



Fredericksburg Walking Club

FREDERICKSBURG HISTORIC WALK — 5K & 10K Walk | Y0115 | Rated 1A (5K)/3A (10K)

Start Point: Fredericksburg Visitor Center, 601 Caroline St., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Restrooms: At Visitor Center (Open Daily 9-4 pm)

An AVA Sanctioned Year Round Event (YRE) (Credit Only)

This walk comprises 5 km and 10 km trails. Walk through Historic Fredericksburg, including the battlefield and along the Rappahannock River. The walk start / finish point is the Fredericksburg Visitor Center (see Driving Directions below for details).

Walk Registration:

This walk has a Physical Start Box (PSB) inside the Visitor Center. If you register at the location, ask the center personnel for the walk box. Registration can also take place using the AVA Online Start Box (OSB), which is located on the website my.ava.org. Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions (print if desired). The Point of Contact (POC) does not provide event directions or accept payments.

Driving Directions:

[Fredericksburg Visitor Center](#) is located at 601 Caroline St. Fredericksburg, VA 22401. They are typically open daily from 9-4, but you may wish to call ahead – (540) 373-1776.

From I-95 (either direction): Exit 130A E. Follow signs Historic Downtown Fredericksburg along Rt 3 (locally named William St.) to Princess Anne St. Right to Princess Anne St, follow to Wolfe St. Turn Left to Wolfe St., follow 1 block to Fredericksburg Visitor Center (ahead.) Free parking available in the lot at 1000 block of Sophia St., which is adjacent toward the river. There is 2-hour free parking on the street. There is a parking garage on Wolfe St. between Caroline St./Sophia St. (Currently, the first three hours are \$2, \$1/hour for each additional hour, up to a maximum charge of \$8 per day.)

Restrooms:

Restrooms are located at the Fredericksburg Visitor Center. Additional bathrooms available in Hurkamp Park and Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center.

Special Programs:

Anniversaries Hurrah, Walking with America’s Veterans, Washington-Rochambeau, Step to the Beat, IVV-Americas, Par for the Course, Grain Elevators, Walking with the Wild Things (10K only)

Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

Please use either the OSB or the PSB to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match. For example, do not register using the OSB and then complete your event using the PSB nor signing the PSB log sheet. The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB. Once you have completed the walk, either follow the instructions in the PSB and sign the log, stamp your books, and mail in your payment QR log in to your AVA OSB Account. If you are using the OSB, click on the “My Start Box” tab, click the “Finish Table” tab, and then click “Go to Finish Table” button for the event that you completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance for your walk, as well as selecting the applicable AVA Special Programs. This will generate the stamped virtual insert cards that you may choose to print out.

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

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Contact Information: If there is an emergency, please call 911. Roger Carr 540-429-2239.



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1. Leave Visitor Center and turn **LEFT** on Caroline St. *On left is 501 Caroline St., the John Paul Jones house. The home built circa 1758 by original owners Thomas and Jane Blanton, soon became a tailor shop and home to the William Paul family, brother of John Paul Jones, the father of the American Navy. The celebrated and revered Admiral Jones visited his brother William often during his Navy career.*

Continue down left side of Caroline St. 1 block.

2. **CROSS** Lafayette Blvd., go under railroad bridge. **CONTINUE ON** Caroline St.
 - a. **WALK** 1 block to Frederick St. Turn **RIGHT**. *Purina Tower – Grain Elevators.*
 - b. **LEFT** onto Charles St. Walk 2 blocks.
 - c. **LEFT** at traffic light onto Dixon St. Walk 2 blocks to Carolie St. **CROSS** Caroline and walk to the historic marker at 133 Caroline – *Sentry Box*.

3. **RETRACE** steps and turn **RIGHT** onto Rocky Lane, located between 207 and 205 Caroline St. (See Historical Marker in bush on left.) Use caution.

At the bottom of Rocky Lane, **CROSS** to Sophia St. in City Dock. Read Historical signs. *Notice across the river, was George Washington's boyhood home, Ferry Farm.*

4. **LEFT** and **CONTINUE ON** Sophia St. toward Railroad bridge using the sidewalk. *See historic sign on right about Capt. John Smith. You will pass Thornton's Tavern at 523 Sophia St., Fredericksburg's oldest documented structure erected in 1746 which originally served as an ordinary (or tavern), operated by Thomas Thornton. At 801 Sophia St., you will pass historic Shiloh Old Site Baptist Church.*

5. **CONTINUE** up Sophia St. to William St. At the Bridge, turn **LEFT** to **CROSS** Sophia and then take an immediate **RIGHT** to **CROSS** William St. Turn **LEFT** to stay on William St.

6. **WALK** one block, crossing Caroline St., then turn **RIGHT** on Caroline St. *You will pass Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop on left. This eighteenth-century building (built in 1772) was restored to house the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop, a museum of medicine, pharmacy, and military and political affairs. Mercer treated Mary Washington (mother of George) here. On the right you will see the Rappahannock Regional Library. In 1877, a number of leading men of Fredericksburg formed Library and Lyceum.*

7. **CONTINUE** on Caroline St. *You will pass Lewis Store (1749). Notice "Kenmore" historic sign. You will then pass Rising Sun Tavern on left. This was a home built in about 1760 by Charles Washington, youngest brother of George Washington, and was occupied by members of the Washington family until about 1780. After being sold outside the Washington family, the building was leased as a tavern in 1792. Notice the bronze river Otter. You will see several along the route commemorating the return of the otter to the Rappahannock River. (Patch available for sale in walk box at Visitor Center)*

8. Turn **LEFT** on Hawke St.

9. Turn **LEFT** on Princess Anne St. and walk 5 blocks to intersection of Princess Anne and George St. *On the left, you will see St. George's Episcopal Church. Construction began in 1732. The wooden frame church was completed in 1741. Mary Ball Washington, the mother of George Washington, and her family, attended this old St. George's. The present building was*

constructed in 1849. The town clock and stained glass windows (some by Tiffany) were installed at various times (1885—1943). The original pews are still in use. Notice cream-colored building straight ahead - 815 Princess Anne, the Renwick Courthouse was designed by noted architect James Renwick Jr. in the French Gothic style and completed in 1852. The structure's bell tower houses a 600-pound bronze bell cast at the Paul Revere Foundry in Boston. One of only 134 surviving Revere Foundry bells, it is the only known Paul Revere bell in Virginia. The building formerly served as Fredericksburg's courthouse and is currently being evaluated for future uses.

10. Turn **RIGHT** on George St. *You will pass the historic Presbyterian Church of Fredericksburg. It was built in 1833, and restored in 1866 after being badly damaged during the American Civil War. During the Civil War, the church served both Union and Confederate soldiers and it was in this building that Clara Barton came to nurse the wounded after the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862. Look closely and you will see cannon balls embedded in the pillars.*

11. **STAY** on George and then **CROSS** Charles St. to read historic markers at the Masonic Cemetery. *Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 owns and maintains the oldest Masonic Cemetery in the Western Hemisphere. Founded in 1784. Special Program: Rochambeau*

12. **CONTINUE** walking along George for approx. 2 blocks to the Fredericksburg Area War Memorial. *You will see a World War I memorial flagpole and plaque, which lists the names of local soldiers who died in that war; and a World War II US Navy twin 40mm antiaircraft gun, installed to replace a cannon that was melted down for World War II manufacturing.*

13. **TURN AROUND**, staying on George St., a very short distance before turning **LEFT** on paved path into Hurkamp Park. Immediate **RIGHT** following brick path around fountain to the LOVE sign. Exit Park turning **RIGHT** onto Prince Edward. Park will be on right.

14. **CONTINUE** 1 block to intersection of Prince Edward and George, turning **LEFT** onto George 1 block to **LEFT** onto Charles St., where you will pass the James Monroe Law Office Museum. *Here you -will find exhibitions, publications, etc., tracing the influence of our 5th President. Notice the Otter.*

15. **CONTINUE** on Charles to Lewis St. *Mary Washington House on corner. The home purchased by George Washington for his mother in 1772.*

***** 5K walkers (10k walkers, jump to Step 16)**

5K turn RIGHT on Lewis St. Shortly after turning onto Lewis, look closely next to the sidewalk and you will see a Marker: *Lease Land Grant from 1671.*

WALK 2 blocks to Caroline St. **CROSS** Caroline and turn **RIGJT** on Caroline St. to finish point at Visitors Center, 601 Caroline St.

End 5Kwalk.



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*** 10K Walkers

16. 10K walkers turn **LEFT** on Lewis. You will see the Mary Washington House. *In 1772, George Washington purchased this house for his mother, Mary Ball Washington, where she spent her last 17 years.*
17. **WALK** 1 block and turn **RIGHT** on Prince Edward Street.
18. Turn **LEFT** on Pitt Street.
19. **CROSS** Washington Ave., passing the Religious Freedom Monument on right. *The Thomas Jefferson Religious Freedom Monument is made from stones sent from churches across the country. It commemorates Jefferson's Virginia Religious Freedom Statute, promising that "no man shall... suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief." The Statute became the basis for the religion clause of the First Amendment.*
20. **WALK** towards the tall obelisk—the Mary Washington Monument. Walk up steps to read signs. *This is the burial place of Mary Washington, George Washington's mother. Near the obelisk, an inscription on Meditation Rock says of her, "Here Mary Ball Washington prayed for the safety of her son and country during the dark days of the Revolution!"*
21. After descending steps, **RIGHT** on Washington Ave. **CONTINUE** on Washington Ave., **CROSSING** over to the left side (near "dead end" sign) at the Hugh Mercer statue. *The General Hugh Mercer Monument was erected in 1906 by the U.S. Government. The statue honors Hugh Mercer who, on the advice of Washington, opened an apothecary shop in Fredericksburg in 1761. Mercer was a general in the Revolutionary War and was killed at the Battle of Princeton on January 12, 1777.*
22. **CONTINUE** around statue, **CROSSING** Washington Ave. Turn **RIGHT** and continue on Washington Ave., passing Kenmore (on left). *The home of Fielding Lewis and Betty Washington Lewis, sister of George Washington, Kenmore Plantation was built in the 1770s. It is the only surviving structure from the 1,300-acre Kenmore plantation. He was a planter and successful merchant in town. Their plantation grew tobacco, wheat, and corn.*
23. **CROSS** and **TURN RIGHT** on Lewis St., then **LEFT** on Washington Ave.
24. Turn **RIGHT** at blinking light, **CROSSING** Washington, towards cemetery gate, then **LEFT**, walking with the wall of the Confederate Cemetery on your right. Turn **RIGHT** on William, cemetery will be on right. *The Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery was established in 1870. Six Confederate generals and more than 3,300 Southern soldiers are buried in the Cemetery; 2,184 of them are unknown.*
25. **CROSS** Kenmore Ave. at crosswalk (Freddy Donuts on right). **CONTINUE** on William St., continuing 2 blocks to Sunken Rd.
26. Turn **LEFT** at blinking light, crossing William (at corner with Univ. of Mary Washington). **CONTINUE** along Sunken Rd.
27. **CROSS** Hanover St., continuing between wooden posts. Here Sunken Rd becomes a natural surface road. *On the right you will pass Brompton, the home of the U of Mary Washington.*
28. **WALK** on Sunken Rd., taking time to look at various historic markers, including Kirkland Memorial and Innes House. Take **LEFT** at Field of Battle sign onto paved walkway to Park Service Shop and Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitors Center (restrooms).
29. **CONTINUE** past visitors Center (large brick building will be on left). Fredericksburg National Cemetery will be on your right. *The Fredericksburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for over 15,000 United States soldiers. Most of the soldiers died during the Civil War, but there are about 100 20th century soldiers and a couple of spouses. The cemetery was officially closed to further burials in the 1940s. The Union Civil War soldiers buried here include those who died of illness in the camps around Fredericksburg, in the four major battles around Fredericksburg as well the Mine Run and North Anna campaigns. Only about 20% of the soldiers are identified.*
30. **PASS** Visitors Center and turn **RIGHT** towards the cemetery entrance. (Sign: Marye's Heights)
NOTE: Dogs are not allowed in the cemetery. If you have a dog, continue past the visitors center to Lafayette Blvd. Turn LEFT and jump to Step 46.
31. **WALK** up the hill through gates and continue straight toward the large General Humphreys statue
32. Turn **RIGHT**, walk to brick wall and historic marker "Old Family Cemetery" – Willis Hill
33. Turn **RIGHT** and walk to gate, turning **LEFT** through gate
34. **FOLLOW** path, checking out the historic markers.
35. At marker "Confederates on the Heights", turn **LEFT** continuing along path.
36. At paved driveway, turn **LEFT**, then **VEER LEFT** at "Y", following the dirt/gravel path.
37. **WALK** to historic marker on right facing square burial enclosure "Cemetery on Willis Hill".
38. **TURN AROUND AND EXIT** through brick entranceway.
39. **WALK** straight towards flag pole. *Note monument on left - 127th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.*
40. At brick sidewalk, turn **RIGHT** onto sidewalk at Robinson grave stone.
41. **WALK** behind Humphreys statue and turn **LEFT** walking towards brick wall.
42. Just before reaching the wall, turn **LEFT** toward round brick compass monument, known as a Compass Rose. (Sign: Marye's Heights)
43. **BEAR LEFT** to historic marker "The Second Battle of Fredericksburg"
44. **CONTINUE** straight towards flagpole.
45. **FOLLOW** brick sidewalk to the right down the hill, then **CONTINUING** straight along Lafayette Blvd, which will be on your right.
46. **FOLLOW** Lafayette, passing Willis St., Shepherd St., Littlepage St., Weedon St., and Spottswood St., turning **LEFT** onto Jackson St. *Notice beautiful murals and the Fredericksburg Violins on right – Step to the Beat.*
47. Turn **RIGHT** onto Wolfe St. *Notice gargoyle on roof at 520 Wolfe St.*
48. Carefully **CROSS** Kenmore Ave., at stop sign, staying on Wolfe – Downtown Cleaners on right.
49. **WALK** one block to stop sign at Prince Edward St. and Wolfe St. Carefully **CROSS** Prince Edward St.



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50. Turn **LEFT** crossing Wolfe to walk on the other side of street. Turn **RIGHT** staying on Wolfe. (Large brick building will be on your left). *You will pass historic Mount Zion Baptist Church on your left. This church was first constructed as a wood frame structure. It was replaced with the current brick sanctuary after a fire in 1925.*
51. Continue on Wolfe St., to Princess Anne St. where you will see several historic markers reflecting African American and Civil Rights history.
52. Carefully cross Princess Anne St. (Fire station will be on your left).

WALK one block, cross Caroline St., returning to the finish at Fredericksburg Visitors Center. **END 10k walk***.

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Special Programs:

Anniversaries Hurrah

Walking with America's Veterans

Washington-Rochambeau

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IVV-Americas

Par for the Course

Grain Elevators

Walking with the Wild Things (10K only)

Otter Patch available in Walkbox - \$5

Fredericksburg – Historic Fredericksburg



