

What is TeslaMate?

ANOTHER OPTION

Prefer not to run a server at all?

Don't want to get a domain name, find a cloud provider, configure a server, and manage the care and feeding of your TeslaMate environment? A self-managed service can run TeslaMate for you in a shared environment for a low monthly fee.

MyTeslaMate Hosting — $5.80/mo (or $4.35/mo paid annually)
https://www.myteslamate.com/ — a good fit if you don't want a dedicated system, at home or in the cloud (like Vultr), running around the clock just to collect your Tesla's data via its API.

Similar tracking tools

Service	Price
TeslaFi.com	$8/mo or $80/yr
Tessie.com	$6.99/mo or $69.99/yr or $199.99/lifetime
TezLabApp.com	$5.99/mo or $49.99/yr
Teslascope.com	$3.99 to $6.99/mo*

*more equivalent to TeslaMate service.

These are commercial, hosted alternatives to self-hosting TeslaMate — convenient if you'd rather pay a subscription than run infrastructure, though (unlike TeslaMate) your data lives on their servers rather than yours. Teslascope's higher tier is the closest equivalent to what TeslaMate gives you. Pricing reviewed August 29, 2026, and may change — check each provider's site for current rates.

What is TeslaMate?

WHERE TO START

From zero to a working install

The official documentation covers the software itself. My own three documents cover everything around it — picking a host, wiring up a domain and HTTPS, and keeping it running afterwards.

FROM THE TESLAMATE PROJECT

docs.teslamate.org	Official documentation
github.com/teslamate-org/teslamate	Source code & community
docs.teslamate.org/docs/screenshots	More TeslaMate graphs and dashboard views

FROM ME

The following three documents are mine, not the project's. The brochure, the Install Guide, and Supporting TeslaMate are my own interpretation, written from first-time experience installing and supporting my own instance. They are not official TeslaMate documentation and have not been reviewed or endorsed by the project — for the authoritative reference, start at docs.teslamate.org.

TeslaMate Brochure	Essentially this page in print form — the same material	PDF
TeslaMate Install Guide	Full setup walkthrough cloud or local, start to finish	PDF
Supporting TeslaMate	Backups, updates & ongoing maintenance	PDF

Found something wrong or out of date on this page or my documents? Tell me at teslamate@imhof.us and I will fix it. For help with TeslaMate itself, ask in the project's GitHub discussions — the people there know it far better than I do, and you will get a better answer than I can give you.

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Pricing and rates reviewed 29 August 2026 · This page loads no trackers, no analytics, and makes no third-party requests.

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