AMARIS
PHOTOBOOTH

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION

Installation & User Guide

How to install Amaris Photobooth on Windows, set it up for your events, and run the booth in guest mode or operator mode.

Version	Platform	Published
1.3.1	**Windows 10 / 11**	**November 2026**

GUIDE

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This guide covers installing Amaris Photobooth on a Windows laptop, setting it up for an event, and running the booth in guest mode or operator mode.

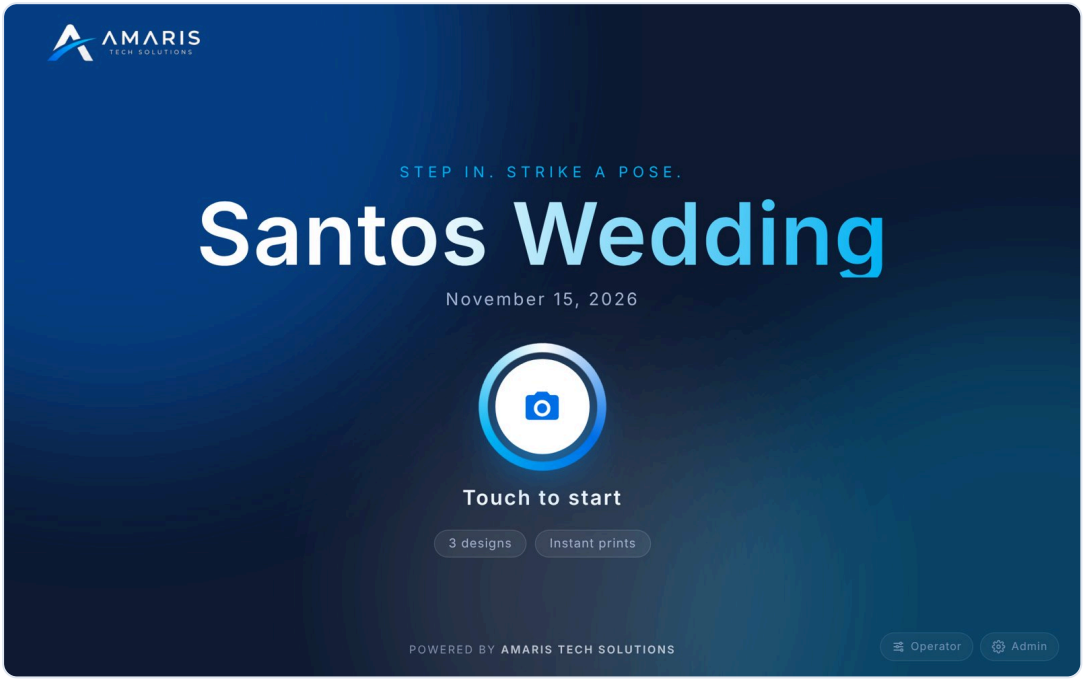
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CHAPTER 1

Welcome to Amaris Photobooth

Amaris Photobooth turns a Windows laptop, a camera and a photo printer into a complete event photo booth. It works fully offline: no internet is needed at the venue.



The booth start screen, showing the event name and the Touch to start button

What you can do

- **Photo strips and prints:** 2×6 strips, 4×6 prints and more, from a library of ready-made designs or your own artwork.
- **Guest mode or operator mode:** guests run the booth themselves on a touch screen, or you control everything from a phone, tablet or laptop.
- **Retake bad shots instantly:** after each photo, a closed eye or a blurry shot can be retaken on the spot.
- **360 Video mode** (new): guests step on a 360 platform and get a slow-motion video with your frame, caption and music, plus a QR code to download it.
- **Phone as the camera** (new): use an Android phone or iPhone as the booth camera, connected through the internet with a QR code, or as a webcam.
- **GIF and Boomerang** modes, **filters**, **green screen** backgrounds, and a guest **survey** and **disclaimer**.
- **Printing** with a copies picker and limits per guest and per event.
- **Events:** save each client's setup and reuse it for repeat bookings.
- **Optional online gallery:** QR download and email, only if you turn uploading on.

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What's new in version 1.3.1

- **360 Video mode** with countdown, automatic recording, slow motion, a frame or logo overlay, background music, QR sharing, and a gallery that plays the clips (chapter 11).
- **Phone via internet**: scan a QR code with any Android phone or iPhone and it becomes the photo camera or the 360 camera. The phone and the laptop only need internet, not the same Wi-Fi (chapter 5).
- **Phone as a webcam**: or set the phone up as a webcam with Windows 11 or a webcam app (chapter 5).
- **GoPro over Wi-Fi and Bluetooth**: the booth wakes the GoPro, connects to it and records 360 videos at up to 240 frames per second for smooth slow motion. The GoPro can also take the photos (chapter 5).
- **Print in another design**: from the gallery or Admin → Photos, print any photo again in the event template or another template, using its original photos (chapter 13).
- **Faster, exact 360 videos**: the booth now finishes each 360 video frame by frame, so slow motion has the exact length and is ready within seconds.
- **Roaming photographers**: a photographer walks around the event with a phone, records videos and photos with the phone's own camera, and the guests get a QR code on the photographer's phone (chapter 10).
- **Better phone quality**: Android phones take full-resolution photos, 360 videos can use 60 frames per second, and a *Handheld 360* option records with the phone's own camera app.
- **Green rows trimmed**: webcams that add solid green rows to the picture (some Acer laptop cameras) are trimmed automatically, in photos and 360 videos.
- **Action cameras** (GoPro, DJI Osmo Action, Insta360 and similar) and **HDMI capture cards** work through the Webcam camera option.
- The license manager list refreshes by itself when keys are added or changed (for Amaris staff).

> **About the pictures in this guide**
>
> The screenshots were taken with the built-in Simulated camera, so the “guests” are drawings. Your booth shows real photos from your camera.

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CHAPTER 2

Before you install

Computer

Item	Recommended
Operating system	Windows 10 or Windows 11, 64-bit
Processor and memory	Intel Core i5 / AMD Ryzen 5 or better, 8 GB RAM
Free disk space	About 1 GB for the app, plus space for photos (a DSLR event can use several GB)
Screen	1280 × 800 or larger. A touch screen is recommended for guest mode.
Internet	Not needed at events. Only needed for the online gallery and the template library updates.

Camera (choose one)

- **DSLR / mirrorless camera (recommended):** most Canon and Nikon cameras, connected by USB. Camera support is installed automatically with the app.
- **Webcam:** the laptop's built-in camera or any USB webcam. Good for testing and budget setups.

Printer

- A photo printer (dye-sub such as DNP, HiTi, Mitsubishi or Canon Selphy) with its **Windows driver installed**.
- Set the driver to your paper (usually 4×6) and **borderless**. For 2×6 strips, turn on the driver's **2-inch cut** option.

> **Tip**
> Install and test the printer driver with any picture before installing Amaris Photobooth. Printer problems are almost always driver settings.

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CHAPTER 3

Installing and updating

Install

1. **Close any older version.** If Amaris Photobooth is running, press `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Q`. If you are updating from version 1.1.6 or older, also open Task Manager and end any “Amaris Photobooth” or “CameraControl” processes still listed.
2. **Run the installer** `Amaris-Photobooth-Setup-1.3.1.exe`.
3. **If Windows shows “Windows protected your PC”,** click **More info** → **Run anyway**.
4. **Choose who can use it. Only for me** is recommended, because it needs no administrator approval. **Anyone who uses this computer** asks for administrator approval.
5. **Choose the install folder** (the suggested one is fine) and click **Install**.
6. **Allow camera support.** Windows asks once for permission to install **digiCamControl**, the free camera driver used for DSLRs. Click **Yes**. If it is already installed, this step is skipped.
7. **Click Finish.** Amaris Photobooth opens. A desktop shortcut and a Start menu entry are created.

> **Installer seems stuck?**
> An approval prompt may be hidden behind other windows. Check the taskbar for a flashing shield icon, or press `Alt` + `Tab`. Windows Defender may also scan the installer for up to a minute before anything appears.

Update to a newer version

1. Close the booth (`Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Q`).
2. Run the new installer. There's no need to uninstall first.

Your events, photos, templates and settings are kept. They are stored separately from the program, in `%APPDATA%\Amaris Photobooth\data`.

Uninstall

Windows **Settings** → **Apps** → **Amaris Photobooth** → **Uninstall**. Your photos folder is not deleted. Back it up or delete it yourself if needed.

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CHAPTER 4

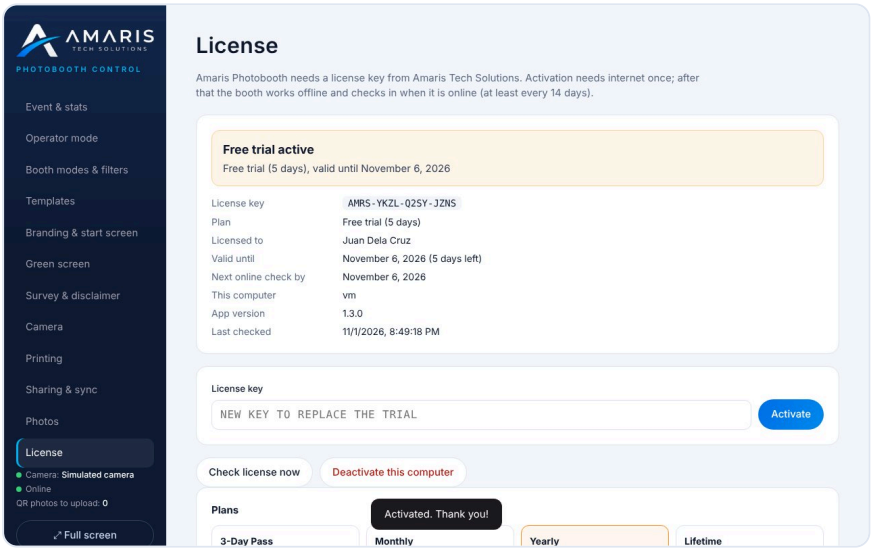
First start, license and Admin

The booth opens full screen on its start screen. Everything is set up in **Admin**, and events can be run from the **Operator panel**.

Activating your license

Amaris Photobooth needs a license key from Amaris Tech Solutions (it looks like `AMRS-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX`). Until it is activated, the start screen shows “Amaris Photobooth is not activated” and sessions cannot start. Admin still works so you can set everything up.

1. Connect the laptop to the internet (only needed for activation).
2. Open **Admin → License**, type or paste the key and press **Activate**.
3. The page shows your plan and end date. The booth now works offline. It checks in by itself when it is online, and must go online at least once every 14 days.



Admin → License

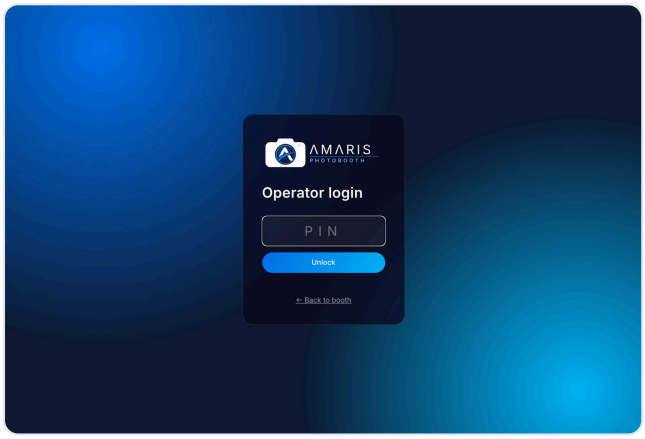
Plan	Price
Free trial	3, 5 or 7 days, from Amaris Tech Solutions
3-Day Pass	₱299
Monthly	₱799
Yearly (best value)	₱5,999
Lifetime	₱15,999 one-time, with 2 years of updates; then ₱1,999/year for updates

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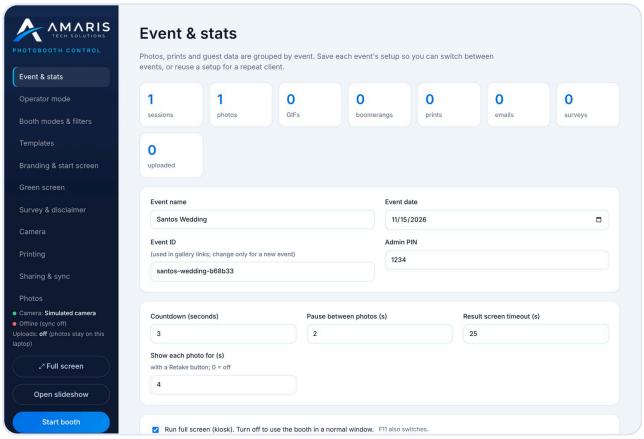
- Timed plans start counting when you activate the key.
- A key works on one computer. To move it, press **Deactivate this computer** on the old one (online), then activate it on the new one.
- When a plan is renewed, press **Check license now** (or just wait: the booth picks it up when online).

Opening Admin and the Operator panel

- **Small buttons on the start screen** (bottom right): **Operator**, **Admin** and **Window** (switches between full screen and a normal window).
- **Keyboard:** `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `A` opens Admin, `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `O` opens the Operator panel.
- Admin and the Operator panel open in **their own windows** while the booth stays full screen behind them. Each has a ⤢ **Full screen** button.



Both panels ask for the PIN



Admin → Event & stats

> **Change the PIN right away**
>
> The default PIN is **1234**. Change it in **Admin → Event & stats → Admin PIN**, then press **Save**. Five failed PIN attempts lock the panel for a short time.

The Admin pages

Page	What you set there
Event & stats	Event name and date, PIN, countdown and timing, full screen, saved events, statistics
Operator mode	Guest mode or operator mode, manual trigger and its countdown, phone/tablet access
Booth modes & filters	Photo, GIF and Boomerang modes, filters
Templates	Template library, upload designs, editor, default template, guest choice
Branding & start screen	Logo, colours, start screen background and texts
Green screen	Turn it on, backdrop colour, backgrounds
Survey & disclaimer	Guest questions, consent box, guest data download (CSV)
Camera	Camera type, live preview, test photo
Printing	Printer, copies, limits
Sharing & sync	Photo uploads (off by default), QR and email, Firebase connection
Photos	All sessions, reprint, delete, storage used

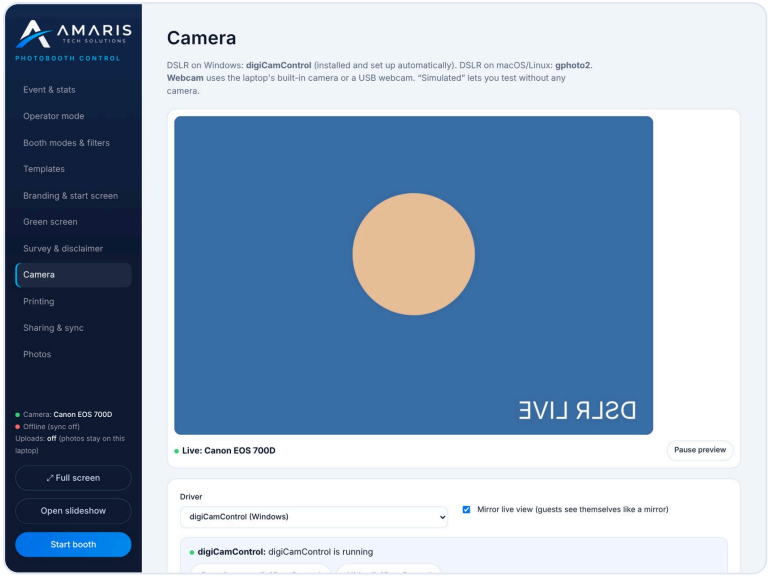
Each page has its own **Save** button. **Start booth** (bottom left) closes Admin and brings the booth back.

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CHAPTER 5

Setting up the camera

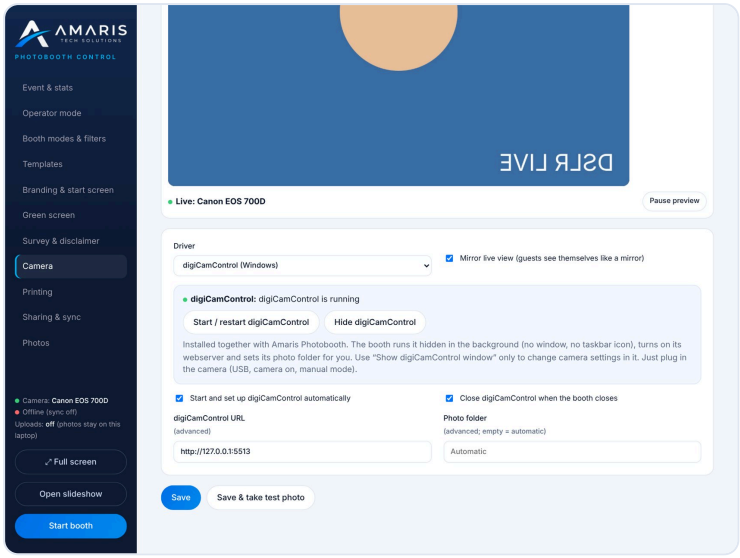
Go to **Admin → Camera**. The live preview at the top shows what the camera sees. You don't need to take a test photo to see it.



Camera page with live preview (DSLR connected through digiCamControl)

DSLR or mirrorless camera

1. **Prepare the camera:** mode **M** (manual) with fixed ISO, shutter speed and aperture; image quality **JPEG Large/Fine** (or RAW+JPEG); **auto power off disabled**; camera Wi-Fi off. For long events use a dummy battery (AC adapter).
2. **Connect** the USB cable directly to the laptop (no hub) and turn the camera on. Close Canon EOS Utility or Nikon software if it opens. In Windows **Settings → Bluetooth & devices → AutoPlay**, set the camera to **Take no action**.
3. **Choose digiCamControl (Windows)** as the driver and press **Save**.
4. **Wait for the green dot.** The booth starts digiCamControl hidden in the background, turns on its connection and sets its photo folder for you. The first time this can take up to a minute.
5. **Press Save & take test photo.**



digiCamControl status, with Start/restart and Show window buttons

- **Start / restart digiCamControl** fixes most connection problems. While it starts, a log shows each step.
- **Show digiCamControl window** opens digiCamControl if you want to change camera settings in it. Press it again to hide it. It is hidden again automatically when the next guest session starts.
- "**no camera is connected**" means digiCamControl is ready but cannot see the camera: check the cable, that the camera is on, and its battery.

Webcam, capture card or action camera (USB)

1. Choose **Webcam (laptop or USB)** and press **Save**.
2. If Windows asks for camera access, allow it. If it is blocked: Windows **Settings → Privacy & security → Camera** → turn on **Let desktop apps access your camera**.
3. Choose the **Webcam** and **Webcam resolution** (1920 × 1080 if supported).

> **Only one app at a time**
> Close Zoom, Teams, Messenger or the Windows Camera app. A webcam can be used by only one program at a time.

Action cameras and HDMI capture cards

- **Action camera** (GoPro Hero 8 and newer, DJI Osmo Action, Insta360 and similar): connect it with USB and switch it to its **USB webcam mode**. It then appears in the Webcam list, so use the same steps as a webcam.
- **HDMI capture card:** plug the card into the laptop and connect the camera's HDMI output to it. The card shows up as a webcam. This is the best way to use a mirrorless camera or camcorder for **360 videos**.

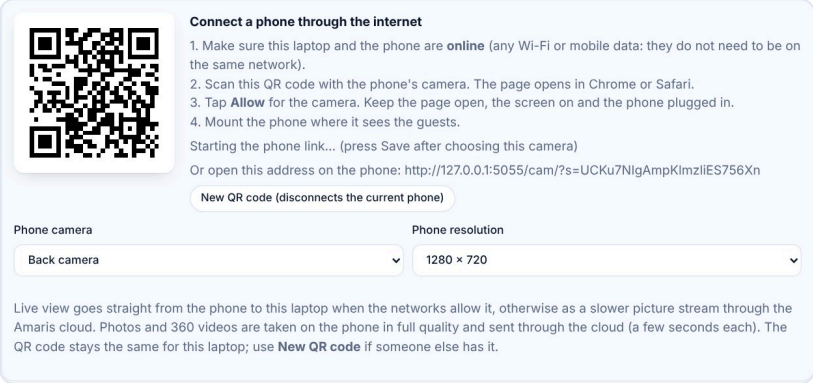
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- **DSLRs** are used for photos only: they cannot send live video to the laptop over USB, so they cannot record 360 videos.

Phone via internet (QR code)

The easiest way to use a phone: scan a QR code and the phone becomes the booth camera, for photos and for 360 videos. Nothing is installed on the phone. The phone and the laptop only need **internet** (Wi-Fi or mobile data); they do not have to be on the same network.

1. Choose **Phone via internet (QR code, needs internet)** as the driver and press **Save**. A QR code appears. (For 360 videos only, choose **Phone via internet** as the *Camera for 360 videos* in the 360 Video card instead.)
2. Scan the QR code with the phone's camera. The camera page opens in Chrome (Android) or Safari (iPhone).
3. Tap **Allow** when the phone asks for the camera. The page shows **Connected to the booth** with a green dot.
4. Mount the phone where it sees the guests. Keep the page open, the screen on and the phone plugged in to power.



Camera → Phone via internet: QR code, phone camera side and resolution

- **Live view** goes straight from the phone to the laptop when the networks allow it (Admin shows *live video direct*). When a network blocks that, it switches by itself to a slower picture stream through the Amaris cloud (*live view through the cloud*).
- **Photos and 360 videos** are taken on the phone in full quality and sent through the cloud. A photo takes a second or two; a 360 clip takes a few seconds to send, shown on the booth as **Getting the video from the camera… N%**.
- Choose the **Phone camera** (back or front) and **Phone resolution** in the same box. The phone switches immediately.
- The QR code stays the same for this laptop, so you can print it or reuse it at every event. **New QR code** makes a new one; the phone that was connected stops working until it scans the new code.
- The phone page keeps the phone's screen on by itself and asks again whenever the phone turns that off. As a backup, set the phone's *Screen timeout* to 10 minutes.

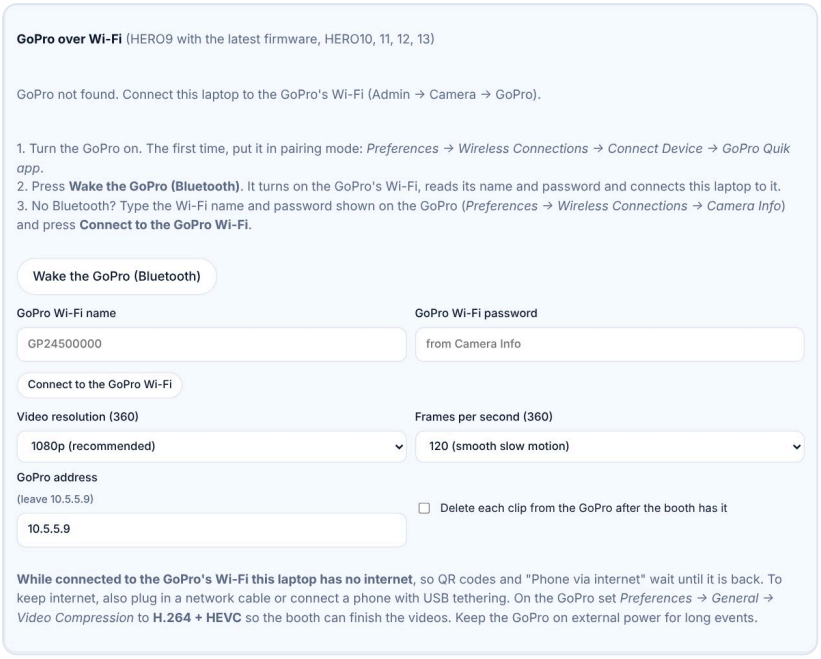
- An active license is needed. If the laptop loses internet, the phone camera stops until it is back; use a webcam as a backup at venues with poor internet.
- **Fast photos:** each photo goes straight from the phone to the laptop over the same direct link as the live video, usually in well under a second, so the next shot follows quickly. Only when there is no direct link does it go through the cloud, which takes a few seconds per photo.
- **Photo quality** (in the same box): *Fast* uses a frame of the phone's live camera (instant, about 1920 × 1080); *Balanced* (recommended) takes a real photo up to 2560 pixels, plenty for 4×6 prints and strips; *Full* uses the camera's full resolution and is the slowest. Real photos need an Android phone; iPhones always send a frame of the camera.
- **360 frame rate:** set *Frames per second* to 60 in the 360 Video card and the phone records at 60 when it can (Admin shows the phone's actual frame rate). Smoother slow motion needs a GoPro (below).
- **Handheld 360 (tap to record):** tick it in the phone box and, for each 360 video, the phone shows a red **Open the camera** button. The phone's own camera app opens (with its slow-motion modes); record, confirm, and the video goes to the booth. Someone has to tap the phone, so use it for a handheld or attendant-run 360, not a phone on a motorised arm.

GoPro over Wi-Fi and Bluetooth

A GoPro HERO9 (with the latest firmware), HERO10, 11, 12 or 13 can be the camera for 360 videos and for photos. The booth controls the GoPro over its Wi-Fi: it starts and stops the recording in the GoPro's own quality (up to 240 frames per second for super smooth slow motion), downloads the clip and finishes it with your frame, caption and music.

1. On the GoPro, set **Preferences → General → Video Compression** to **H.264 + HEVC**. Use external power for long events.
2. In **Admin → Camera** choose **GoPro over Wi-Fi / Bluetooth** and press **Save**. (For 360 videos only, choose **GoPro over Wi-Fi** as the *Camera for 360 videos* in the 360 Video card instead.)
3. The first time, put the GoPro in pairing mode: **Preferences → Wireless Connections → Connect Device → GoPro Quik app**.
4. Press **Wake the GoPro (Bluetooth)**. The booth finds the GoPro, turns on its Wi-Fi, reads the Wi-Fi name and password and connects the laptop to it. Windows may ask to pair: choose **Yes**.
5. No Bluetooth on the laptop? On the GoPro open **Preferences → Wireless Connections → Camera Info**, type the Wi-Fi name and password in Admin and press **Connect to the GoPro Wi-Fi**.
6. When Admin shows **Connected: HERO...**, choose the **video resolution** (1080p recommended) and **frames per second** (120 for smooth slow motion, 240 for super slow motion), and press **Save & take test photo**.

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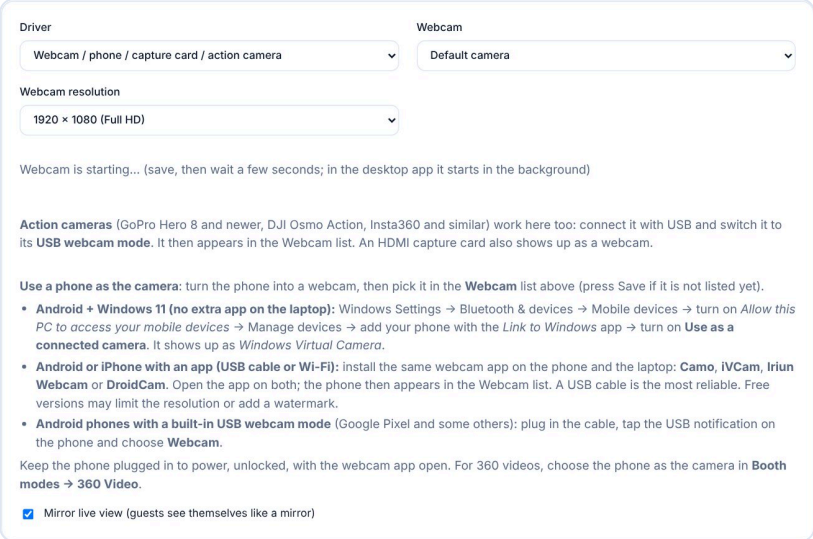
Camera → GoPro over Wi-Fi: Bluetooth wake-up, Wi-Fi details and video settings

- **Live view** comes from the GoPro's preview. It is lower quality than the recording and slightly delayed, which is fine for framing.
- **After each 360 clip** the booth downloads it from the GoPro (a few seconds; the booth shows *Getting the video…*), then adds the slow motion. Tick **Delete each clip from the GoPro** to keep the memory card from filling up.
- **No internet on the GoPro's Wi-Fi:** while the laptop is connected to the GoPro, QR uploads and *Phone via internet* wait. To keep internet, also connect a network cable or a phone with USB tethering.
- Combine with 120 or 240 frames per second and slow motion 0.5× or 0.25× in the 360 Video card for the smoothest result.

Phone as a webcam (Android or iPhone)

Without internet, a phone can also become the booth camera by turning it into a **webcam**. Windows then lists it like any other webcam, so you choose **Webcam / phone / capture card / action camera** as the driver and pick the phone in the **Webcam** list. The same phone can be the camera for **360 videos** (chapter 11).

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Camera page: Webcam driver, with the steps for using a phone

Option A: Android + Windows 11 (no extra app on the laptop)

1. On the phone, install or update **Link to Windows** from the Play Store (Android 9 or newer; Samsung phones usually have it already).
2. On the laptop, open **Settings → Bluetooth & devices → Mobile devices**, turn on **Allow this PC to access your mobile devices**, then click **Manage devices**.
3. Add your phone (scan the code with Link to Windows on the phone) and turn on **Use as a connected camera**.
4. In Amaris Photobooth, press **Save** on the Camera page and choose **Windows Virtual Camera** in the Webcam list. The first time, the phone asks for permission to use its camera: allow it.

Option B: a webcam app (Android or iPhone, USB cable or Wi-Fi)

1. Choose one app and install it on **both** the phone and the laptop: **Camo**, **iVCam**, **Iriun Webcam** or **DroidCam**. For an iPhone on a cable, also install the free **Apple Devices** app (or iTunes) on the laptop.
2. Connect the phone with a **USB cable** (most reliable) or the same Wi-Fi, and open the app on both.
3. In Amaris Photobooth, press **Save** on the Camera page and choose the app's camera in the Webcam list (for example *Camo*, *e2eSoft iVCam*, *Iriun Webcam* or *DroidCam Video*).

Free versions of these apps may limit the resolution (for example 720p) or add a small watermark. Check the app's paid upgrade if you need full HD without a watermark.

Option C: built-in USB webcam mode (some Android phones)

Google Pixel phones and some other Android phones can act as a USB webcam on their own. Plug in the cable, tap the **USB** notification on the phone and choose **Webcam**. The phone appears in the Webcam list.

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- Keep the phone **plugged in to power**, unlocked, with the webcam app open, and turn off its screen timeout.
- Mount the phone on a tripod, a phone holder or the 360 arm. Use the **back camera** for the best picture (set it in the webcam app).
- If the phone does not appear in the list, press **Save** and wait a few seconds, or restart Amaris Photobooth after starting the webcam app.

Simulated camera

Creates practice photos without any camera. Use it to learn the booth, design templates and train staff.

Mirror live view

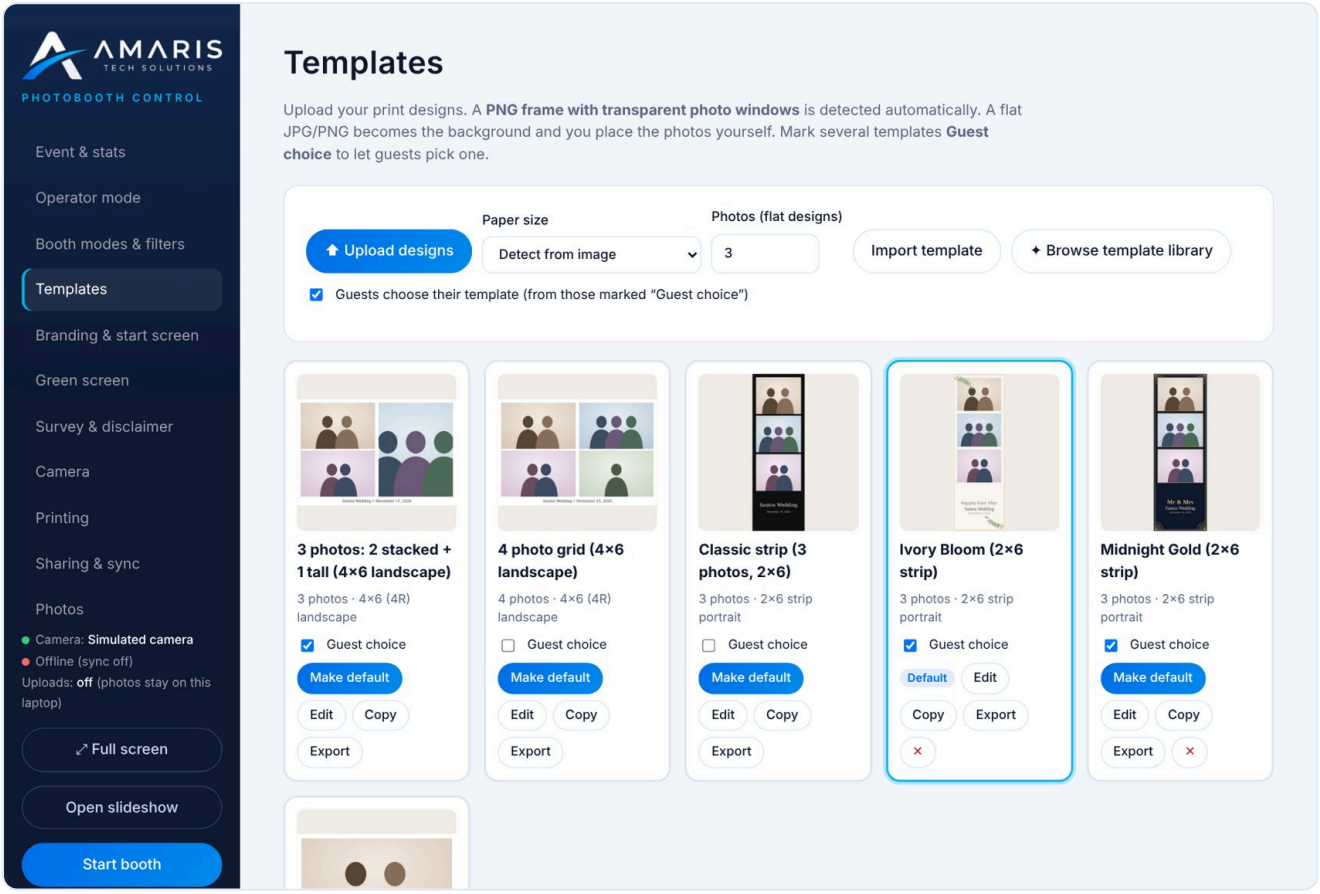
When ticked, guests see themselves like in a mirror while posing. The printed photo is never mirrored.

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CHAPTER 6

Templates and the Layout studio

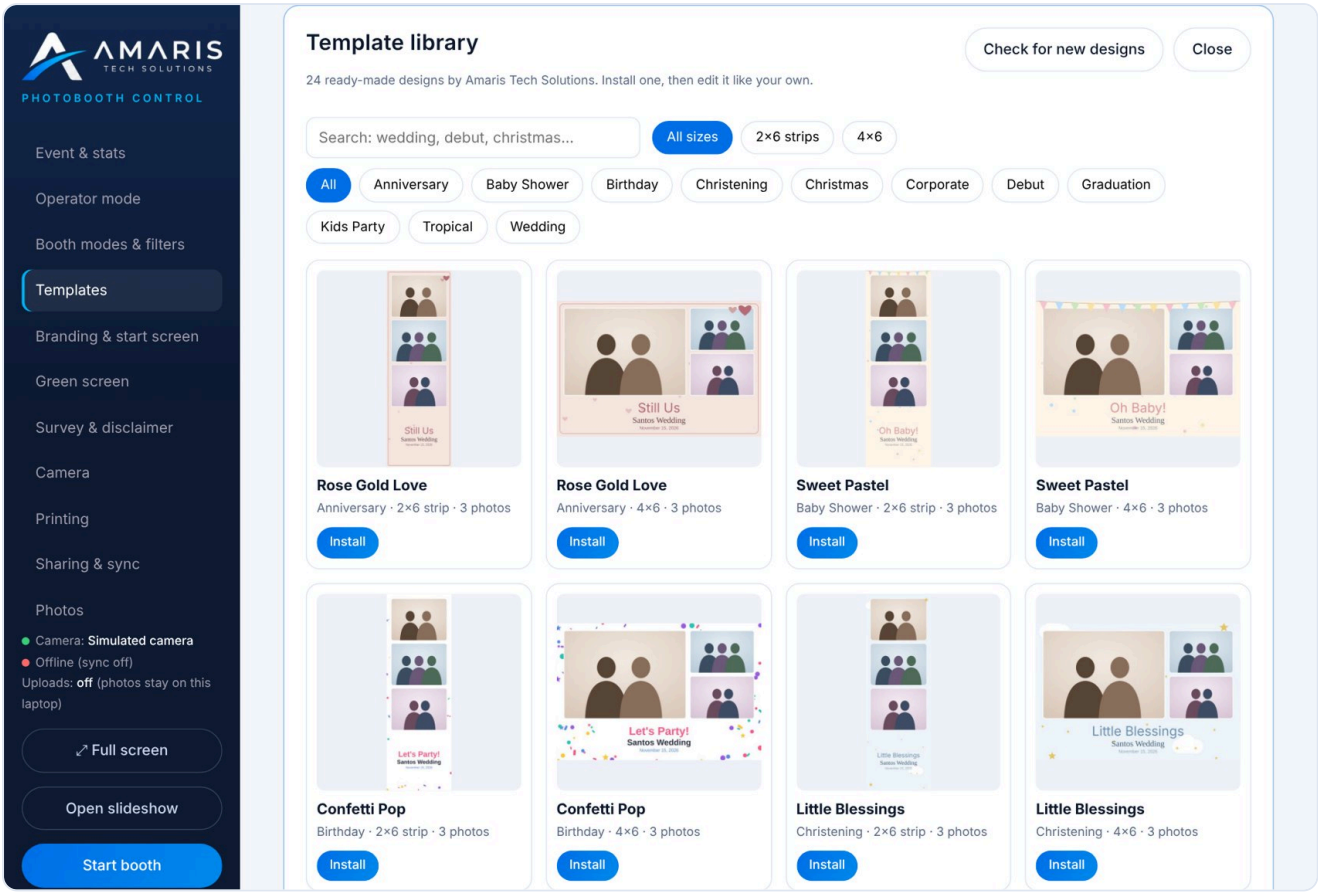
A template is the print design: where the photos go, the frame artwork and the text. Manage them in **Admin → Templates**.



Templates page. The default template is marked "Default".

Option A: Use a ready-made design from the library

1. Click ✦ **Browse template library**.
2. Filter by category (Wedding, Debut, Birthday, Kids Party, Christening, Corporate, Christmas, Graduation, Baby Shower, Anniversary, Tropical) or size (2×6 strip, 4×6), or search.
3. Click **Install**. The design is added to your templates and can be edited like any other.



The template library: 24 original designs by Amaris Tech Solutions

When Amaris publishes a newer version of a design, its card shows **Update**. Updating keeps your own text changes. When the laptop is online, **Check for new designs** downloads newly published designs.

Option B: Upload your own design

1. Design the frame as a **PNG with transparent windows** where the photos should show. Design at 300 dpi using the sizes below.
2. Click **Upload designs** and choose one or more files. The photo windows are found automatically.
3. A flat JPG/PNG without transparent windows becomes the background. Choose the number of photos and drag the photo areas into place in the editor.

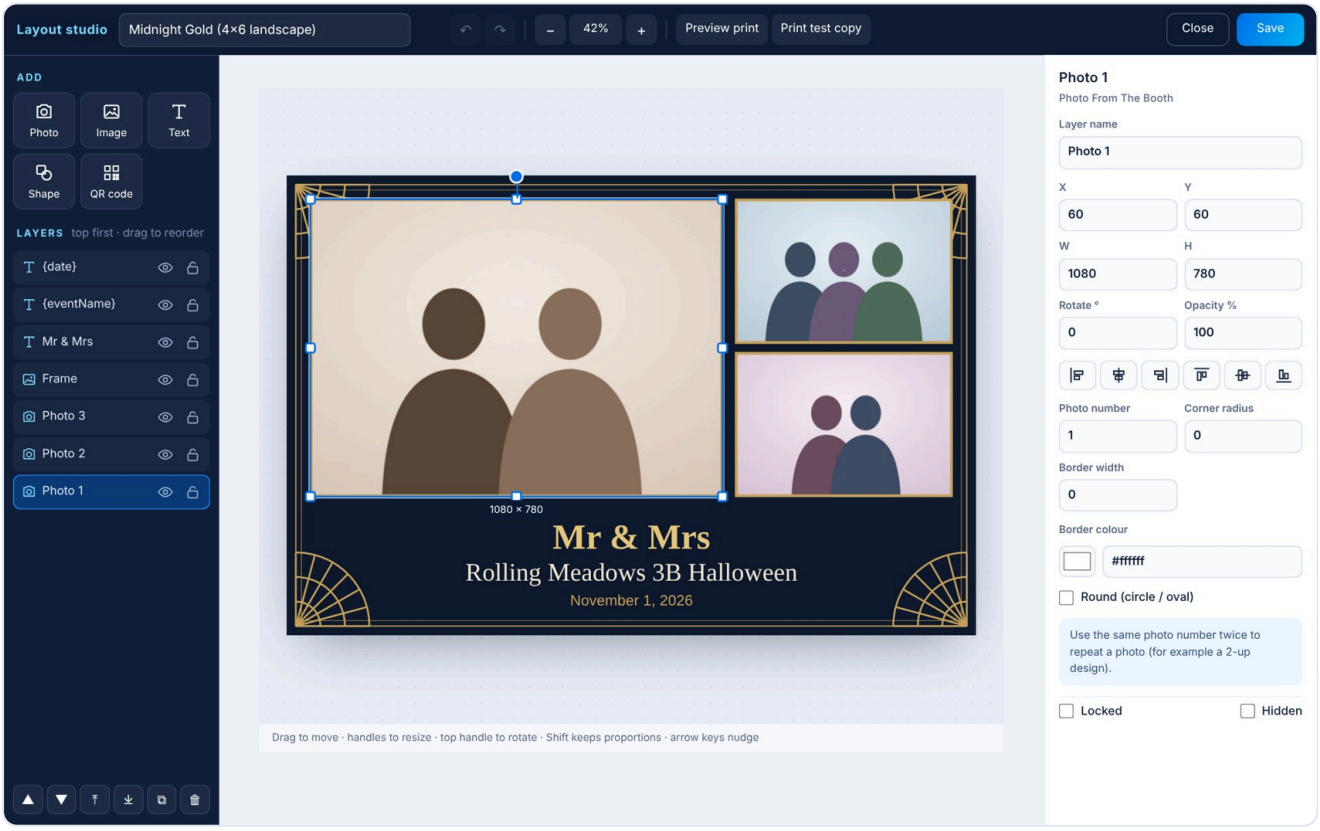
Print size	Design size (300 dpi)	Notes
2×6 strip	600 × 1800 px	Printed two at a time on 4×6 paper and cut (driver “2-inch cut”)
4×6 portrait / landscape	1200 × 1800 / 1800 × 1200 px	Most common print size
5×7	1500 × 2100 px	Needs 5×7 paper
6×8	1800 × 2400 px	Needs 6×8 paper

Built-in layouts

Classic strip (3 photos, 2×6) · 4 photo grid (4×6 landscape) · **3 photos: 2 stacked + 1 tall (4×6 landscape)** · Single photo (4×6 landscape).

The Layout studio

+ New layout or **Edit** on any template opens the **Layout studio**. Everything on the print is a **layer** that you can move, resize, rotate, stack, hide or lock. Older templates open in the studio automatically, with each part as its own layer.



Layout studio: add items and layers on the left, the print in the middle, settings for the selected layer on the right

Add	What it is
Photo	A photo from the booth. “Photo number” sets which shot goes there; use the same number twice to repeat a photo (for example a 2-up design). Corner radius, round (circle/oval) and a border are available.
Image	Your design files: full-page frames (PNG with transparent windows), backgrounds, logos, stickers. You can also drag image files straight onto the page.
Text	Any text. `{eventName}`, `{date}` and `{guestName}` fill in automatically. Font, size, colour, alignment, bold/italic and “shrink to fit”.
Shape	Rectangles and circles with fill, outline and rounded corners.
QR code	The guest's download link (only when uploading is on, chapter 12).

Cutting and placing your design

- ✂ **Cut / crop**: drag the orange handles to keep only part of the image; drag inside the box to choose which part. Press **Done cutting** (or `Enter`).
- **Cut in half ⇹ / ⇵**: splits an image into two pieces (left/right or top/bottom), each its own layer, for example to separate a 2-up design.
- **Find photo windows**: after uploading your design, adds a Photo layer for every frame in it: transparent windows in a PNG, or plain boxes drawn in a JPG/PNG design.
- ⤢ **Auto-fit photos to frames** (page settings) or **Fit to frame** (on a Photo layer): put each photo roughly over a box or window in your design and it snaps exactly onto it.
- **Layers list:** the top of the list is the front of the print. Drag to reorder, or use ▲ ▼ ⤒ ⤓. The eye hides a layer; the lock stops it moving. ⧉ duplicates (`Ctrl`+`D`), 🗑 deletes.
- **Align** buttons place a layer at the edges or centre of the page; layers also snap to edges and centres while dragging.
- **Page settings** (click an empty part of the page): paper size, portrait/landscape, **print 2 per page** for 2×6 strips, and **main or secondary printer** for this layout.
- **Preview print** shows the print with sample photos; **Print test copy** prints it. `Ctrl`+`Z` undo, `Ctrl`+`S` save.

Choosing the template for the event

- **One design for everyone:** click **Make default** on the template.
- **Let guests choose:** tick **Guests choose their template**, then tick **Guest choice** on 2–4 templates. Guests see “Pick your print” before shooting. In operator mode you choose on the operator panel.
- **Export / Import** moves a template to another booth laptop.

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CHAPTER 7

Setting up an event

Events

Photos, prints and guest data are grouped by event. In **Admin → Event & stats**:

- **+ New event**: enter the client's event name and date to start a fresh event.
- **Save event setup**: stores the whole setup (templates, branding, modes, printing and so on). Under **Saved events** you can switch back to it later, which is handy for repeat clients.
- The tiles at the top count sessions, photos, GIFs, boomerangs, 360 videos, prints, emails and surveys for the current event.

Deleting an event: in the *Saved events* list, click **Delete** next to an old event and confirm. Tick *Also delete its photos* to free the disk space too. The event currently in use cannot be deleted; switch to another event first.

Showing the booth on the client's screen

If the venue gives you an extra screen or TV for the guests, connect it and press `Windows` + `P` → **Extend**. The booth then opens full screen on the extra screen by itself, while **Admin and Operator stay on the laptop's own screen**, so guests never see them. A guest slideshow is never shown on the booth's screen.

- **Guest mode (two screens):** the guests use the booth on screen 2. A second window on the **laptop screen** shows a **live copy of the same booth**: every screen, the countdown and the live picture. **Tap or press keys on the copy to take over at any time** (start a session, retake, print...); the guests' screen follows. The copy needs no PIN because it is on your own screen. If you close it, press `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `M` to bring it back.
- **Operator mode:** no copy. The booth is on screen 2 and you control it from the Operator panel on the laptop, as before.
- Choose the screen yourself in **Admin → Event & stats → Show the booth on**: *Automatic* (the extended screen when connected, otherwise the laptop), *Main screen*, or a specific screen. Press **Save**; the booth moves right away. Untick *In guest mode, also show a live copy...* if you don't want the copy.
- Unplugging the extra screen brings the booth back to the laptop; plugging it in again moves it back.
- Keep the laptop as Windows' **main display** (Windows Settings → System → Display), so Admin, Operator and the copy open on it.
- The copy shows the camera's live picture without the green screen effect.

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Timing

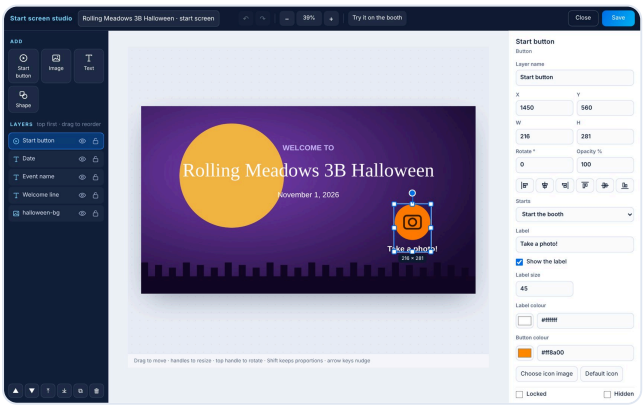
Setting	What it does
Countdown (seconds)	Countdown before each photo in guest mode (0 = no countdown)
Pause between photos	Time between shots when “Show each photo” is off
Show each photo for	After each shot, the photo is shown with a **Retake** button for this many seconds (0 = off)
Result screen timeout	How long the finished photo stays on screen
Run full screen (kiosk)	Untick to use the booth in a normal window. `F11` also switches.
Show small Admin and Operator buttons	Shows or hides the corner buttons on the start screen

Booth modes and filters

Admin → Booth modes & filters: turn on **Photo**, **GIF**, **Boomerang** and/or **360 Video**. With one mode on, guests simply tap start. With several, they choose on the start screen. Choose which **filters** guests may pick (Original, B&W, Vintage, Warm, Cool, Vivid, Fade, Beauty) and the default filter. Filters change only the camera photos: the layout design, text and green screen scenes keep their own colours.

Start screen studio: your own start screen per event

In **Admin → Branding & start screen**, tick **Use my own start screen** and click **Open Start screen studio**. Design the screen guests see while waiting: a background image, the event name, logos, shapes, and the **Start button** placed wherever you like, with your own icon image (**Choose icon image**) and label. Your design replaces the built-in start screen for this event and is saved with **Save event setup**.



Start screen studio



The same design on the booth

- **Several modes?** Add one Start button per mode (Photo, GIF, Boomerang, 360 Video) and set what each one **Starts**.

- **Screen shape:** the standard is **4R** (6 × 4 in), the size of 4R background designs; a 4R background image fills the screen automatically and goes behind everything. 4R portrait, 16:9, 16:10, 4:3 and portrait screens are also available. Tick *Fill the whole screen* to avoid bars on other screen shapes.
- **Gallery button:** select a Start button and change **Starts** to *Open the photo gallery*. Guests tap it to browse this event's photos and tap a photo to see it large, the way it prints (2×6 strips: two side by side). **Original photos** shows the camera shots it was made from (tap one to enlarge). To print again, choose the number of copies and tap **Print** to print it again (counts toward the print limit; switch off in Branding → "Guests can print photos again from the gallery"). On the built-in start screen a small **Gallery** button appears once the event has photos (switch it off in Branding → "Show a Gallery button…").
- In operator mode the buttons are shown but only the operator can start a session; the "waiting" message appears at the bottom.

Branding (built-in start screen)

Upload the client's logo (or keep the Amaris logo), pick colours, set the welcome line and thank-you message, and optionally add a background image or looping video. For white-label events, switch off "Powered by Amaris Tech Solutions".

Green screen

Tick **Enable green screen**, choose the backdrop colour (green or blue) and upload backgrounds. Light the backdrop evenly and keep guests about 1.5 m in front of it. Fine-tune **Threshold**, **Edge softness** and **Spill removal** if edges look rough.

Survey and disclaimer

Ask guests questions before their session (with an on-screen keyboard) and optionally require a consent tick box. Download the answers as a spreadsheet with **Download guest data (CSV)**.

Second screen slideshow

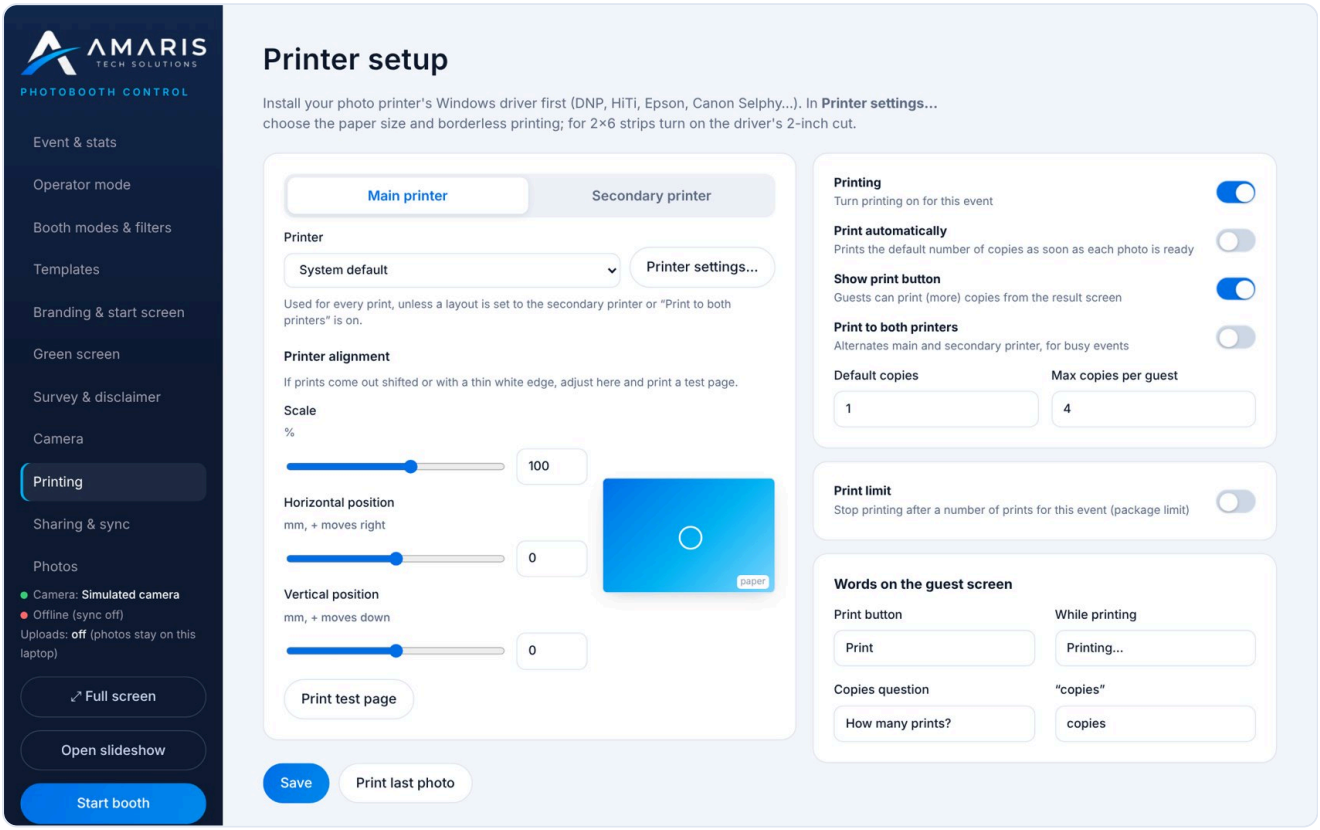
Connect a TV or second monitor and the latest photos play on it automatically. You can also click **Open slideshow** in Admin.

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CHAPTER 8

Printer setup

Admin → **Printing**. Install the printer's Windows driver first.



Printer setup

1. **Main printer:** choose it, then **Printer settings...** opens the Windows driver settings: set the paper (for example 4×6), borderless, and for 2×6 strips the **2-inch cut**.
2. **Secondary printer (optional):** a second printer. A layout can be sent to it (Layout studio page settings), or turn on **Print to both printers** to alternate jobs between the two at busy events.
3. **Printer alignment:** if prints come out shifted or with a thin white edge, adjust **Scale** and **Horizontal / Vertical position** (in mm), then **Print test page**. The blue line should just touch the paper edges and the cross should be in the centre. Each printer has its own alignment.
4. **Options: Print automatically**, **Show print button** (guests print or add copies), default copies and maximum copies per guest.
5. **Print limit:** stop printing after a number of prints for the event (the package limit).
6. **Words on the guest screen:** change the text of the print button, "Printing...", the copies question and "copies" (for example in Filipino).

Press **Save**. Any photo can be printed again from **Admin → Photos** or from the operator panel.

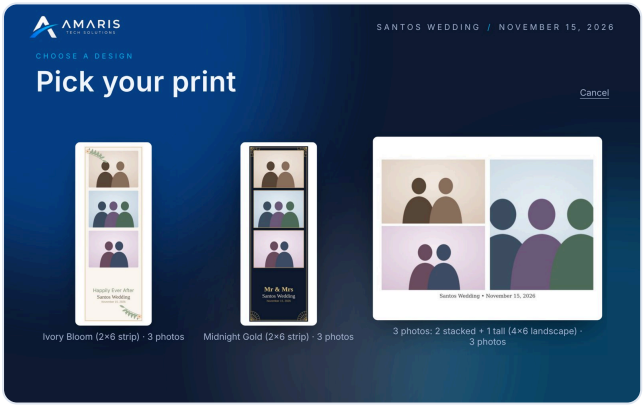
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CHAPTER 9

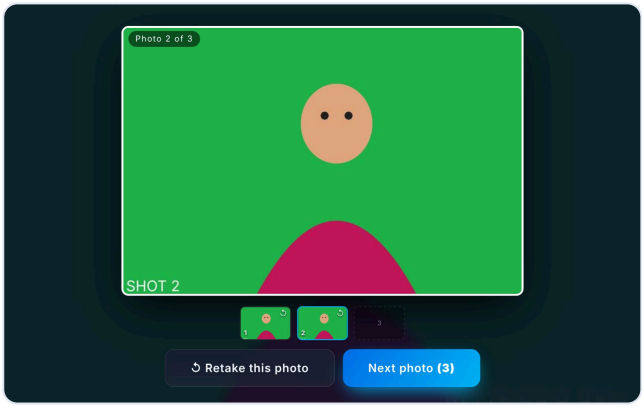
Running the booth: guest mode

In guest mode (**Admin → Operator mode → Guest mode**) guests use the touch screen themselves.

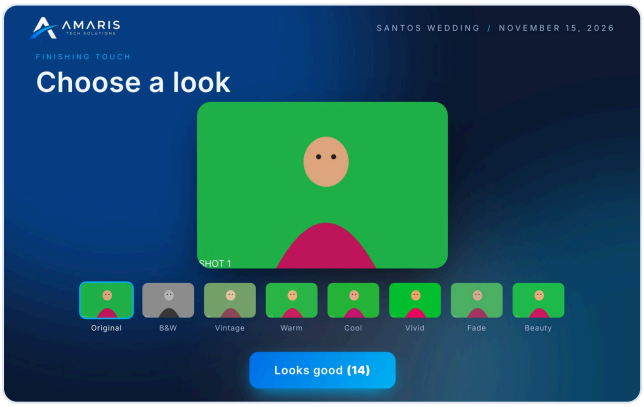
1. **Start:** the guest taps **Touch to start** (or picks Photo, GIF or Boomerang).
2. **Survey and design:** if turned on, they answer the questions and pick their print design.
3. **Shoot:** a countdown runs before each photo.
4. **Check each photo:** each photo is shown big. ↻ **Retake this photo** reshoots it immediately; tapping an earlier thumbnail redoes that one. **Next photo** continues, and the booth moves on by itself after a few seconds.
5. **Review and filter:** a final check of all shots (tap any to redo), then a filter.
6. **Result:** the finished print appears. The guest picks the number of copies and taps **Print**, then **Finish**.



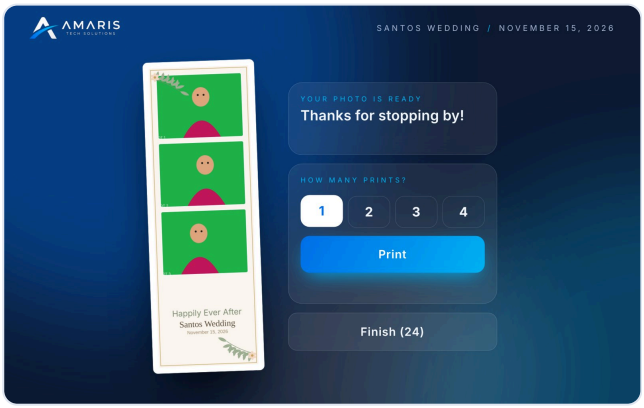
Pick your print (guest choice on)



Each photo with Retake / Next photo



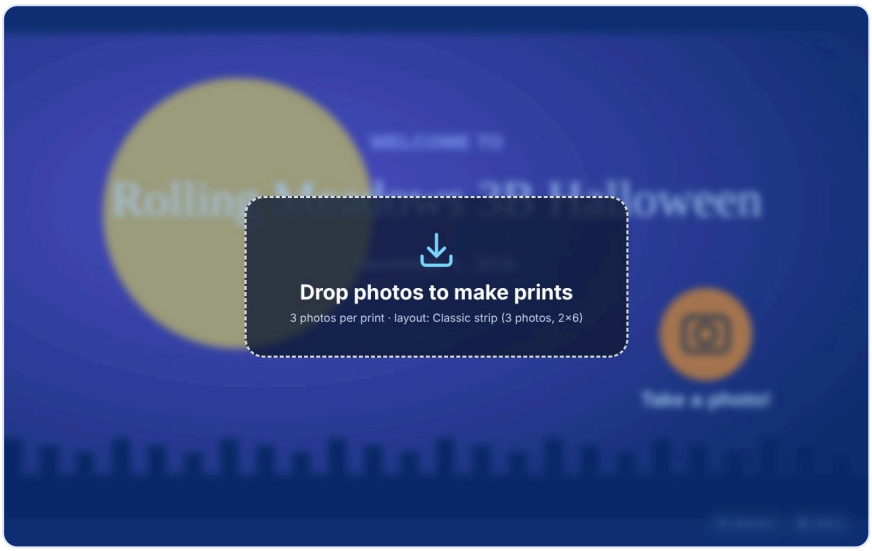
Choose a look (filters)



Result with copies picker and Print

Drag & drop photos from the computer

On the start screen, drag photos from a folder (for example a DSLR card or the digiCamControl “Originals” folder) onto the booth window. The photos fill the **default layout** automatically, in file-name order: with a 4-photo layout, 8 photos make 2 prints. Each print appears with the copies picker; **Next print** goes to the next one. If the last group is short, its photos repeat to fill the layout.



Dropping photos onto the start screen

> **If a guest walks away**
> The booth returns to the start screen by itself after the idle time. `Esc` also cancels a session.

CHAPTER 10

Running the booth: operator mode

In operator mode guests only watch the screen and pose. You start each session, take the photos, retake bad shots and print from the operator panel.

Turn it on

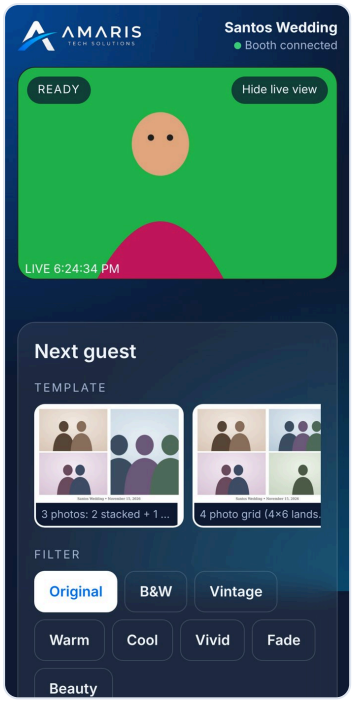
1. **Admin → Operator mode** → choose **Operator mode**.
2. Optional: tick **Wait for my trigger before each photo** to take every photo yourself, and set **Countdown after my trigger** (0 = take the photo right away).
3. Press **Save**. The booth screen now shows “Our photographer will start your session”.



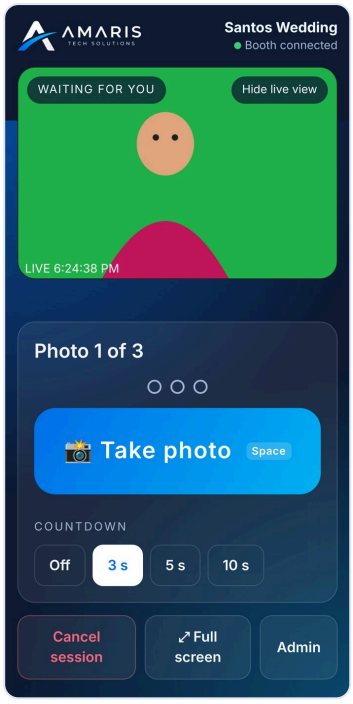
Booth screen in operator mode

Open the operator panel

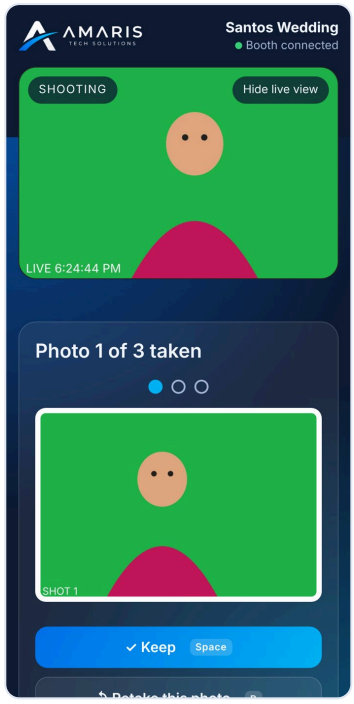
- **On the booth laptop:** the **Operator** corner button or `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `O`. Drag the window to a second monitor if you have one.
- **On a phone or tablet:**
  1. In **Admin → Operator mode**, tick **Allow the operator panel from phones/tablets on the same Wi-Fi**.
  2. Save, then close and reopen the booth.
  3. Connect the phone to the **same Wi-Fi** and open the address shown under **Open the operator panel**, for example `http://192.168.1.20:4848/operator`. Enter the PIN.



Choose template and filter, then Start



Take photo + countdown choice



Keep or Retake each photo

Running a session

1. **Prepare:** choose the mode, template and filter, and optionally the guest's name and email, then press **Start**.
2. **Shoot:** with manual trigger, press 📸 **Take photo** (or `Space`, a presenter remote or a foot pedal) for each shot. The **Countdown** buttons under it (**Off**, **3 s**, **5 s**, **10 s**) set the countdown on the spot. **Off** shoots immediately.
3. **Keep or retake:** after each photo, press ✓ **Keep** or ↻ **Retake this photo**. You can also redo any earlier photo with its **Retake** button, for example if photo 2 of 3 was over-exposed.
4. **Review:** mark photos to retake, or **Preview print**, then accept.
5. **Print:** choose copies and print, then start the next guest.

Cancel session (or `Esc`) ends the current session at any time: the countdown stops, nothing more is photographed, and the photos of that session are deleted. Start again for a fresh session.

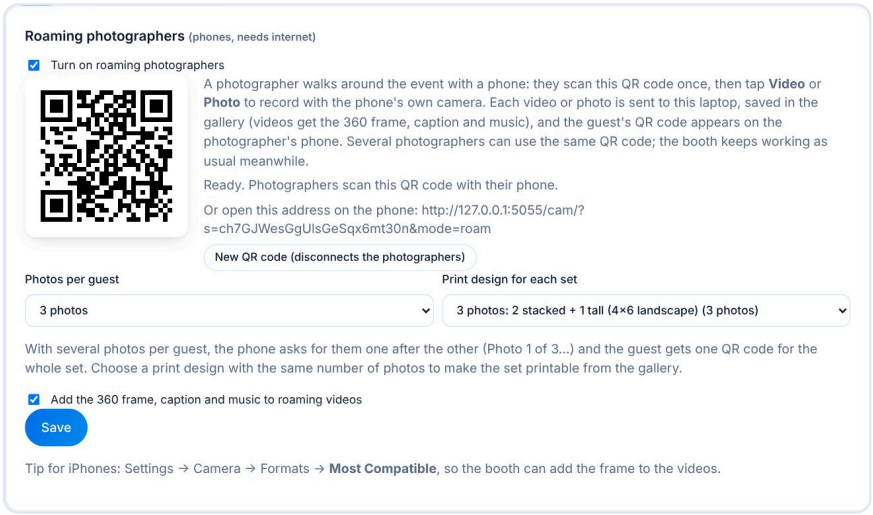
Admin override

If the operator panel is not available (for example the phone's battery died), the admin can control the booth from its own screen. On the start screen tap **Take control** (bottom right), or during a session **press and hold the top-left corner for 2 seconds**, then enter the admin PIN. The booth now works like guest mode: tap Start, Keep/Retake and Print directly on the screen. An orange **Admin control** bar at the top has **Cancel session** and **Give back to operator**. The operator panel shows “Admin has control” with a **Take back** button. Turn this off in Admin → Operator mode (“Allow admin override”).

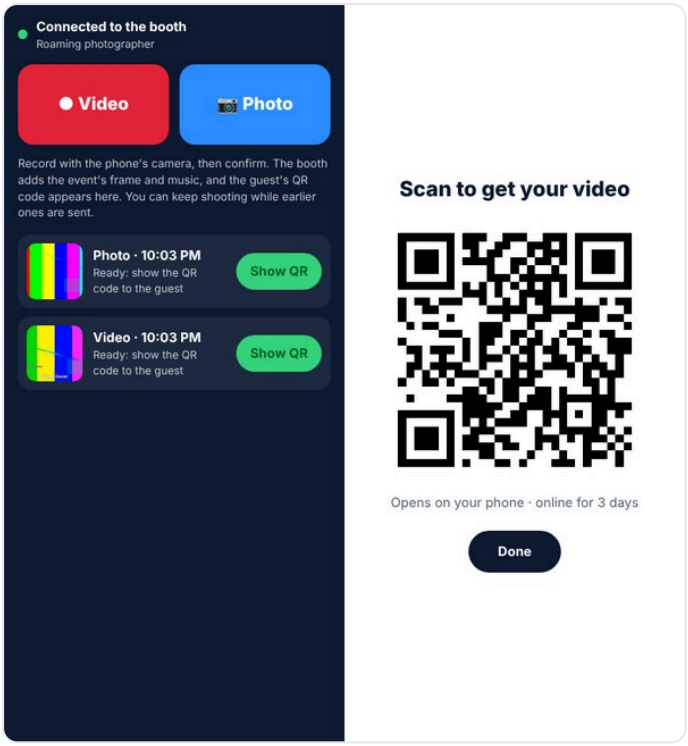
Roaming photographers (phones)

Besides the booth, one or more photographers can walk around the event with a phone, record short videos and take photos with the phone's own camera, and give each guest a QR code right there. The laptop finishes and saves everything; the booth keeps running as usual. Needs internet on the laptop and the phones.

1. In **Admin → Camera → Roaming photographers**, tick **Turn on roaming photographers** and press **Save**. A QR code appears.
2. Each photographer scans that QR code once with their phone. The page shows **Connected to the booth** and two big buttons: **Video** and **Photo**.
3. Tap **Video** or **Photo**. The phone's own camera opens: record or take the photo, then confirm. With several **photos per guest**, the phone asks for the next one (*Photo 2 of 3*) until the set is complete.
4. The phone sends it to the booth (*Sending to the booth… N%*) and you can take the next one right away. The laptop adds the event's 360 frame, caption and music to videos and saves everything in the gallery.
5. When it is ready, the guest's QR code fills the phone screen. The guest scans it; tap **Done**. Earlier QR codes stay in the list (**Show QR**).



Admin → Camera → Roaming photographers



The photographer's phone: Video and Photo buttons, the list, and a guest's QR code

- **Photos per guest (1 to 4)**, in the same card: the guest gets one QR code for the whole set. The booth puts the photos side by side or in a 2×2 grid, or, if you choose a **Print design for each set** with the same number of photos, into that design, which can then be printed from the gallery.
- Several photographers can use the same QR code. **New QR code** disconnects all of them.
- This QR code is separate from *Phone via internet* (the booth camera), so both can be used at the same event.
- In the gallery and Admin → Photos these show as **ROAMING VIDEO** and **ROAMING PHOTO**. Roaming photos can be printed from the booth gallery and from Admin → Photos: with a print design they print like a booth photo, otherwise the photo (or set) is fitted onto 4×6 paper.
- The phone page keeps the screen on by itself. As a backup, set the phone's *Screen timeout* to 10 minutes.
- If the laptop is offline, the phone keeps what it sent; the booth finishes it when it is back online (within 24 hours).
- iPhones: set **Settings → Camera → Formats → Most Compatible** so the booth can add the frame to videos. Otherwise the video is saved as recorded, without the frame.
- Keep clips short (up to about a minute at 1080p). Very large videos take long to send over mobile data.

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CHAPTER 11

360 Video mode

Guests step on a 360 platform. The booth counts down, records a short clip while the platform spins, adds slow motion, your frame, a caption and music, then shows the video and a QR code to download it.

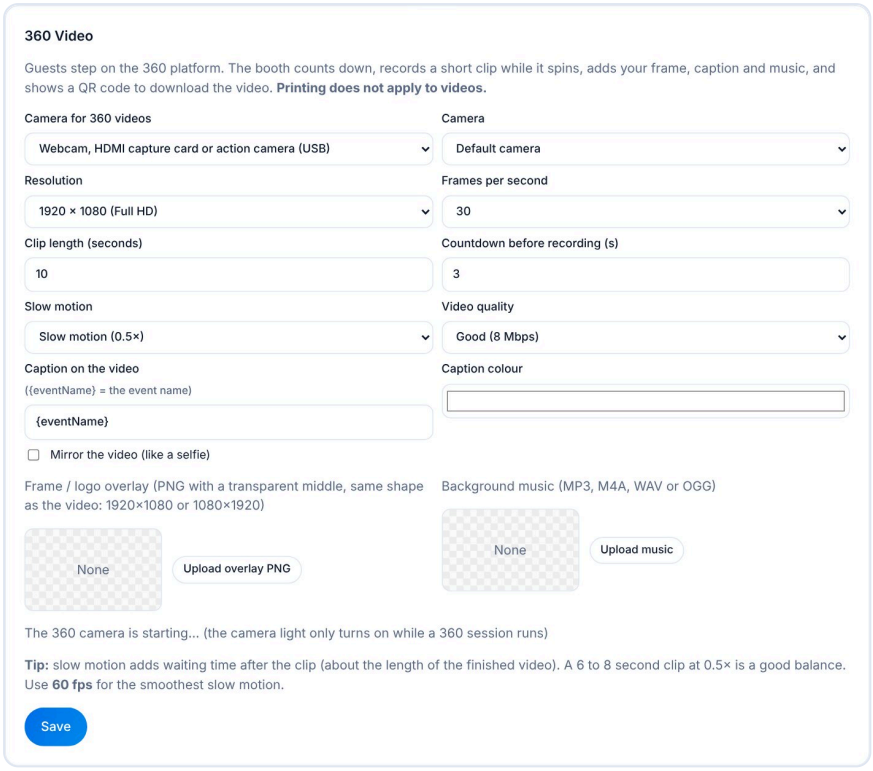
What you need

- A 360 platform (a motorised spinning stand) that you start yourself, or have an attendant start.
- A **camera on a stand or arm** that sees the guests: a **webcam**, an **action camera** in USB webcam mode, a camera or camcorder through an **HDMI capture card**, a **GoPro over Wi-Fi**, a **phone via internet** or a **phone set up as a webcam** (chapter 5). A DSLR cannot be used for video.
- Good, even light and a plain background.

Set it up

1. Open **Admin → Booth modes & filters** and turn on **360 Video**. Press **Save**.
2. In the **360 Video** card, choose the **camera for 360 videos**: *Webcam / phone in webcam mode / capture card / action camera*, *Phone via internet* or *GoPro over Wi-Fi* (connect the phone or GoPro first under Camera, chapter 5).
3. Choose the camera, resolution and frames per second (60 fps gives the smoothest slow motion).
4. Set the **clip length** and the **countdown**, and choose **slow motion**: 1× (normal), 0.75×, 0.5× or 0.25×.
5. Optional: a **caption** (`{eventName}` becomes the event name) and its colour, **mirror** the video, a **frame or logo overlay** and **background music**.
6. Press **Save**.

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The 360 Video settings card

The frame or logo overlay

Upload a **PNG with a transparent middle** that has the same shape as the video: 1920 × 1080 for a landscape video or 1080 × 1920 for a portrait video. The guests' video shows through the transparent part. Keep logos near the edges.

Music

Upload an MP3, M4A, WAV or OGG file. It plays under the video and fades with it. Use music you have the rights to play at the event.

How a guest uses it

1. The guest taps **360 Video** (or **Touch to start** when it is the only mode).
2. The live view shows. The screen says to step on the platform.
3. The countdown runs, then the booth records. A ring shows how much of the clip is left. **Start the platform when the recording starts**.
4. The screen says **Adding slow motion… N%** for a few seconds while the booth finishes the video. At normal speed with a webcam the video is ready straight away.
5. The video plays on the result screen with a **QR code** (when online sharing is on, chapter 12). The guest scans it to download the video.

In **operator mode**, press **Start the 360 video** on the operator panel. The result plays there too.

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Gallery and files

- 360 videos appear in the booth gallery with a ▶ badge and play when tapped. They are listed in **Admin → Photos** as **360 VIDEO**.
- Videos are saved as **MP4** in the photos folder, next to the photos. Printing does not apply to videos.
- Online sharing keeps videos up to **30 MB**. For long events, use a 6 to 10 second clip and the Good quality setting.

Slow motion and waiting time

The booth finishes each video frame by frame, so a 10 second clip at 0.5× is exactly 20 seconds long and is usually ready within seconds. Smooth slow motion needs enough frames from the camera: 60 frames per second for 0.5×, a GoPro at 120 or 240 for 0.25×. At 30 frames per second, 0.5× looks steppy.

Starting the platform

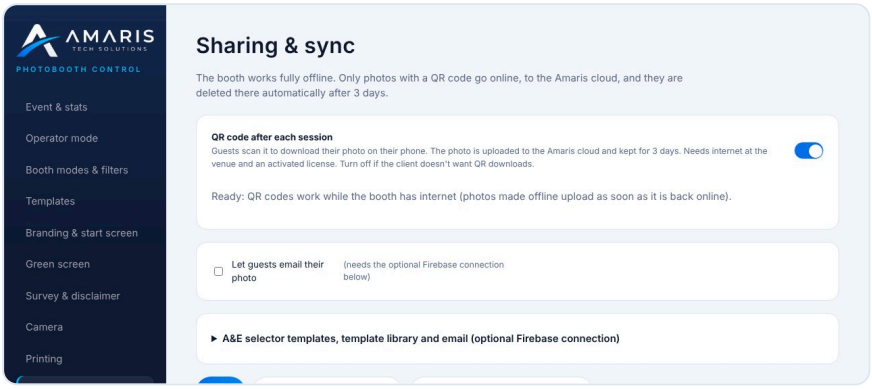
This version does not switch the platform on by itself. The guest or the attendant starts it with the platform's own button or remote.

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CHAPTER 12

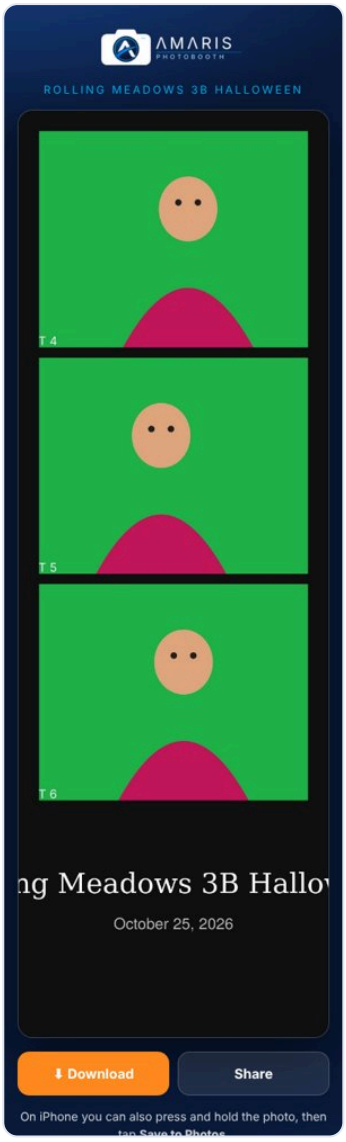
QR download for guests

After each session the booth can show a **QR code**. Guests scan it with their phone camera to download their photo. Turn it on or off in **Admin → Sharing & sync → QR code after each session**.



Sharing & sync

- Only photos with a QR code go online, to the secure Amaris cloud. Everything else stays on the laptop.
- Photos are kept online for **3 days**, then deleted automatically. The guest page says how long is left and has **Download** and **Share** buttons.
- The booth needs internet at the venue for guests to download right away. If the internet drops, the QR still appears; the photo uploads when the connection is back, and the guest page waits for it.
- QR codes need an activated license (chapter 4).
- Turn the switch off if the client does not want QR downloads; nothing is uploaded then.
- **Upload current event now** puts all photos of the event online (each for 3 days).

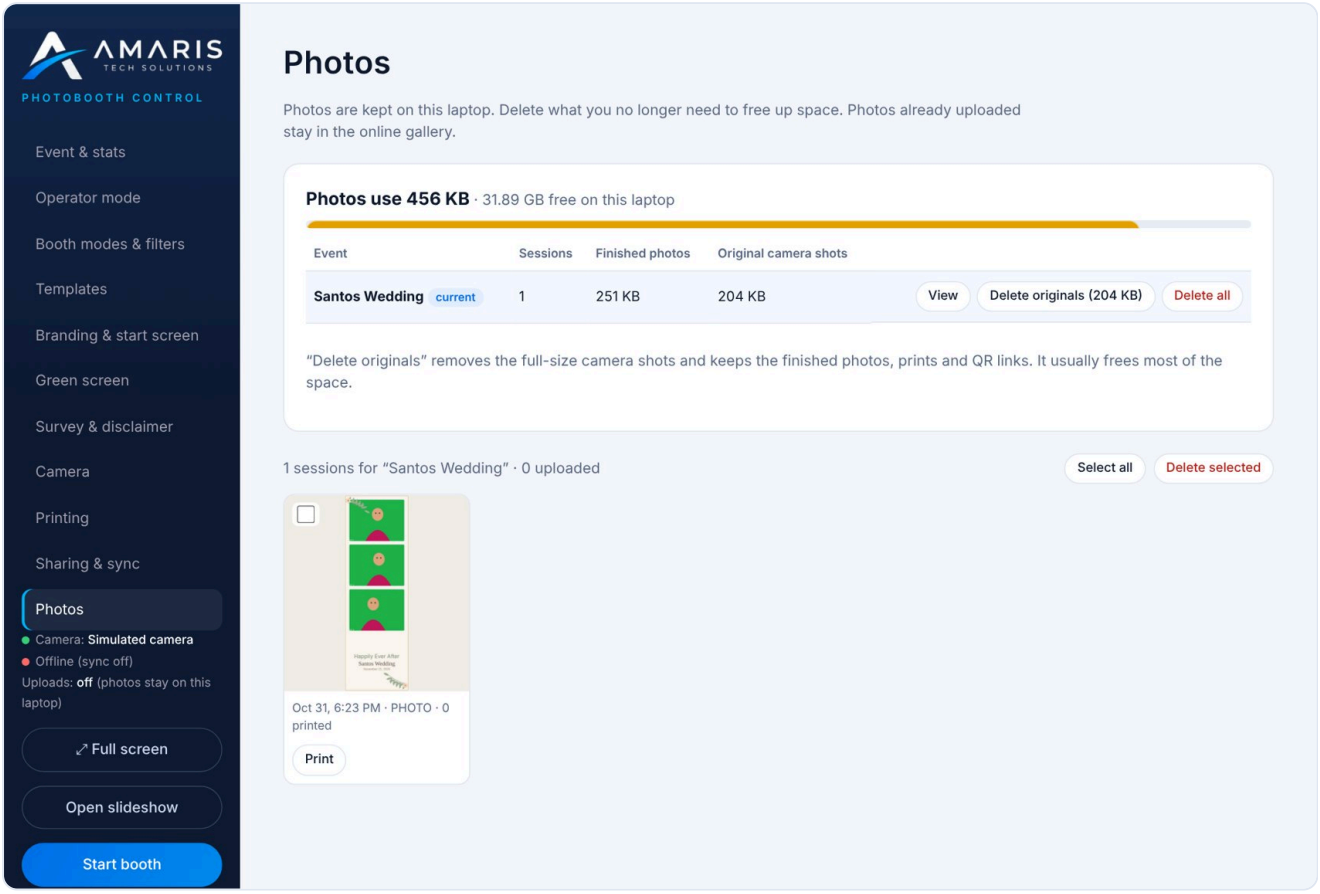


What the guest sees after scanning

CHAPTER 13

Photos and storage

Admin → Photos lists every session, shows how much space photos use, and lets you free space.



Storage per event, and the sessions of the selected event

- **View** shows another event's sessions. **Print** under a photo opens the print window (see below).
- **Delete originals:** removes the full-size camera shots but keeps the finished photos, prints and QR links. Do this after each event. It usually frees most of the space.
- **Delete selected:** tick sessions (or **Select all**), then delete them.
- **Delete all:** removes every photo of an event, for example once the client has received everything.

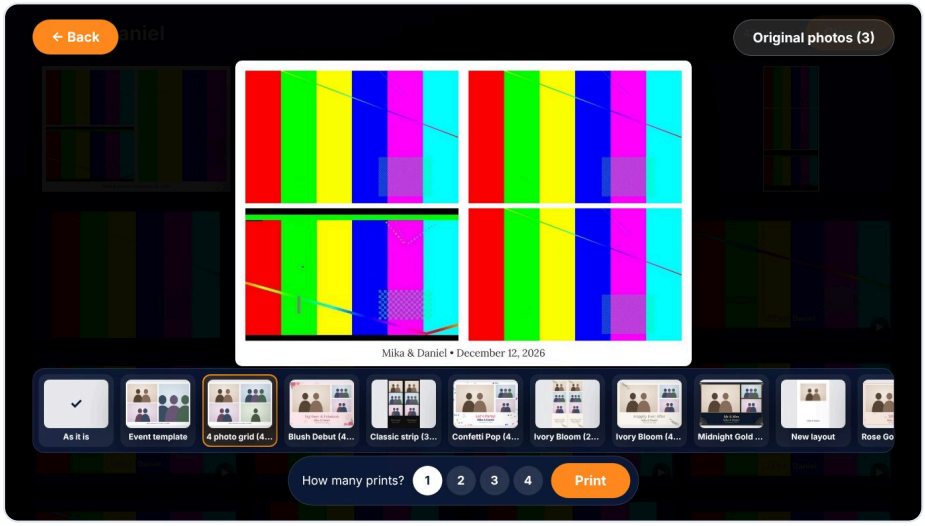
> **Deleting cannot be undone**
> Every delete needs two taps: the button turns red and says "Tap again…". Copy the photos folder to a USB drive first if the client needs the files. Photos already uploaded stay in the online gallery.

The photo files are in `%APPDATA%\Amaris Photobooth\data\photos`, one folder per event.

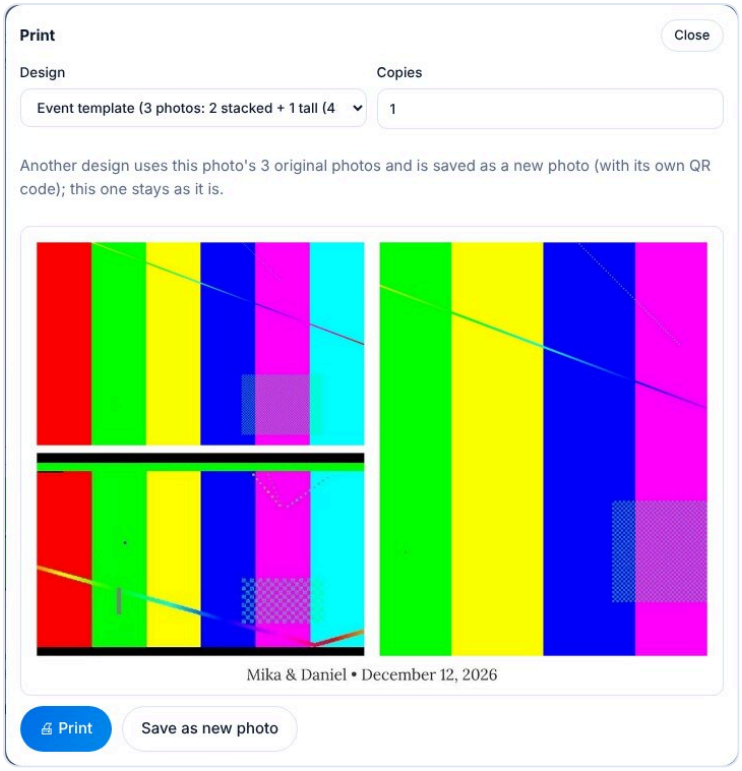
Print in another design (reuse the original photos)

A photo keeps its **original camera shots**, so it can be printed again in a different template. This works for booth photos and roaming photos, from the booth gallery and from Admin → Photos.

- **In the booth gallery:** open a photo. Under it, choose **As it is**, **Event template** (the template set for the event) or any other template. The photo is shown in that design right away. Choose the number of prints and tap **Print**. **Original photos** shows the camera shots, with **Use these in another design**.
- **In Admin → Photos:** press **Print** under a photo. Choose the **Design** and the number of copies, check the preview, then **Print**, or **Save as new photo** without printing.
- A new design is saved as a **new photo** in the gallery, with its own QR code. The original photo stays as it was.
- If the template has more photo windows than there are photos, the photos are repeated to fill it.
- Roaming photos without a design, and photos printed *As it is* without a template, are fitted onto 4×6 paper.
- After **Delete originals**, a photo can only be printed as it is. Deleting one photo never removes originals that another photo still uses.



Booth gallery: the same photos in another template, ready to print



Admin → Photos → Print: design, copies and preview

CHAPTER 14

Event-day checklist

The day before

- [ ] Create the event (**+ New event**) with the client's name and date, or load their saved setup.
- [ ] Install or design the template; set the names in the text; check **Preview print**; **Make default** or set guest choice.
- [ ] Set branding, modes, filters, survey and print limits for the package. Then **Save event setup**.
- [ ] Charge the camera / pack the dummy battery, pack enough paper and ribbon.
- [ ] Free space: **Delete originals** of past events.

At the venue

- [ ] Connect the camera (USB, camera on, manual mode) and the printer, then open Amaris Photobooth.
- [ ] Admin → Camera: green dot, live preview, **Save & take test photo**. Adjust exposure on the camera.
- [ ] Admin → Printing: **Print last photo** to check colours and cutting.
- [ ] Phone via internet: check the laptop and the phone are online, scan the QR code, and check *Phone connected* in Admin → Camera. Take a test photo.
- [ ] Roaming photographers: check internet on their phones, have them scan the roaming QR code and send one test video and photo.
- [ ] GoPro: charge it (or plug in power), connect it with *Wake the GoPro*, check *Connected* in Admin → Camera and record one test 360 video.
- [ ] Phone as a webcam: charge the phone, plug it in, start its webcam app (or Windows connected camera) and check the live preview in Admin → Camera.
- [ ] 360 Video: do one test spin, check the slow motion, frame, music and the QR code, and mark where guests stand.
- [ ] Operator mode: open the operator panel on your phone and do one full test session.
- [ ] Close Admin with **Start booth**. The booth is ready.

After the event

- [ ] Download guest data (Survey & disclaimer) if collected.
- [ ] Upload the event if the client should get online downloads (chapter 12).
- [ ] Copy photos for the client, then free space in Photos.
- [ ] Close the booth with `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Q`. Everything, including digiCamControl, closes cleanly.

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CHAPTER 15

Keyboard shortcuts

Booth

Keys	Action
`Ctrl` + `Shift` + `A`	Open Admin
`Ctrl` + `Shift` + `O`	Open the operator panel
`Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Q`	Close Amaris Photobooth
`F11`	Full screen ↔ normal window
`Space` / `Enter` / `→` / `Page Down`	Start / take photo / continue (also presenter remotes and USB foot pedals)
`1` – `9`	Choose a mode on the start screen; redo that photo on the review screen
`R` / `P`	Redo all photos (review) / print (result)
`Esc`	Cancel the session and go back to the start screen
5 quick taps, top-right corner	Open Admin (when the corner buttons are hidden)

Operator panel (on a laptop)

Keys	Action
`Space` / `Enter`	Start session · take photo · keep photo · accept · next guest
`R`	Retake the photo just taken, or the photos marked on the review screen
`1` – `9`	Mark photos to retake (review) · choose copies (result)
`V`	Preview print
`P`	Print
`N`	Next guest
`Esc`	Cancel session (ends it completely and deletes its photos)

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CHAPTER 16

Troubleshooting

Problem	What to do
“Amaris Photobooth is not activated”	Admin → License: enter the key and press Activate (needs internet). Already activated? Read the message there: expired, revoked, or the booth must go online to check the license.
“This license is already active on another computer”	Deactivate it on the old computer (Admin → License), or ask Amaris Tech Solutions to reset it.
No QR code after the session	Check Admin → Sharing & sync: the QR switch must be on and the note must say “Ready”. QR codes need an activated license.
Guest page says “Getting your photo...” for long	The booth is offline. The photo uploads as soon as the laptop is online again.
Installer shows nothing after the first question	An approval prompt is probably hidden. Check the taskbar or press `Alt` + `Tab`, or wait a minute for Windows Defender. Choose “Only for me” to avoid the prompt.
“Windows protected your PC”	Click **More info** → **Run anyway**.
Camera: “no camera is connected”	digiCamControl is ready but can't see the camera. Check the USB cable (no hub), that the camera is on, the battery, and that Canon/Nikon software is closed.
digiCamControl dot stays red	Press **Start / restart digiCamControl** and read the log. If Windows asks for permission, click Yes. Send a screenshot of the log to Amaris support if it still fails.
Webcam: “did not respond” or “in use”	Close Zoom, Teams and the Camera app. Check Windows camera privacy settings. Try a lower resolution.
Phone via internet: “Waiting for the phone”	Scan the QR code again and keep the page open on the phone. Check that both the phone and the laptop have internet. The phone's screen must stay on.
Phone via internet: “This QR code has expired”	Someone pressed **New QR code**, or the laptop was offline for days. Scan the QR code shown in Admin → Camera now.
Phone via internet: live view is slow or jerky	The network blocks the direct video, so pictures go through the cloud. Photos and videos are still full quality. A different Wi-Fi or mobile data on the phone often gives a direct link.
Phone via internet: slow between shots	Admin shows *live view through the cloud*: there is no direct link, so photos go through the cloud. Put the phone and laptop on the same Wi-Fi (or a better connection), or set **Photo quality** to *Fast*.

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Phone via internet: “The phone did not send the photo in time”	The phone's internet is slow or lost. Move closer to the Wi-Fi, or switch the phone to mobile data, and try again.
Roaming: the phone says “Waiting for the booth...”	Amaris Photobooth must be open and online on the laptop with roaming turned on. What the phone already sent is finished when the laptop is back online.
Roaming: the video has no frame	The booth could not read the video (often an iPhone HEVC video), so it saved it as recorded. On the iPhone set Settings → Camera → Formats → Most Compatible.
Roaming: “This video is too big”	Record shorter clips, or set the phone's camera to 1080p.
GoPro: “No GoPro found” (Bluetooth)	Turn the GoPro on and keep it near the laptop. The first time, put it in pairing mode (Preferences → Wireless Connections → Connect Device → GoPro Quik app). Bluetooth works in the desktop app only. Or type the Wi-Fi name and password instead.
GoPro: “GoPro not found”	The laptop is not on the GoPro's Wi-Fi. Press **Wake the GoPro** or **Connect to the GoPro Wi-Fi** again. The GoPro turns its Wi-Fi off when it sleeps: turn off auto power-off on the GoPro.
GoPro: the video cannot be finished (HEVC)	On the GoPro set Preferences → General → Video Compression to **H.264 + HEVC**, and use 1080p at 120 fps.
GoPro: no live view, but photos and videos work	Some GoPro settings send a preview the laptop cannot show. Restart the GoPro and press Save in Admin → Camera. Recording is not affected.
QR codes stopped while using the GoPro	The laptop has no internet while it is on the GoPro's Wi-Fi. Plug in a network cable or connect a phone by USB tethering to keep internet; photos upload when it is back.
The phone is not in the Webcam list	Start the webcam app on the phone **and** on the laptop (or turn on *Use as a connected camera* in Windows), then press Save in Admin → Camera and wait a few seconds. Still missing: restart Amaris Photobooth.
Phone picture freezes or goes black	Keep the phone unlocked, plugged in to power, with the webcam app in front. Use a USB cable instead of Wi-Fi. Close Zoom, Teams and other apps that use the camera.
Phone picture has a watermark or low resolution	That is the free version of the webcam app. Upgrade the app, or use Windows 11's connected camera (Android).
Green bar at the top or bottom of photos or videos	Some webcams add green rows; the booth trims them by itself. Update to 1.3.1 if you still see them.
360 Video: “The 360 camera is starting...” stays	Press Save on the Booth modes page and wait a few seconds. Choose the right camera in the 360 Video card. Close other apps that use the camera.

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360 Video: long wait after the clip	Slow motion is being added. Use a shorter clip, 0.75× or normal speed, to shorten the wait.
360 Video: no music in the video	Upload an MP3, M4A, WAV or OGG file in the 360 Video card and press Save. Very old computers may not support music in video and then make the video without it.
360 Video: no QR code	Online sharing must be on and the video under 30 MB. Use a shorter clip or lower the quality.
No live preview	Some older DSLRs don't support live view over USB. Photos still work, but Boomerang needs live view.
Test photo times out (DSLR)	Check focus (use manual focus in low light) and that the camera can take a photo with its own button.
Prints have borders, wrong size or are shifted	Printer setup → **Printer settings…**: paper size and borderless (2-inch cut for strips). Then fine-tune **Scale** and **position** and print a test page.
Prints come out blank	Fixed in version 1.3.0 and later. Update the app. If a print is still blank, print the test page from Printer setup and send a photo of it to Amaris support.
Dropped photos open in a viewer instead	Drop them on the booth's start screen (not during a session). Only JPG, PNG and similar photo files are used.
Phone can't open the operator panel	Same Wi-Fi as the laptop? Phone access ticked, and the booth restarted? Use the exact address shown in Admin → Operator mode. Allow the app through Windows Firewall if asked.
No QR code or email on the result screen	Uploading is off (the default). See chapter 12.
App won't open after closing it	Open it again: an old copy that didn't close is ended automatically. If it still fails, restart the laptop.
Forgot the PIN	Contact Amaris support.

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CHAPTER 17

Support

We're here to help you run great events.

Amaris Tech Solutions	
Email	admin@amaristech.site
Phone / Viber	+63 923 926 8039
Website	https://amaristech.site
Facebook	Amaris Tech Solutions

When asking for help, please include your Amaris Photobooth version (shown on the installer file name, for example 1.3.1), what you were doing, and a screenshot of any message.

Licences

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AMARIS
PHOTOBOOTH

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