



OCEAN SHORES – BEACH DAMON POINT YRE #0379

Distance: 5K, 8K, 11K

Difficulty Rating: 2C

Damon Point is a former island connected to the mainland by a sand spit at the mouth of Grays Harbor. Pets are allowed only on very first part of the walk on island. Check maps for location of **restrooms**. Damon Point feels wild, remote, free, and in its windswept way incredibly beautiful. Relatively crowded at entrance with families, fishers, surfers, kite surfers. But the walk is fairly people free with occasional other walkers or birders or photographers. Most of the route is between shoreline and dunes except for the remnant of the road you entered on that once connected to a (long vanished) picnic area on the dunes. The 11k begins at Oyhut Bay resort which has a restaurant, **restrooms** and a small market. It meets up with the 5/8k routes at the entrance to Damon Point. Walk includes views of the Olympic Mountains, Mt. Rainier, North Bay, Chehalis River, Hoquiam and Westport, and the Pacific Ocean. Great spot for birders. In addition to smaller shore birds and gulls it is not uncommon to see eagles, herons, various hawks, pelicans and rarely - in winter - Snowy Owls. Keep your distance. Enjoy, but do not disturb birds and or any other animals you see. The shoreline is changing constantly and from walk to walk you can't expect the same conditions. Shoreline may be flat and wide, narrow and steep, covered with driftwood, rocky, muddy, packed sand, sandy sand. There is virtually no shelter, and the coast can be much cooler than inland. Be prepared to keep warm and dry in event of wind or rain. All that said most of the time it is a tranquil and beautiful shore walk, but the weather can be changeable.

Check tides, surf and weather before, and on the day, you take the walk at <https://tides4fishing.com/us/washington/ocean-shores-point-brown#tides>. Avoid this walk at times of high winds and storms- especially in conjunction with high tides - as it is possible for water to wash over narrow sections, cutting off access back to mainland.

Walk Registration

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box at 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 and print as needed.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account; click on the “My Start Box” tab; then the “Finish Table” tab; then click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of

your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate a stamped “virtual” insert card that you may print.

Table of Contents:

Use the following table to guide what portion of this document you may wish to print.

Section Contents	Pages
Introduction, Walk Registration/Completion, and Table of Contents	1-2
Ocean Shores Beach – Damon Point Driving/Walking Directions 5K, 8K, 11K	3-5
Ocean Shores Beach – Damon Point Map 5K, 8K, 11K	6
Ocean Shores Beach – Damon Point Parking Pass	7
AVA Special Programs applicable to Ocean Shores Beach – Damon Point	8



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Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match, for example, by registering using the OSB then completing 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

OCEAN SHORES BEACH-DAMON POINT YRE WALK #379



kokolo@olywalking.net

Distance: 5k, 8k, 11k

Difficulty level: 2C

AVA Challenges: State /Washington

ESVA Challenges: 39 Counties (Grays Harbor County); Frontline Heroes (Sustenance Providers)

Start Point: Corner Oyhut Bay Blvd & Lodge Ave. near 404 Salmonberry Lane SW, Ocean Shores, WA.

Lat: 46.95067 Lng: -124.15092

Driving Directions: From I-5 take Exit 104 (toward Aberdeen and Ocean Beaches). At Aberdeen follow North 101 to Scenic Byway SR 109. LEFT onto SR 109 to SR 115. LEFT on SR115 to Pt Brown Ave entrance to Ocean Shores. LEFT. Follow Pt Brown Ave for 5.25 miles to where road curves right to intersect with Discovery Ave.

5k/8k walkers. Parking in gravel lot .25 miles either on right or just past blocked off road on left. Walk to blocked tarmac road. **Start directions at Step 5. Port-a-Potties** at start.

11k walkers Continue 1 mile to Oyhut Bay Blvd SW (Road name changes to Marine View Dr). Left on Oyhut Bay Blvd to left on Lodge Ave at red store. Parking behind buildings on right or on Oyhut Bay Blvd beyond plaza.

Hint: Check out points of interest on page 3.

*Important: **Before you begin:** Be aware of forecast **weather, tide times and surf conditions.***

Find info on all 3 conditions on your walk day at:

https://tides4fishing.com/us/washington/ocean-shores-point-brown#_tides

Also, terrain changes constantly. Use map to see what is supposed to happen; then use judgment to safely get where you need to go next.

Enjoy watching, don't approach/disturb wildlife.

Carry water.

- 1. 11k walkers:** Start at Oyhut Bay Blvd and Lodge Ave. Restrooms at Oyhut Grill building after 11:30 am. **Restrooms** in next step open at 8 am.
- 2. RIGHT** on Oyhut Bay Blvd SW sidewalk and **CONTINUE** to parking lot on right past red building. **More restrooms** in alley on right between Oyhut Bay market & the red building. If door is locked, the code is posted on right window frame at entrance to the Market.
- 3. LEFT** Cross parking lot then take path edging grass and continue forward across Tonquin Ave to follow gravel/grass access road paralleling Marine View Dr. (Entrance marked by three white posts). This road sometimes becomes a path, or even just grass. There are a couple of mounds to walk around or up.

4. **CONTINUE** to gravel parking lot. At the far end of this parking area is the tarmac access to Damon Point. **RIGHT** (1.5k)
5. **5k/8k/11k walkers: Port-a-potties.** Take road until just before it abruptly ends.
6. **LEFT** To take the path along the top of small bluff above the beach to the Quinault RV Park. Cross RV park diagonally to the right to informational signs located on bluff above beach.
7. **LEFT** to follow informational signs on the bluff until they end near the marina.
8. **RETURN** to the “Legend of Quinault Salmon” informational sign. Take the path to **LEFT** of sign to descend from the bluff and follow path **LEFT** across spit through dunes to the shore on the bay side.
9. **RIGHT** along the shore. To help you orient for next step, watch for 4 distant smallish rectangular white signs on long poles on right where the land starts curves to left.
10. **When you get to a small bay just at the curve and the sign which reads “No Dogs Beyond This Point”** (off to right) choose one of the options below (2.5k)
11. **Option 1 (11k, 8k) To walk all on beach.**

TIDE PERMITTING continue around peninsula staying on the beach back to the semi-submerged rocky jetty near RV park.
Continue at #18.

12. **Option 2 (11k, 8k, 5k) to walk part way on a road and then continue walk on beach.** **RIGHT** to first sign. Look **LEFT** to find beginning of road.
13. Take the road. Near the end, a white arrow is painted on the road. Shortly beyond will be **two groups of parking spaces, 3 spaces in each group. To the left beyond the 6th parking space a path** heads off through the dunes (3.5k) **11k & 8k** walkers follow the path to the beach, then continue at #15
14. **5k walkers:**
 - Continue as road loops until you are back at the road.
 - **RIGHT** to end of road

- Then veer **LEFT** walking through “Dog” signs to shoreline.
- **RIGHT** along the water front to the exposed rocks of “submerged” jetty
- **Continue at #18**

15. **11k & 8k walkers:** Follow the path to the beach. *Carefully descend to the beach.*
16. Once on beach turn **RIGHT**.
17. You are going to keep the water to your left and follow the beach all the way along the water back to semi submerged rock jetty near RV park may be under water at high tide.
18. Take a safe path on **RIGHT** up the bluff to the RV area.
19. **LEFT** along bluff and back to tarmac.
20. **RIGHT** to take entrance road back to parking area.
21. **5k/8k walkers – Done! Hope you enjoyed the walk!**
22. **11k walkers LEFT** follow to the path that parallels Marine Drive back to Oyhut Blvd SW.
23. **LEFT** to Lodge Ave SW and finish!

We hope you enjoyed your walk!

Don’t forget to log back into the OSB system to “finish/complete” your online registration – it helps support the local club!

Points of Interest

Note the kms marked on map are based on 11k start. They are used here in conjunction with the step number to help you figure out what you are looking at.

Step 1 (0k) Check out the Damon Point informational sign.

Step 6 (1.5k).

What we think of as Damon Point is a sand bar/dunes area connecting to a triangular shaped Protection (former) Island on slightly higher ground. The story of Damon Point and Protection Island is a story of constant change, at the mercy of surf and storms! From the late 1790s the famous tall “Lone Tree” on the island was used by sailors to mark the entrance to Grays Harbor. In the 1970s this road was a bridge to the still separate Damon Point/Protection Island. By the 2000’s a series of storms destabilized this road and it began to break up. When the AVA’s “Seabreeze Walking Festival” was revived in 2009, chunks of road still existed partially buried in the dunes. Bit by bit it broke up and disappeared with now only a short section left in the center of Protection Island.

Step 7.

At end of road, sometimes visible to your right is a (now semi-) submerged jetty (built before 1941) that runs all the way from the North Jetty at Brown Point to the old marina just beyond the RV area.

Step 8

Many years ago there was a daily ferry service from the marina to Westport on the south side of Grays Harbor.

Step 9

Look back for the entrance to the marina. The dunes to the right are again gradually filling in after a series of storms nearly wiped the spit clean. Note as you walk around the island the places where the water has washed across the land to the bay side.

Step 10 (2.5k)

“No Dogs beyond this Sign” is designed to protect rare, endangered bird species. Please remember to “Enjoy wildlife, but keep your distance, keep them safe”.

Step 11 (3k-4k)

Views to your left are of North Bay, with the majestic Olympic Mtns in the background.

(4k-5k)

View over Grays Harbor towards the Chehalis River. Steam in distance to left is Hoquiam and Aberdeen. On clear days views of Mt. Rainier. Move to find paths on edge of dunes if shore line is littered with driftwood logs, and is either difficult or unsafe. Always be above high tide and floating logs!!

(5k-6k)

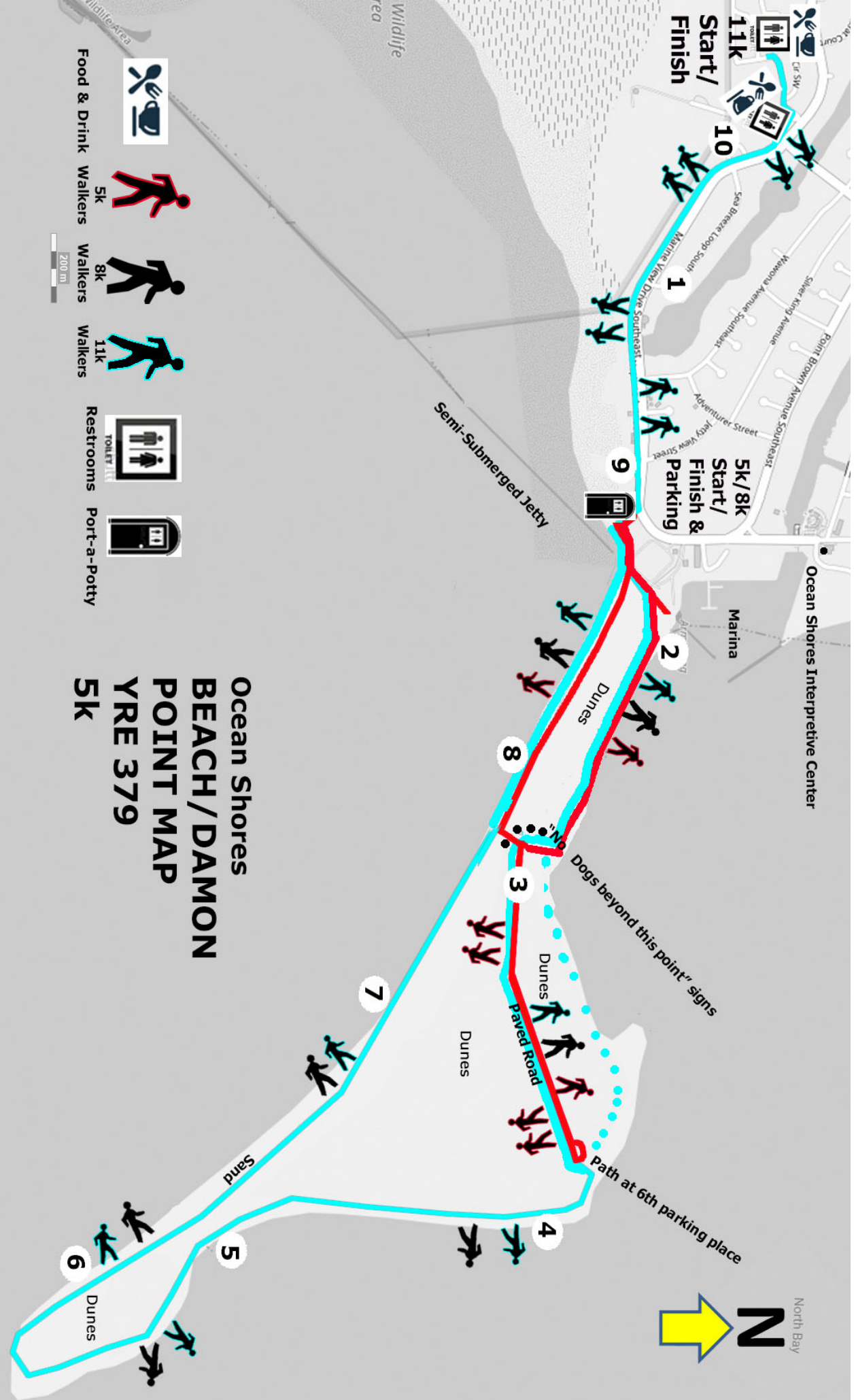
Green channel marker, first clear view of entire city of Westport across Grays Harbor. Rounding the point you can see the Pacific Ocean between Westport and Point Brown, Ocean Shores North Jetty.

(6k-8k)






Optional moving to walk at the high tide mark will reveal views of the grass lands to the right (good place to see to birds.) On clear days there are views of Olympics in distance.

(7-8k)

Kites, surfers, fisher people, birdwatchers, beachcombers, seals, waterfowl are common.



**Ocean Shores
BEACH/DAMON
POINT MAP
YRE 379
5K**

-  Food & Drink
-  5k Walkers
-  8k Walkers
-  11k Walkers
-  Restrooms
-  Port-a-Potty



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I am on a walk
with the
Capitol Volkssport
Club

