

The Liberty Bell Wanderers
Welcome You to the
Philadelphia
Ben Franklin Bridge
AVA Sanctioned Year Round Event



This AVA rated 2A 11km walk begins in the Historic District of Philadelphia and goes across the Ben Franklin Bridge into Camden, NJ. Walk through the Rutgers Univ. campus in Camden, and along the scenic river front to the Battleship New Jersey then return to Philadelphia. Walkers will be given the option of taking the ferry that departs from the Camden waterfront across the Delaware River to return to Phila. The ferry operates on a limited schedule during the spring and summer months.

OSB or PSB Walk Registration (not both):

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, do not register using the OSB, then complete your event 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.

OSB Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

When using OSB registration, upon physically completing 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 stamped "virtual" insert cards that you may choose to print out.

Restrooms:

Location	Route	Type	Distance	Hours - Season
Starting Point - Wyndham Historic District Hotel	11km	Bathroom	0km	24/7
Rutgers University Camden campus - Campus Center	11km	Bathroom	3.4km	24/7 - possibly closed between university semesters and breaks.
Battleship New Jersey Visitor Center	11km	Bathroom	5.5km	Closed Wed and Tues Otherwise Open 11am - 3pm

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Starting Point Address:

Wyndham Historic District Hotel
 400 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19106
 Hotel Parking available for a significant fee.
 Free parking is available on Sundays on certain streets. See <https://philapark.org/autopark-at-independence-mall/> for information on a nearby public parking garage in Independence Mall.

PSB Location:

The start box is located inside hotel. You will need to ask at the registration desk for the "Walk Box".

Driving Directions:

From I-95 take Exit 22 onto Callowhill St., then Left on 4th St four blocks to hotel.

From PA Turnpike take Exit 326 (I-76E to I-676E). Exit at 8th St, then Right to 1st light (Race St), Left to 4th St, then Right on 4th to hotel. From NJ Turnpike take Exit 4 Rt (73N to 38W). 38W to 30W to Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Cross bridge and take 1st right around a sharp "U" turn to 4th St. Right on 4th for 2.5 blocks to hotel.

Train Directions:

From Jefferson Station, SEPTA Regional Rail (www.septa.org) (215-580-7800) exit to 10th & Filbert Sts. Cross Filbert St. and turn Right. Left on 10th St. Right on Arch St. to 4th St. Right on 4th St to Wyndham Hotel.

Emergency Numbers:

In case of Emergency: Dial 911
 Event related assistance:
 Pat Crisfulla (215-334-5825)
 pmcrisfulla@hotmail.com

Walking Instructions:

Maps are included.

Abbreviations used:

ns – No Sign. There is no street sign.
 SP – Special Program

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

1. Exit the hotel and turn **LEFT** to Arch St.

2. **LEFT** on Arch St.

Before reaching 5th St. you will pass Christ Church Burial Ground. The grave of Benjamin Franklin can be viewed through the iron gates. It is considered good luck to "throw a penny on Benny" and a nod to Franklin's motto that "a penny saved is a penny earned." The pennies collected go toward the maintenance of the burial ground.

At the corner of Arch & 5th look for a historical marker for the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society.

3. **RIGHT** on 5th St. Pass the U.S. Mint. **STAY TO THE RIGHT OF THE TUNNEL.**

4. **CROSS** 5th at Race St., then continue on the pavement with the dog park on the left.

Follow the walkway to the bridge. Locate the entrance to the pedestrian walkway for the bridge. The walkway is 2.4km (1.5 miles) long.

Note: There is a walkway on both sides. The near (South walkway) and far (North walkway) side. Only one side is usually open. If the far side is open, there is a pedestrian tunnel under the highway.

5. Continue walking across the bridge.

The Ben Franklin Bridge is over 80 years old and was the longest suspension bridge in the world when it opened in 1926. The main suspension cables are 30 inches in diameter and the bridge carries cars, trucks, trains and pedestrians. The water is about 150 feet below. Take time to view the skylines of Philadelphia and Camden.

Before reaching the end of the bridge, note the athletic fields off to the right. These fields belong to Rutgers University {SP}

6. Follow the ramp at the end of the bridge.

CROSS Pearl St. at the crosswalk to 5th St.

If you are on the North walkway, go through the pedestrian tunnel, then left on Pearl St. and cross at the crosswalk.

7. Continue on 5th St. one block to Penn St.

8. Turn **RIGHT** on Penn St. at the main entrance of the Rutgers University Camden campus.

Restrooms are available in the Campus Center located just past the flagpoles.

9. Continue on Penn St. through the campus as it crosses several intersections. After exiting the campus, continue on Penn St. to Delaware Ave.

10. **CROSS** Delaware Ave. and turn **LEFT**. Continue 3 blocks to Arch St.

11. **RIGHT** on Arch St.

12. **LEFT** on Riverside Dr., then **RIGHT** on Aquarium Loop. Walk straight back past the aquarium on the left to the Camden Waterfront walkway.

13. **LEFT** on the walkway and go past Adventure Aquarium.

Enjoy the beautiful views of Philadelphia across the river. On the opposite bank you can see two large 160-foot-tall concrete towers. Over \$13 million dollars was spent to build an aerial tramway from Penns Landing to the Camden Waterfront before the project was abandoned. If you look closely on the Camden side, you can see two concrete pilings sticking up a few feet above the water level.

Across the Delaware River you can see several historic ships that are moored at Penn's Landing. The baroque Mosholu is a floating restaurant; the World War II-era submarine USS Becuna; and the Spanish-American War-era cruiser USS Olympia.

14. Follow the walkway along the waterfront to a circular marina. Follow the path around the marina to the left and continue to the USS Battleship New Jersey. **(5Km)**

The Battleship New Jersey was built at the Philadelphia Naval Yard and commissioned in 1943. She took part in combat operations during World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and Persian Gulf War; and became the most decorated battleship in the history of the U.S. Navy. She was decommissioned in 1991 and brought back to New Jersey in 2001 where she now serves as an educational museum and a tribute to the brave sailors who served on her.

Restrooms available in the battleship's Visitor Center.

15. When you reach the battleship, turn around and retrace your steps along the waterfront back to Adventure Aquarium.

OPTION: Walkers may take the Riverlink Ferry across the river to return to Philadelphia at Penn's Landing. The ferry departs from the waterfront near the Aquarium. Look for the blue canopy. Check the schedule for departure times and fees (round trip fee is mandatory). The ferry has a limited operating schedule. Once you reach the Philadelphia side, follow the directions on page 5 to return to the Start Point.

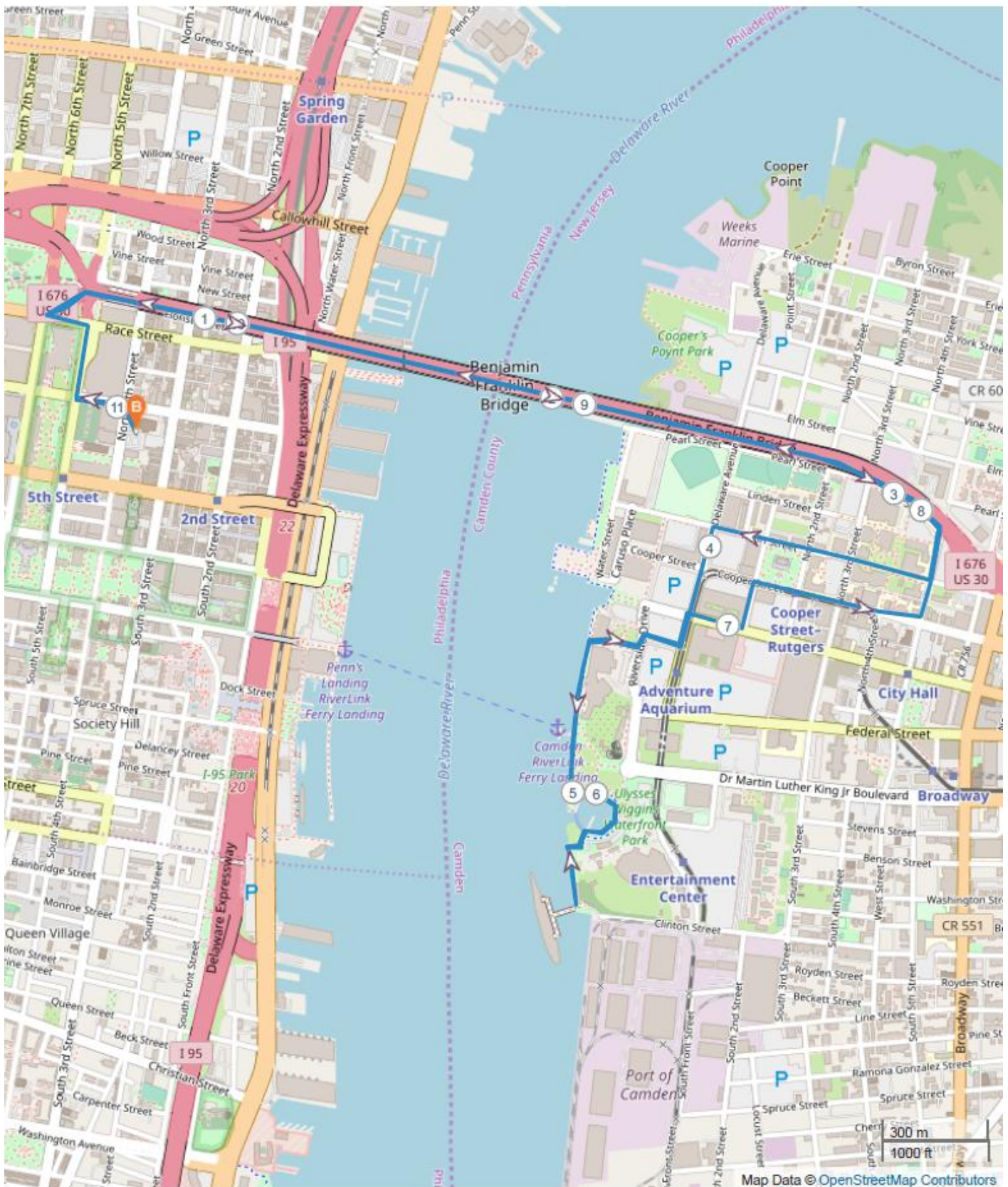
16. At the Aquarium, turn **RIGHT** and go past the ticket windows. Walk past the fountain on the left to the stop sign.
17. **CROSS** Riverside Dr. at the stop sign, turn **LEFT**, then a quick **RIGHT** on Arch St.
18. **LEFT** on Delaware Ave.
19. **RIGHT** on Market St.

The Victor building which is also known as the "Nipper" was built during 1909-1916 and became the headquarters of the Victor Talking Machine Company, later RCA Victor **{SP}**. The stained-glass window in the building's tower

features "Nipper" the dog, taken from a painting titled "His Master's Voice" which became a logo of RCA Victor. The building which originally manufactured Victrola cabinets was converted into luxury apartments in 2004.

20. **LEFT** on Front St.
21. Go one block, **CROSS** Cooper St. and turn **RIGHT**. The beautiful building on the left is the Walt Whitman Arts Center located in the former Cooper Public Library building and is the center of Eldridge R. Johnson Park. Walk around the reflecting pool in front of the arts center and continue to the left on Cooper. The sculpture in front of the reflecting pool is of "Peter Pan" only one of five in the world. Made by Sir George Frampton, the "Peter Pan" is his most famous work. The original stands in Kensington Gardens, London, England. The replica was purchased and brought to Camden by Eldridge Johnson, founder of the Victor Talking Machine Company, in 1926 and dedicated to the children of Camden. At 4th St. look to the left at the large glass panel display on the Camden Rutgers campus.
22. **LEFT** on 5th St. Pass the main entrance to the Camden Rutgers campus. Just before turning on 5th, look to the right for the large brick building which is Camden's City Hall. There is a clock in the tower **{SP}**.
23. **CROSS** Pearl St. on the crosswalk and turn **LEFT**. Follow the ramp and cross the bridge back to Philadelphia. As you come off the bridge, look straight ahead to the traffic circle to view the "Bolt of Lightning and Kite" sculpture celebrating Ben Franklin's electrical experiment.
24. Immediately after coming off the bridge, turn **LEFT**, follow the pavement next to the dog park. **CROSS** Race St. and continue straight on 5th St.
25. **LEFT** on Arch St. and **RIGHT** on 4th to return to Start Point at the Wyndham Hotel.

Benjamin Franklin Bridge Walk

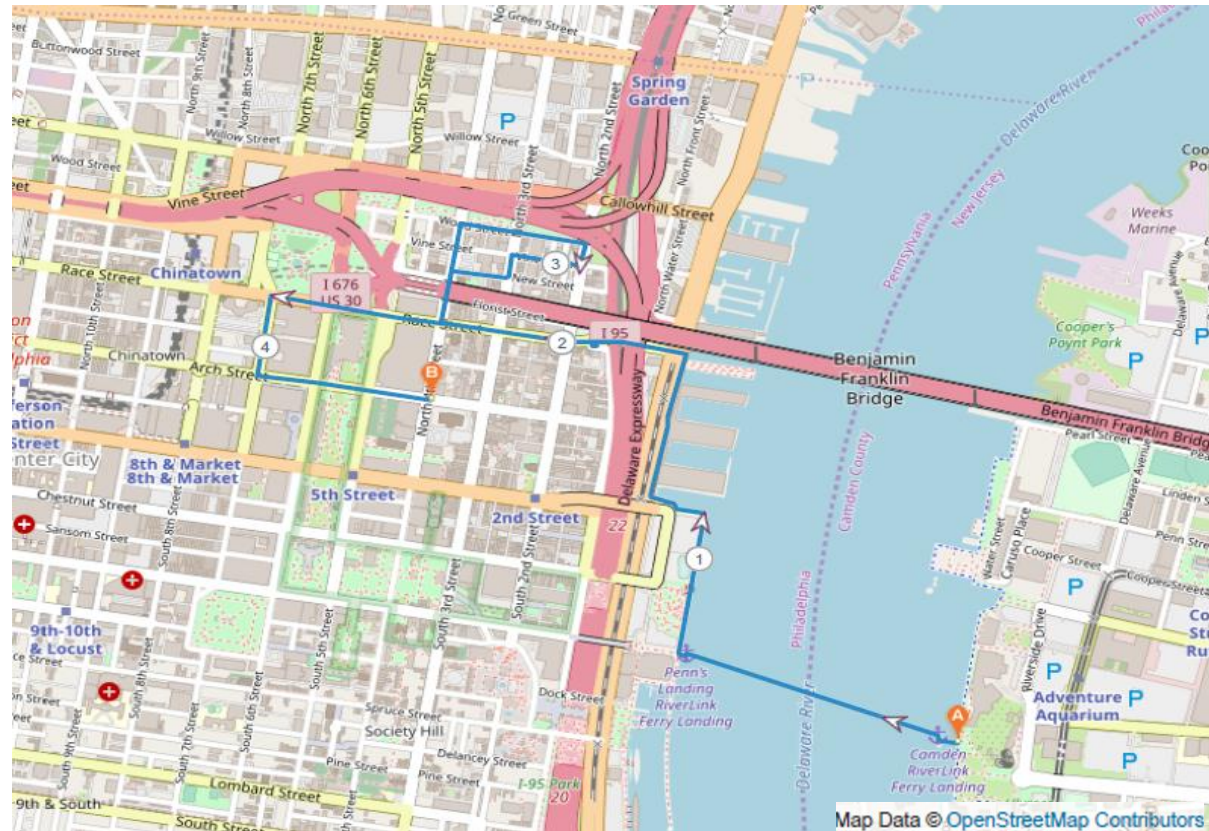


INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE FERRY BACK TO PHILADELPHIA

If you are taking the ferry across the river to Philadelphia, follow the instructions and map below to complete an 11Km walk.

1. When the ferry arrives at Penn’s Landing, disembark and follow the walkway straight ahead to Columbus Blvd.
2. **RIGHT** on Columbus Blvd.
3. **LEFT** on Race St.
Notice the high water flood markings on the screen on the left as you walk under I-95.
4. **RIGHT** on 4th St.
5. *Pass historic St. Augustine Church, one of the oldest Catholic parishes in Phila. Construction began in 1796 and wasn't completed until 1801 because of yellow fever outbreaks. Note the clock in the church tower. {SP}*
6. **RIGHT** on Wood St. until it ends at 2nd St. (unmarked).
7. **RIGHT** on 2nd St. Go one block to Vine St. (unmarked).
8. **RIGHT** on Vine St.
9. **LEFT** on 3rd St.
Look behind you at 3rd and New Sts. to see a large mosaic mural.

10. **RIGHT** on New St.
11. **LEFT** on 4th St. After walking under the Ben Franklin Bridge, go one full block to Race St. (unmarked).
12. **CROSS** Race St. and turn **RIGHT**.
13. **LEFT** on 7th St.
14. **LEFT** on Arch St.
Independence Visitors Center is just off the walk on 6th St. between Arch & Market Sts.
15. **RIGHT** on 4th St. and return to the Start Point at the Wyndham Hotel.



2026 KSWA Special Challenges and AVA Special and National Programs

WALK NAME: PHILADELPHIA – BEN FRANKLIN BRIDGE					
NUMBER: Y0621					
67 Counties (no end date)			Philadelphia		
AT Thru Hike (2017 -2023) in PA only			N/A		
AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS					
Program Name	Years	11K	K	K	Information
A-MAZE-ing Labyrinths	(2024 – 2026)				
Anniversaries Hurrah!	2026	X			
Grain Elevators – Monarchs of the Plains	(2025 – 2027)				
IVV-Americas	(2023 – No end)				
Lighthouses II	(2023 - 2025)				
Par For the Course	(2023 - 2025)	X			Athletic Fields in Rutgers-Camden Community Park as seen from the bridge
Rails-to-Trails	(2022 – 2025)				
Step to the Beat	(2024 – 2026)	X			RCA Victor building on Market St., Camden
Walking With the Wild Things	(2025 – 2027)				
Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail	(2021 – 2031)				
Closed Programs on Route					
Border Crossings	(2014 – 2023)	X			Philadelphia, PA to Camden, NJ
Rockin’ Around the Clock	(2020 – 2022)	X			Camden City Hall tower St/ Augustine Church tower (on Option)
Town Halls/City Halls	(2022 – 2024)				Camden City Hall
AVA NATIONAL PROGRAMS					
Program Name	Years	K	K	K	
50 States / 51 Capitals	(No end date)	X			Pennsylvania New Jersey
Walk the USA (A To Z)	(No end date)	X			P, C

