

# Python Libraries & Popular Times Tools

## Python Libraries

Library	Status	API Key?	Fields	Notes
<code>googlemaps</code> (official)	Active	Yes	50+ (API)	Official wrapper. Same pricing/limits as API
<code>gomaps</code>	Dormant (Sep 2023)	No	9	Name, URL, address, coords, website, phone, rating, hours, Popular Times. Likely broken

## Popular Times & Foot Traffic Tools

**Popular Times is NOT available via any official Google API.** Must be scraped or obtained from third-party services. Historical data is also inaccessible.

### populartimes (m-wrZR) — 900 Stars

```
pip install --upgrade git+https://github.com/m-wrZR/populartimes
```

Returns: weekly hourly popularity (0-100 scale), wait times, time spent, current popularity.  
Requires API key with billing. MIT license. Unstable as Maps updates.

### LivePopularTimes (GrocerCheck)

Extension adding live busyness data to populartimes. Functions: `get_populartimes_by_address` (no API call), `get_populartimes_by_PlaceID` (API + scrape), `get_places_by_search`.

# BestTime.app (Commercial)

Endpoints	Forecasts (hourly 0-100%), Live Busyness, Venue Filter (by traffic/day/hour/ratings/type), Venue Search
Coverage	150+ countries
Unique	Dwell time analysis, surge detection, filter by foot traffic intensity
Free Tier	Test account with limited credits

Website: [besttime.app](https://besttime.app)

## LocalAPI

REST API returning 20+ fields per business in 2-3 seconds including Popular Times histograms (peak hours by day of week). Claims to be the only API exposing Popular Times via endpoint. Free tier: 50 searches. [local-api.com](https://local-api.com)

## Workarounds for the 5-Review API Limit

Method	Reviews Available	Cost
Official Places API	5 max	Enterprise tier
Google Business Profile API (own locations)	All	Free
Google Takeout (own GBP)	All	Free
Outscraper	All	First 500 free
Apify reviews actors	All	\$0.25-0.40/1K
google-reviews-scraper-pro	All	Free (+ proxies)
Tampermonkey userscript	All (manual)	Free
DIY Playwright/Puppeteer scroll	All	Free (+ proxies)
SerpAPI reviews endpoint	All	\$50+/mo

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