

Chains of Satinav

An RYG Analysis

Platform: PC (Windows only)
DRM: DRM Free
Digital Distributor: PHYSICAL COPY ONLY!!!

Developer: Daedalic Entertainment
Publisher: Merge Games

RYG's VERDICT

79% **SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL**
Between 65% and 84%

1. Product Info

Note: The Collectors Edition of Chains of Satinav, distributed by Merge Games, was evaluated.

Looking at how much information is provided on Chains of Satinav on its website and through a distributor prior and on release.

- ✓ Chains of Satinav (Collector's Edition) released globally on February 2013
- ✓ Base game and day-one DLCs sold as one package
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Advised DRM Free with a free Steam key
- ✓ Manual and Readme provided with the game
- ✓ All game-related information can be found on satinavs-ketten.de/en
- ✗ Available only on Windows
- ✗ No demo
- ✗ EULA is only found within the game

2. Privacy Policy

Looking at Chains of Satinav's Privacy Policy through Daedalic Entertainment.

- ✓ Privacy Policy is not required for Chains of Satinav

3. EULA TOS

Looking at Chains of Satinav's End User License Agreement from Daedalic Entertainment

- ✓ EULA / TOS covers Chains of Satinav and DRM Free
- ✓ Easy to read, understand and is worded with clear consistency
- ✓ Drafted to coincide with relevant consumer laws at point of purchase
- ✓ Ownership of the game is transferred to users after purchase
- ✓ Terms and conditions for the DRM Free component are defined
- ✓ Can back-up copies of Chains of Satinav
- ✓ Can opt-out of any monitoring services / software
- ✓ Won't blacklist specific background services or software
- ✓ Users can initiate legal action if the arbitration process fails

Note: Limited warranties, waivers of liability and indemnity are commonly found within many software EULAs and TOSs

4. Setup / Install

- ✓ Users can criticise or provide criticism about the game without reprisals
- ✗ EULA / TOS is only found within the game disc
- ✗ Users not visibly notified of any changes made to the EULA / TOS
- ✗ Can't review and query changes made to the EULA / TOS
- ✗ No refunds or exchanges for purchased games
- ✗ Replacement copies not provided OR replacement copies provided for a fee
- ✗ Chains of Satinav's source code isn't to be modified or reverse-engineered
- ✗ Not permitted to create "mods"
- ✗ Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service
- ✗ Termination process dictated by Daedalic Entertainment

Looking at how Chains of Satinav is installed on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Custom installation options are provided
- ✓ All files are installed within folders designated by users
- ✓ No DRM files or registry keys installed
- ✓ Currently-executing background services won't interfere with installation
- ✓ Error-free installation
- ✓ Installation completed within 30 minutes

- ✗ No installation logs of registry keys provided after installation

5. Updates / Patching

Looking at how Chains of Satinav is patched prior and after gameplay.

- ✓ Can play the game without patch

6. DRM & Activation

Looking at the DRM-Free nature of Chains of Satinav and its effects on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Firewall and AV settings aren't modified
- ✓ User account not required
- ✓ Can play single-player game offline
- ✓ No hardware activations
- ✓ Unlimited Installations

7. Gameplay Experience

Looking at the gameplay aspects of Chains of Satinav and how it interacts with PC Windows.

- ✓ Can play on minimum specs
- ✓ Can play a backup copy of the game
- ✓ Disc not required for gameplay
- ✓ Suitable options to modify video settings

Note: Savegame + config files found within the /AppData/Local/Daedalic Entertainment/Satnav/ folder.

- ✓ Can play in windowed mode
- ✓ Can play offline
- ✓ Won't "phone home"
- ✓ Can play without connectivity issues on an ADSL connection
- ✓ Can play error-free for more than 5hrs
- ✓ Won't interfere with services and background software
- ✓ Will resume at the last checkpoint
- ✓ Can play on more than one PC simultaneously
- ✓ Can modify savegame and/or ini file
- ✓ No DRM or monitoring services running in the background

- ✗ Only playable on mouse and keyboard
- ✗ Key bindings are fixed

8. PC Checkup

Looking at whether Chains of Satnav will modify certain PC settings without users permission / consent.

- ✓ PC clean after scanning for viruses
- ✓ PC clean after scanning for malware and spyware
- ✓ PC clean after scanning for rootkits
- ✓ HOSTS wasn't modified
- ✓ Played Chains of Satnav without major errors
- ✓ Start-up settings remain unaltered
- ✓ No DRM / monitoring services running in the background after shutting down
- ✓ System configuration files remain unaltered

9. Removal Uninstall

Looking at how clean, efficient and effective the removal process is for Chains of Satnav (How much legacy material is there after the removal of Chains of Satnav?)

- ✓ Direct uninstallation shortcut provided
- ✓ Backup savegames prompt provided / Savegames retained
- ✓ Clean uninstallation

10. Customer Support

Looking at the customer support side of Chains of Satnav through Daedalic Entertainment

- ✓ Customer service via. Daedalic Entertainment will respond within 24 Hours
- ✓ Customer service will resolve issues within 72 Hours
- ✓ Tone and language used is warm, inviting and personable
- ✓ Focused on understanding problems and providing an effective solution
- ✓ Options provided for giving feedback on the quality of customer support

RYG's VERDICT

79%

WORTH SUPPORTING

85% and above

SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL

Between 65% and 84%

BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL

64% and below

The Collector's Edition of Chains of Satinav shouldn't pose too many surprises for players. It is a short and easy game to install, play and uninstall. The Collector's Edition also included a free Steam key and a Soundtrack of the game.



Colophon

This analysis of Chains of Satinav was compiled by Lisa and Martin Pham. Typeface used is ITC Stone Sans. RYG thanks **Anna Henriksson**, **Josh Bush**, **Ethan Lee**, **Adam Ames** and **David Hatch** for their insights and suggestions in the design of this analysis. Chains of Satinav was purchased using RYG's funds.

Disclaimer

These analyses are only a guide and represent RYG's perspective into Chains of Satinav as a product. We believe everyone should perform their own research and reach their own conclusions. This is one view of many, we hope. Again, we thank you for taking the time to read our analysis of Chains of Satinav and hope you continue to support our work.

RYG is a user research and design studio for video game developers and publishers. Our focus is planning and designing games with a gamers'-first mentality through user and product research. RYG is led by a husband-and-wife team of Lisa and Martin Pham. RYG is operated in the heart of Sydney.

RYG Analysis: Chains of Satinav
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