



# AVA Online Startbox

## Administrative notes for use of these Event Directions

Any comments or questions, please contact [osbhelp@ava.org](mailto:osbhelp@ava.org)

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

2. 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, if you register using the OSB, do not complete your event by using the PSB (nor sign 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.

3. A fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the user's Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when he/she submits the event completion info as a paying for credit participant. The \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF will expire in 60 days.

4. Event Completion and Credit: Be sure to log back into the OSB system (<http://my.ava.org>) to finish/complete your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's Event Bank until they have submitted event completion info including the event walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.  
DIRECTIONS FOR **5K AND 10K** SEASONAL WALK EVENT Y0581  
BLUE SPRING STATE PARK, ORANGE CITY, FLORIDA  
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**UPDATED JANUARY 2022**

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**START/FINISH POINT:** Blue Spring State Park – 2100 W French Ave., Orange City, FL 32763

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** From I-4 W, exit 114; SR 472 W 3.1 miles; US 17-92 S. 1.7 miles; right on West French. 2.0 miles, left to Park. From I-4 E, exit 111B, Won Saxon. 1.3 miles; right on Enterprise one mile; right on US 17-92 two miles; left on West French two miles, left to the park entrance. Must pay park entrance fee.

**AVA Special Programs:** Walking the USA A-Z (O).

**POI:** *Blue Spring is a designated Manatee Refuge and the winter home to a growing population of West Indian Manatees. The spring and spring run are closed (for swimming and diving) during Manatee season, mid-November through March 15.*



Call 911 for emergencies or 386-775-3663  
for the Park Rangers.  
Contact the Event POC at 386-717-6153.

1. Facing away from Restrooms, walk on the **right side of the parking lot**, and exit parking lot on the paved road that you entered on.
2. In a short distance, **TURN RIGHT** at Blue Springs Cabins sign. Continue past Cabin #s 1-6.
3. Go through the fence opening ahead (after the cabins) and **TURN RIGHT** on the dirt road (FVA sign here).
4. Follow this road for about ½ mile, until reaching a “Y” in the trail on the right (park sign here with arrow straight ahead on left side).

**5KM/10KM TRAIL SPLIT:**

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**5. 5K ONLY: TURN RIGHT** on the sandy path (at arrow). Follow this trail through scrub brush and woods, to trailhead back at the parking area.  
**Go to #11.**

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**6. 10K:** Continue **STRAIGHT** on the sandy road, staying on this main wide path. Pass the 1-mile marker and a picnic table. The road curves left, then right at another trail marker arrow.

7. Pass an access road on the right (FVA sign on left) and continue as the road changes to hard sand and grass and tall trees begin again.

8. After the road bends right again, there is a fork, - stay **RIGHT** (park trail arrow) and continue a bit further until reaching the **2-mile marker**. **There is an FVA U-Turn sign here. TURN AROUND.**

***Warning: If you come to the weather station at fenced area on your right, you earned 2 extra K's. Turn Around.!!***

9. Walk back the way you came, passing the picnic table and 1-mile marker.

**10. At the trail fork, TURN LEFT** at the FVA sign pointing left. (Where the 5K split was.) Follow this trail through scrub brush and woods, to trailhead back at the parking area.

**11. 5K & 10K: TURN LEFT** at parking lot. At the crosswalk (at Restrooms), bear onto the sidewalk at the “No Bicycles” icon sign, walking between the pavilion (on left) and the bathrooms (on right) to the Tour Boat office. *In front of you is the St. John's River, which continues to the springs.*

**12. TURN RIGHT** onto boardwalk at Tour Boat Ticket Office. Continue until the boardwalk ends and the wide sidewalk starts.

**13.** Continue **STRAIGHT**; along the way visit each of the 3 “overlook decks” on the left, for views

of the springs. Return to the sidewalk **LEFT** from each 'deck' overlooking the springs.

**14. Continue past** the Thursby House display and the history of Blue Springs.

**POI:** *For centuries, the spring area was home to Native Americans. In 1766 it was visited by Colonial American botanist John Bartram, but it was not until 1856 that it was settled by Louis Thursby and his family.*

**15.** Continue ahead on another boardwalk through woods, with the springs on the left, to a clearing with the concessions and restrooms ahead.

**16. TURN LEFT** onto swimming dock, (at large red sign) go **RIGHT** then **RIGHT again to exit** up to path.

**17. TURN LEFT**, pass the concessions to the "Y" in the boardwalk.

**18. TURN LEFT** at "Y" and follow with the springs on the left. Pass the "diver and tuber" entry sign, through the gazebo (*interpretive signs here*) all the way to the end, where springs exit below.

**19. REVERSE** path back toward the concessions area, with the springs on the right.

**20. Continue Straight** at "Y" (FVA arrow) with the concessions on the right.

**21. TURN LEFT** through picnic table area to a wide boardwalk uphill to a parking lot.

**22. TURN LEFT** in the parking lot, pass the "Service Vehicle Only" sign, then **bear right** toward the campground path.

**23. TURN LEFT** at the FVA sign on the paved path to the campground.

**24. TURN LEFT** on the campground road at FVA sign on post. Follow around the loop from Nos. 18 to 1.

**25. RIGHT** at Y just past #1 **BEFORE trash dumpsters**. Pass site #45 to #19 completing loop back to campground path.

**26. LEFT** just before site #18 at "Footpath to Swimming" sign on asphalt path to springs.

**27. RIGHT** in parking lot circling to wide boardwalk.

**28. RIGHT** on boardwalk at **Restroom sign** and return to boardwalk next to springs at concessions

**29. LEFT** on boardwalk 500m to sidewalk to left towards restrooms and start point.

**30. Return** to your car.

**THANK YOU for walking this FLORIDA STATE PARK!**

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