

# Gulf Island National Seashore - Ocean Springs, MS

## Year-Round Walk – 5 KM

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**This map and directions may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association (AVA) athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.**

**START/FINISH POINT:** Picnic Parking Area, 601 Robert McGhee Rd., Gulf Islands National Seashore Park – Ocean Springs, MS 39564. From I-10, take exit 50 for MS-609 S toward Ocean Springs for 3.1 miles to US 90 W (Beinville Blvd.) Turn left on US 90 for 2.9 miles to Park Rd. Turn right on Park Rd. and drive 1.7 miles. Watch for sign for Gulf Shore National Seashore. Immediately after Quave St. (on your left) look for the picture sign for the picnic area. Turn right through the gates and follow Robert McGhee Rd. past the marsh and Boat Ramp Rd. (on your right.) At the next intersection, make a sharp right turn and you will see the parking, picnic area and bathrooms – this is the start point.

**AVA Special Programs:** *National Parks Centennial; Walking the USA A – Z(O).*



**In case of emergency, dial 911.** For an AVA administrative issue, contact the SE Regional Director (John) at (cell) 781.686.0660.

- 1. START** by walking back towards the direction you drove in on McGhee Road.
- 2. TURN LEFT** at the intersection and continue on McGhee Road, past the boat ramp road (on your right) and crossing the bayou. On your right you will find the entrance to the Davis Bayou Nature's Way Trail.
- 3. TURN RIGHT** onto the trail. (*Look for a small box with trail info pamphlets.*) *On the left side of the trail is an observation area for alligator pond.*
- Enter the trail and take path to the right. It wanders to the left. There are two observation points. Watch your step – the path can be uneven.
- At the "T" in the path, follow the Visitor's Center (VC) signs out to the road and **TURN RIGHT**. Continue following the VC signs until the trail by the road ends and turns right into the woods.
- Take this trail into the woods and follow it to the parking lot. Walk through the parking lot to the entrance and handicap parking area.
- At the entrance of the Visitor's Center (VC) parking lot, take the brick trail into the woods and onto the observation deck at the end.
- Return to the VC and take the right path to the back porch and a second deck.
- Return from the deck, **TURN RIGHT** and enter through the back door of the Visitor's Center.

**CHECKPOINT:** *Stamp your card with the park "passport" stamp at the desk. You can also sign the Visitor's Log.*

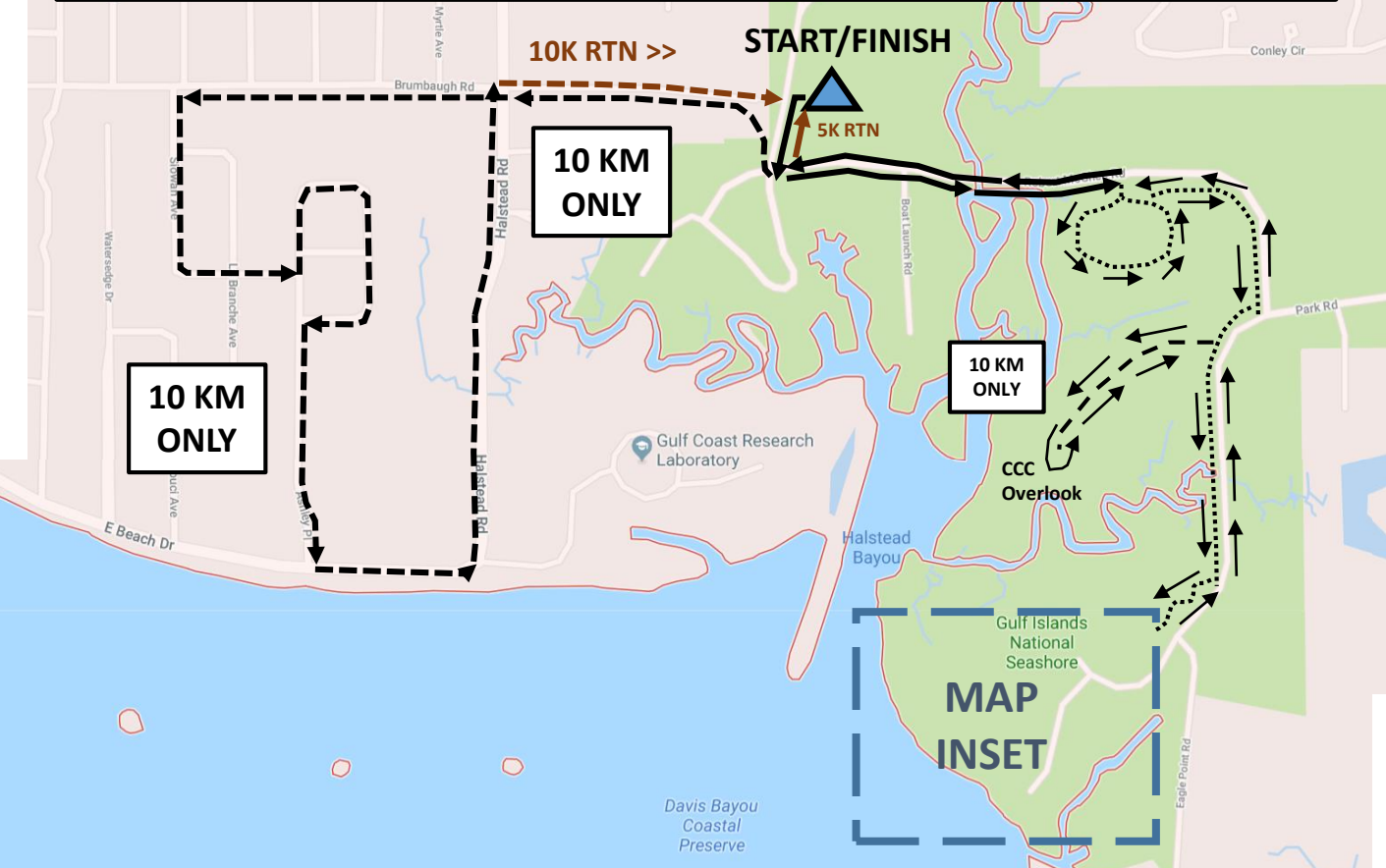
- 10. EXIT** through the front door of the Visitor's Center and **TURN RIGHT** onto the pathway. Go past the Southern Magnolia tree sign, **TURN RIGHT** again and walk to the observation deck.
- Return to the path, **TURN RIGHT** and go to the picnic area. Take the path on the **RIGHT** after the Spanish Moss sign, and the path on the **LEFT** after the Pignut Hickory sign.
- Walk towards the pier and the flagpole. At the pier, continue on the path. At the restroom, **TURN LEFT** and return to the parking lot.
- BEAR RIGHT** and walk straight ahead to the yield sign at the Park Road.
- Take the circular road, **BEAR LEFT** and at the mail box, **TURN RIGHT** into the first parking lot.
- Return through the parking lot to the Davis Bayou trail and follow it to the road, across, and back to McGhee Road and continue **STRAIGHT** until you reach the start of the trail.
- TURN LEFT** on McGhee Road and return to the start point by following it to the "T" and making the sharp right, back to the picnic / parking area.

**CONGRATULATIONS! On finishing your 5 KM volkssporting event! Don't forget to return to the Online Startbox to check-in as complete and get your AVA/IVV stamped Insert Card for this event!**

# Gulf Island National Seashore - Ocean Springs, MS

## Year-Round Walks – 5 & 10 KM

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### Visitor's Center Area Close-up



This walk is currently sponsored by the Southeast Region of the –  
**THE AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION**  
**America's Walking Club!!**

**AVA**  
Fun, Fitness, Friendship

**SANCTIONED EVENT**

Eligible for credit toward IVV Achievement Awards

# Gulf Island National Seashore - Ocean Springs, MS

## Year-Round Walk – 10 KM

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- 1. START** by walking back towards the direction you drove in on McGhee Road.
- 2. TURN LEFT** at the intersection and continue on McGhee Road, past the boat ramp road (on your right) and crossing the bayou. On your right you will find the entrance to the Davis Bayou Nature's Way Trail.
- 3. TURN RIGHT** onto the trail. (*Look for a small box with trail info pamphlets.*) *On the left side of the trail is an observation area for alligator pond.*
- Enter the trail and take path to the right. It wanders to the left. There are two observation points. Watch your step – the path can be uneven.
- At the "T" in the path, **TURN RIGHT** and follow the Visitor's Center (VC) signs until reaching the turn for the CCC overlook.
- TURN RIGHT**, follow path to the overlook, then reverse back to the Park Road.
- Continue following the VC signs until the trail by the road ends and turns right into the woods.
- Take this trail into the woods and follow it to the parking lot. Walk through the parking lot to the entrance and handicap parking area.
- At the entrance of the Visitor's Center (VC) parking lot, take the brick trail into the woods and onto the observation deck at the end.

**10.** Return to the VC and take the right path to the back porch and a second deck.

**11.** Return from the deck, **TURN RIGHT** and enter through the back door of the Visitor's Center.

**CHECKPOINT:** *Stamp your card with the park "passport" stamp at the desk. You can also sign the Visitor's Log.*

**10. EXIT** through the front door of the Visitor's Center and **TURN RIGHT** onto the pathway. Go past the Southern Magnolia tree sign, **TURN RIGHT** again and walk to the observation deck.

**11.** Return to the path, **TURN RIGHT** and go to the picnic area. Take the path on the **RIGHT** after the Spanish Moss sign, and the path on the **LEFT** after the Pignut Hickory sign.

**12.** Walk towards the pier and the flagpole. At the pier, continue on the path. At the restroom, **TURN LEFT** and return to the parking lot.

**13. BEAR RIGHT** and walk straight ahead to the yield sign at the Park Road.

**14.** Take the circular road, **BEAR LEFT** and at the mail box, **TURN RIGHT** into the first parking lot.

**15.** Return through the parking lot to the Davis Bayou trail and follow it to the road, across, and back to McGhee Road and continue **STRAIGHT** until you reach the start of the trail.

**16. TURN LEFT** on McGhee Rd. Upon reaching the sharp right hand turn, note the fence on the left >

Take the path by the fence until reaching an opening in the fence.

17. Go through the opening and walk on the left side of the road (Brumbaugh Road.), CROSS Halstead Rd. and continue to Siowan Ave.
18. Follow Siowan Ave. around the bend (left) to Ashley Pl.
19. **TURN LEFT** on Ashley Pl. Follow around two right turns and the road becomes Halstead Bayou. Continue around a third bend back to Ashley Pl.
20. **TURN LEFT** on Ashley Pl., to Beach Dr.
21. **TURN LEFT** on Beach Dr. to Halstead Rd.
22. **TURN LEFT** on Halstead Rd. and walk back to Brumbaugh Rd.
23. **TURN RIGHT** on Brumbaugh Rd. Walk to the end and through the fence opening.
24. Continue **STRAIGHT** to the road and parking area, and you have finished the walk.

**CONGRATULATIONS! On finishing your 10 KM volkssporting event! Don't forget to return to the Online Startbox to check-in as complete and get your AVA/IVV stamped Insert Card for this event!**

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