



DURHAM, NC
Duke Campus and Duke Garden Walk
10K and 5K



**AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB**
— ESTABLISHED 1976 —

An AVA Sanctioned Year-Round Walk of the Triangle Trailblazers

Special Programs:

Step to the Beat-10k & 5k, Where the Wild Things Are-10k & 5k

[For 10k-Print pages 2 through 7 for walk directions, maps and Points of Interest](#)

[For 5k-Print pages 8 through 11 for walk directions, maps and Points of Interest](#)

You will be visiting the Western Campus of Duke University, home of the stately Duke Chapel. There are numerous examples of magnificent Gothic architecture for you to enjoy. In addition, you will be exploring the Sarah P Duke Gardens, a wonderful landscape of ever-changing plants and trees planted amongst water features and woods.

Dogs are not allowed in any buildings on campus. In addition, they are only allowed in Duke Gardens before 10am and after 5pm

Brief History of Duke Gardens: The original vision for Duke Gardens is credited to Dr Frederic Hanes, a member of the faculty in Duke's School of Medicine. In the early 1930's, Dr Hanes was determined to convert the debris-filled ravine, by which he walked daily, into a garden of his favorite flower, the iris. Dr. Hanes persuaded his friend Sarah P. Duke, widow of one of the university's founders, Benjamin N. Duke, to give \$20,000 to finance a garden that would bear her name. In 1935, more than 100 flower beds were in glorious bloom in the area that is now the South Lawn. They included 40,000 irises, 25,000 daffodils, 10,000 small bulbs, and assorted annuals. However, heavy summer rains and the flooding stream caused washouts and disease, including iris rot. By the time Sarah P. Duke died in 1936, the original gardens were in decline. But Dr. Hanes convinced Sarah's daughter, Mary Duke Biddle, to construct a new garden on higher ground, as a fitting memorial to her mother. Duke Gardens was officially dedicated in April 1939. The 85th Anniversary of that dedication was celebrated in 2024.

Brief History of Duke University: What we know of today as Duke University had gone through many iterations before moving to Durham in 1891 and was then known as Trinity College. The school grew rapidly, primarily due to the generosity of Washington Duke and Julian S. Carr, powerful and respected Methodists who had grown wealthy through the tobacco industry. In 1924, Washington Duke's son, James B Duke, established The Duke Endowment, a \$40 million trust fund, some of which was to go to Trinity College. The president thus renamed the school Duke University, as a memorial to Washington Duke and his family. Hospitals, orphanages, other colleges and the Methodist Church also benefitted from the Duke Endowment. Duke's original campus (now the East Campus) was rebuilt from 1925 to 1927 with Georgian-style buildings. By 1930, the majority of the Gothic Revival buildings on the campus one mile west (now West Campus) were completed in order to accommodate the Undergraduate Trinity College for men as well as the professional schools.

There are numerous restaurants in downtown Durham. There is also a food hall in the Brodhead Student Center at the beginning of the trail.

Triangle Trailblazers

Durham-Duke University Walk / Durham County
10k/11k Walk – YR940



Driving Directions to the Start Point: Parking Deck for Bryan Center and Duke Chapel – 125 Science Dr, NC

From the East on I-40: Exit 279B / I-885 to NC 147. In 4 miles, stay left for NC-147N. In 3.5 miles, exit 4A / Chapel Hill St.

Turn right, becomes Duke University Rd. In 1.5 mile, turn right on Towerview Rd. In ½ mile, turn right on Science Dr.

From the West on I-85: Take exit 172 / NC-147S. In 1.5 miles, take exit 7B / US-15/501S. Stay to the right for exit 108A / Morreene Rd. Turn left; becomes Towerview Rd. In 1.5 miles, turn left on Science Dr.

From both directions: The parking deck will be on your right; be sure to follow signs for Visitor Parking.

Cost is \$2 per hour. Pay at kiosk after your walk.



In Case of Emergency: Dial 911

For Event Assistance: Rich Rycek 919-699-0123

Details about Points of Interest (POI) are on page 4.

- Exit the parking garage at Level 2 near Pay Kiosk.
Turn LEFT on sidewalk and then RIGHT to take steps up to parking lot. **MAP #2 for campus details**
- Turn RIGHT on sidewalk along parking lot. Walk to far side of parking circle and turn RIGHT on sidewalk between rock building and sign for Page Auditorium. Go past the rock building and then VEER RIGHT on walkway to enter plaza; head to The University Bookstore (when open, *restrooms inside on the right*).
- VEER LEFT passing bookstore and continue straight through plaza.
- Walk past the glass building on your left (*food and restrooms inside*). *If you're doing the "Wild Things" Special Program - just before arches, look up and to your left to spot the Gargoyles on the tower.*
- Go through arches and immediately turn RIGHT into quad. *"Wild Things" – more gargoyles on the corners of the square tower near the steps ahead of you, and on the clock tower.*
- Go up steps, through arch and veer LEFT to clock tower.
- Turn hard LEFT to walk back on the opposite side of the quad. *More gargoyles/"grotesques" scattered all over.*
- At the end of the quad, turn RIGHT at road (Chapel Dr). Stay on this sidewalk until you reach the stone pillars/traffic circle.
- Turn LEFT and cross Chapel Dr. and Flowers Dr.
- Turn LEFT on Campus Dr. The Undergraduate Admissions office will be on the left.
- You will stay on Campus Dr. for just over a mile, passing the Rubenstein Art Center on the left and the Nasher Art Museum on right. **POI #1** *Special Program-"Step to the Beat" Rubenstein Center*
- MAP #1** Go through the Main St. (2nd) underpass. **POI #2**

NOTE – if you would like an extra kilometer, for a total of 11K, please skip to steps a-i on page 4. This extra distance will be in the Eastern Campus of Duke University.

Otherwise, continue with step #13.

- Go up hill a little bit, and before the bus shelter, turn LEFT onto gravel path. Follow this path as it parallels a stone wall. *You are in the Eastern Campus of Duke University.*
- Cross two Campus roadways/entrances.
- When you reach Broad St veer LEFT to exit campus through opening in stone wall. Cross Broad St and then turn RIGHT.
- At signal turn LEFT on Perry St.
- In 2 blocks turn RIGHT on Ninth St.
- In one long block, turn LEFT on Markham/Hillsborough.
- Just past Harris Teeter, cross to the sign for Station Nine at Erwin Square and turn LEFT on the brick

sidewalk. Continue through this condo and business complex, staying on the brick sidewalk as it angles RIGHT in front of shops/restaurants. Sidewalk will angle LEFT and RIGHT again, passing Jewel Smith & Guasaca.

20. When sidewalk ends, cross parking lot entrance and head towards stop sign. Cross Rutherford St at crosswalk. Head down Main St.
21. At signal, CROSS Anderson St and turn LEFT to cross Main. Cross over RR tracks and highway.
22. Go past 2 large parking lots, and at the end of the 2nd one, turn RIGHT on Lewis St.
23. At the end of the road enter Duke Gardens. **POI #3 /**

MAP #3

NOTE—there is frequently construction going on in the gardens. Please use the map to navigate around any closed areas.

24. Turn RIGHT on asphalt path. *Temporary restrooms on your right.*
25. Turn LEFT on gravel/sand path, heading slightly downhill. Stay on this path not taking any side paths; you will soon go past a wooden fence by a small pond on your right.
26. Continue on the main path; you will go by Pine Cloud Mountain Stream on the right, a wooden fence on the left, and three structures on right (*very nice restroom in 3rd structure*).
27. After restroom, turn LEFT on 2nd path (stone pavers), and head down towards lake. Turn LEFT on stone path and continue ahead, keeping the lake on your right.
28. Go over small bridge and then turn RIGHT to cross over the red, arched bridge. Immediately turn RIGHT onto stone-paved path.
29. Stay on this gravel path as it follows the edge of the lake. Eventually you will go over a ‘zig-zag’ boardwalk, and up stone steps. Continue ahead keeping the lake on your right.
30. Near the end of the lake, at the ‘V’, veer LEFT. Take the stairs up to the wide, asphalt roadway and turn RIGHT.
31. Turn LEFT at first path (towards Historic Garden) and head downhill.
32. At first intersection, before bridge (emergency light), turn LEFT onto small, dark-gravel path. Follow this as it goes over a bridge and then curves around back to main path.
33. Turn LEFT on main path and then turn LEFT into the Memorial Gardens (name is etched into pavers on ground). Follow this path as it curves around, staying LEFT at the ‘V’ and straight at next path. Path circles around; stay straight at first path and then LEFT at ‘V’ to take path back to main path (*restrooms across main path*).
34. Turn LEFT on main path and go straight ahead through the gate for the Bloomquist Garden for Native Plants.
35. Veer LEFT just past informational sign and then turn LEFT to go over bridge.
36. Turn LEFT at next intersection; stay to the left.
37. Turn LEFT to go through the structure at end of pond.
38. At first intersection, turn LEFT to head uphill on the stairs.
39. Stay LEFT at each intersection until you reach the Prairie Classroom; turn RIGHT towards classroom.
40. Veer RIGHT at corner of classroom then turn LEFT on path.
41. Proceed to ‘T’ intersection and turn RIGHT to go over wooden boardwalk with millstones embedded in it. Go down 3 groupings of steps onto gravel path.
42. Turn LEFT to go back through gate.
43. Immediately turn LEFT on wide asphalt path.
44. When you reach the intersection with the medallion in the center, turn RIGHT and go through pergola.
45. At bottom of first set of steps (*bathrooms to the right*), turn LEFT and head towards the small building; a small café is inside. *Yummy snacks and cold drinks! Hours vary during the year.*
46. Go past the cafe and immediately turn LEFT to go behind it.
47. Go up the stairs and turn RIGHT, and then RIGHT again passing small bench. You are entering the Spengler Camelia Garden (path will be looping back around to this point).
48. Just before a 2nd stone bench, turn HARD LEFT; you will soon pass a high-backed bench on your right.

49. Turn RIGHT before next small stone bench, and then turn LEFT to head back down the stairs towards café.
50. Turn LEFT at bottom of steps.
51. Turn RIGHT on main, pebbled path and then immediately LEFT heading towards center of terraced garden.
52. When you reach the water fountain, turn LEFT and head down steps towards Koi pond.
53. At pond, turn LEFT and then turn RIGHT onto wide asphalt/gravel path. Follow path as it curves around a large grassy area, staying LEFT at the top of the hill to head down towards the small pond at the end of grassy area.
54. Continue past pond and head uphill. At top of hill, turn RIGHT at bench.
55. Go up steps and through gate to road. Cross the road and continue on asphalt path to next road. Turn RIGHT on this road (Chapel Dr). **MAP #2**
56. Continue on Chapel Dr., heading towards the Duke Chapel Tower. You are again entering the Western Campus of Duke University. **POI #4**
57. Roadway will lead into a large open quad. Follow the sidewalk past the first building and turn RIGHT into smaller quad. Follow the sidewalk up the stairs. Veer LEFT as the sidewalk circles in front of the building, Continue on sidewalk, now on opposite side of quad.
58. Back at main road, Chapel Dr, turn RIGHT towards the Chapel. *Unless the chapel is closed for a private event, the chapel should be open and well worth a visit!* **POI #5**
59. Turn LEFT in front of chapel and then turn RIGHT towards arches.
60. Go through arches and take angled sidewalk towards opening in stone wall.
61. Go down steps; turn LEFT and slight RIGHT to angled path; head towards road/traffic circle.
62. Go in a clockwise direction around the traffic circle. Turn LEFT to walk along edge of parking lot.
63. About halfway through lot, take steps down on LEFT. Turn LEFT and then RIGHT into parking garage. *Make sure you stop at the Pay Station just as you enter the garage. You must pay here before leaving the garage.*

Upon completion of the walk, remember to log back into the OSB system to complete your online registration.

Directions for one extra kilometer:

- a. Go uphill and follow the sidewalk as it jogs to the right, using crosswalk to follow the road.
- b. Go straight at next crosswalk; turn RIGHT on sidewalk and follow it as it curves left.
- c. When you come to a brick sidewalk on the left, turn RIGHT to cross street. Then turn LEFT on sidewalk to walk the length of the quad. Sidewalk alternates between paved and brick surfaces, and serpentine in front of the buildings.
- d. Turn LEFT in front of large Auditorium with domed roof.
- e. Turn LEFT to go down other side of quad, again following sidewalk as it serpentine in front of buildings.
- f. At end of central, grassy area, turn RIGHT at roadway.
- g. Cross at crosswalk and then turn LEFT on sidewalk to head past bus stop.
- h. Veer RIGHT on wide gravel path. Path will parallel a stone wall.
- i. Go to instruction #14 in main directions to finish walk.

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POI #1 – Nasher Art Museum - In 1969, the university established the Duke University Museum of Art in a former science building on Duke’s East Campus. The original collection consisted of medieval art from the Ernest Brummer Collection. In the early twenty-first century, in part from a gift by alumnus Raymond Nasher, the museum opened a new \$24 million museum at this location and became known as the Nasher Museum of Art. The museum is dedicated to presenting contemporary art from around the world, with particular attention given to those who have been historically underrepresented. The collection contains more than 13,000 works of art and annual attendance is about 100,000 visitors.

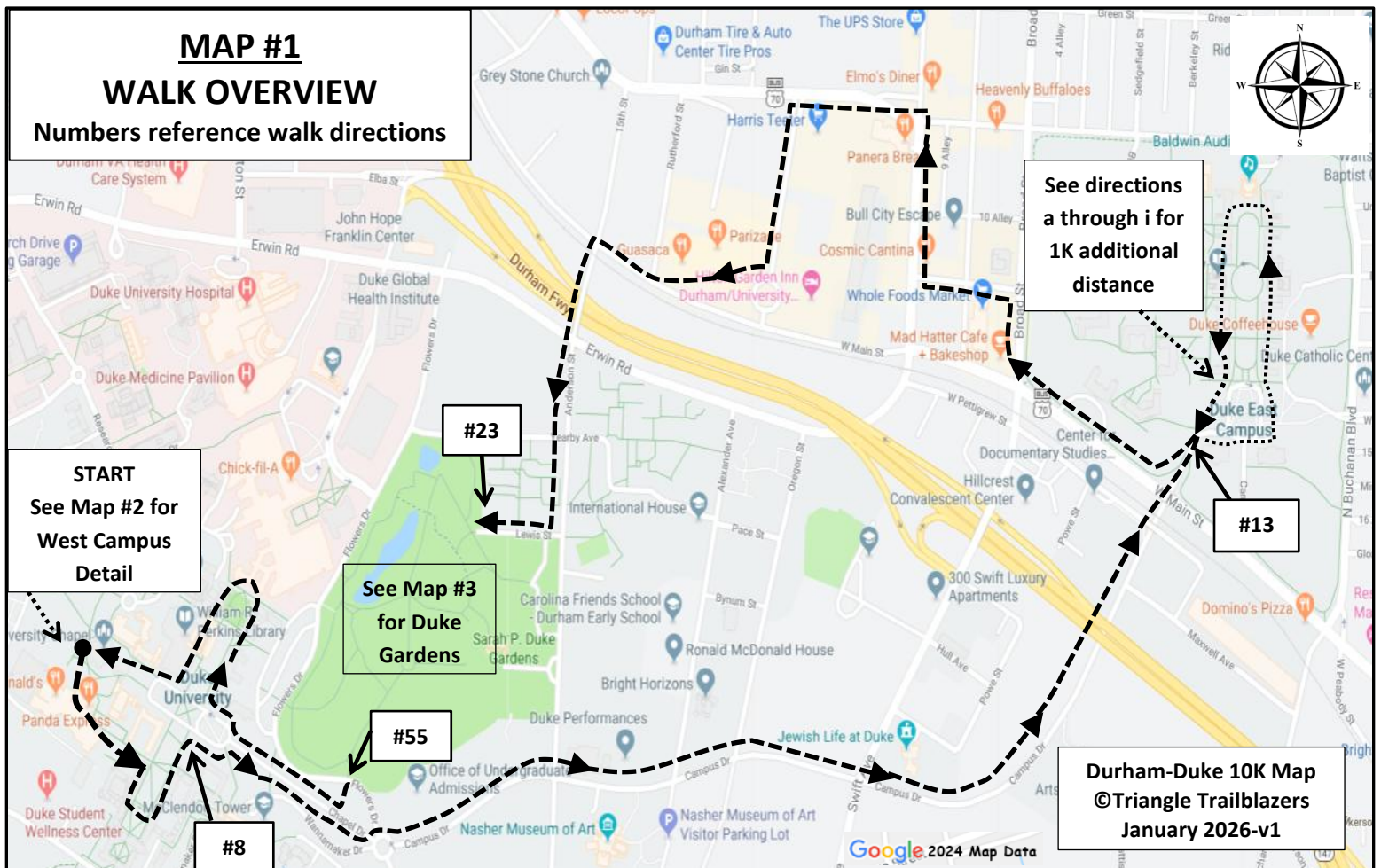
POI #2 - Campus Drive Underpass – The “Graffiti Bridge” is open to all artists. The wall is a platform for politics, a canvas for creativity and a stage for frats to wrestle for relevancy; the images are constantly changing. The earliest known example of bridge painting is a photo from the 1963 Chanticleer, Duke University’s yearbook. However, William King, Duke University’s archivist emeritus, claims to have received a letter that indicates that graffiti donned the bridge around 1940. Though at times the images have been controversial, Duke Officials condone the painting so long as it stays off the bridge overpass, sidewalk, street, and railing.

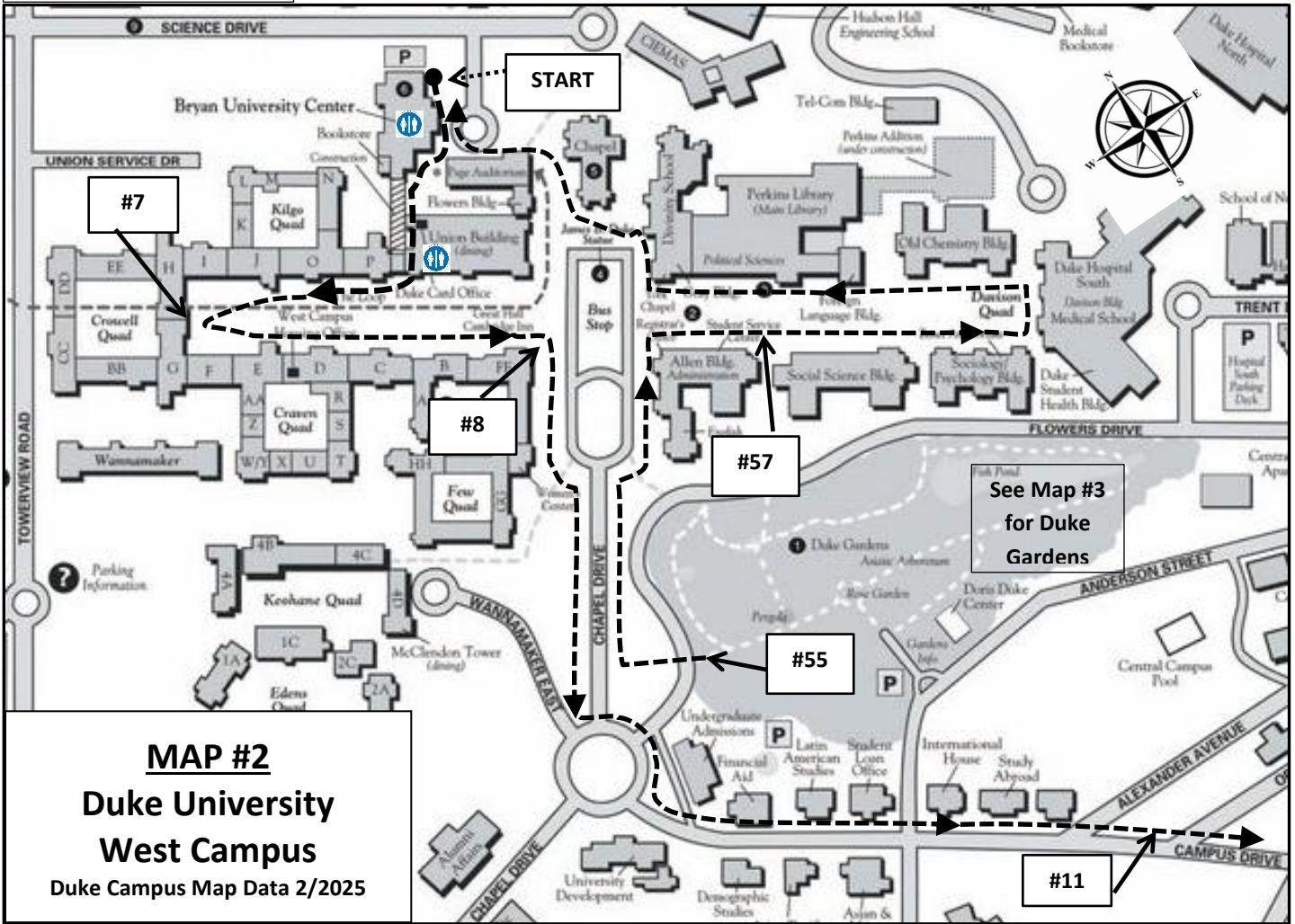
POI #3 - The Sarah P Duke Gardens See more info on page 1. Ellen Biddle Shipman, a pioneer in American landscape design, was selected to design the plans for both the construction and the plantings for the new gardens. The gardens consist of approximately 55 acres with 5 miles of walkways and paths.

POI #4 - Duke University began when Brown's Schoolhouse, a private subscription school in Randolph

County, was founded in 1838. The school was renamed to Union Institute Academy in 1841, Normal College in 1851, and Trinity College in 1859. Moving to Durham in 1892, the school grew rapidly, primarily due to the generosity of Washington Duke and Julian S. Carr, powerful and respected Methodists who had grown wealthy through the tobacco industry. See more info on page 1.

POI #5 - Duke University Chapel is an ecumenical Christian chapel with connections to the United Methodist Church. Constructed from 1930 to 1932, it is built in the Collegiate Gothic style, characterized by its large stones, pointed arches, and ribbed vaults. It has a 50-bell carillon and three pipe organs, one with 5,033 pipes and another with 6,900 pipes. Dedicated on June 2, 1935, the Chapel was the last of the original buildings to be built on the West Campus. The chapel was designed by Julian Abele, a noted African-American architect who designed much of Duke's west campus.





MAP #3
Numbers reference
walk directions



Map Data 2/2025
 Construction Info

Durham-Duke 10K Map
 ©Triangle Trailblazers
 January 2026

MAIN ENTRANCE
 CLOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION

LEWIS ST. PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE

VISITOR PARKING WEEKENDS ONLY (H LOT)
 PayByPhone code 11119

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2. Turn RIGHT on sidewalk along parking lot. Walk to far side of parking circle and turn RIGHT on sidewalk between rock building and sign for Page Auditorium. Go past the rock building and then VEER RIGHT on walkway to enter plaza; head towards The University Bookstore (*restrooms inside on right when open*).
3. VEER LEFT passing bookstore and continue straight through plaza.
4. Walk past the glass building on your left (*food and restrooms inside*). *If you're doing the "Wild Things" Special Program - just before arches, look up and to your left to spot the Gargoyles on the tower.*
5. Go through arches and immediately turn RIGHT into quad. *"Wild Things" – more gargoyles on the corners of the square tower near the steps ahead of you, and on the clock tower ahead.*
6. Go up steps, through arch and veer LEFT to clock tower.
7. Turn hard LEFT to walk back on the opposite side of the quad. *More gargoyles/"grotesques" scattered all over.*
8. At the end of the quad, turn RIGHT at the road (Chapel Dr.) Go to the end of the 1st building, and turn LEFT, using crosswalk. Go across the center

quad and road. Turn RIGHT to walk on the opposite side of Chapel Dr.

9. In about .2 miles, turn LEFT on asphalt path (before you reach the stone pillars). Stay on path to the left, going through wooded area.
10. CROSS next road and enter Duke Gardens at the Presidents Bridge gate. Go down steps. **POI #1 / MAP #2**

NOTE—there is frequently construction going on in the gardens. Please use the map to navigate around any closed areas.

11. Stay straight on this asphalt path eventually going past a stone medallion and heading to the circular water fountain.
12. Circle to the LEFT of the fountain and take the first path on the left.
13. Go through the pagoda gate to enter the William L Culbertson Asiatic Arboretum. Continue straight crossing asphalt road.
14. Path ends at a "T"; turn LEFT on wide gravel path, going by small wooden fence and pond.
15. Continue on the main path; you will go by Pine Cloud Mountain Stream on the right, a wooden fence on the left, and three structures on right (*very nice restroom in 3rd structure*).
16. After bathroom, turn LEFT on 2nd path (stone pavers), and head down towards lake. Turn LEFT on

- stone paver path and continue ahead, keeping the lake on your right.
17. Go over a small bridge and then turn RIGHT to cross over the red arched bridge. Immediately turn RIGHT onto stone-paved path.
 18. Stay on this path as it follows the edge of the lake. Eventually you will go over a 'zig-zag' boardwalk, and up stone steps. Continue ahead keeping the lake on your right.
 19. Near the end of the lake, at the 'V', veer LEFT. Take the stairs up to the wide, asphalt roadway and turn RIGHT.
 20. Turn LEFT at first path (towards Historic Garden) and head downhill.
 21. Go across bridge and head uphill. Turn into the Memorial Gardens on the LEFT (name is etched into pavers on ground). Follow this path as it curves around, staying LEFT at the 'V' and straight at next path. Path circles around; stay straight at first path and then LEFT at 'V' to take path back to main path (*Restrooms can be found across the main path*).
 22. Turn LEFT up slight hill.
 23. At broad 4-way intersection, turn RIGHT-do not go through wooden gate.
 24. When you reach the intersection with the medallion in the center, turn RIGHT and go through pergola.
 25. Head down the steps past two water fountains, to the pond at bottom.
 26. Turn LEFT in front of pond and then turn RIGHT onto wide asphalt path. Follow path as it curves around a large grassy area, staying left at the top of the hill to head down towards the small pond.
 27. Continue past pond and head uphill. At top of hill, turn RIGHT at bench.
 28. Go up steps and through gate to the road. Cross the road and continue on asphalt path to next road. Turn RIGHT (Chapel Dr). **MAP #1**
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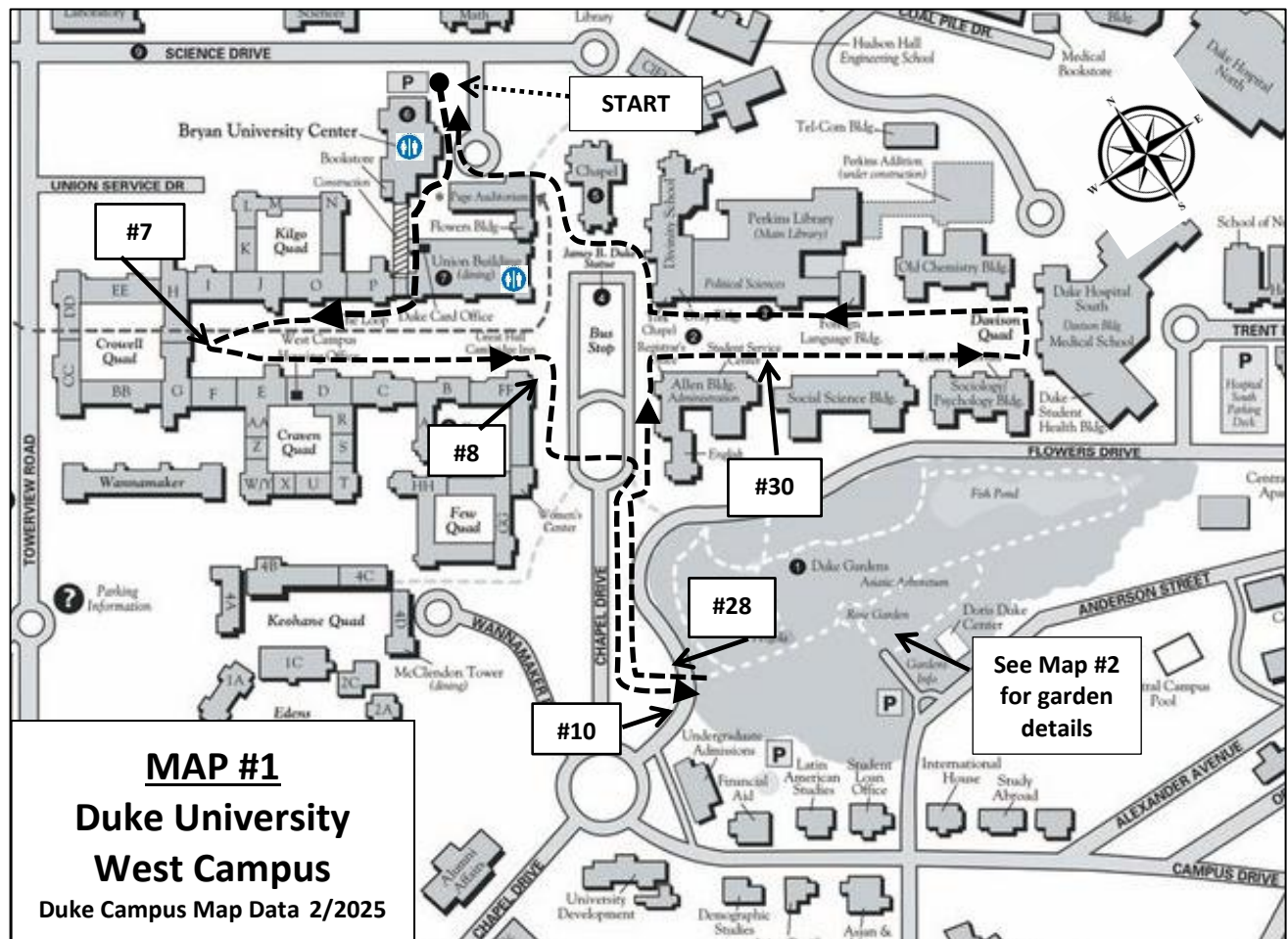
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Durham-Duke 5K Map
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January 2026