

Capital City Walks in Providence, Rhode Island

11km route comprised of 6km and 5km loops

EVENT ID: Y1092

OPEN: January 1 to December 31

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: Explore Providence's 375+ years of vibrant history through carefully restored neighborhoods, a revitalized downtown, and tree-lined cobblestone walkways.

The 11km route is comprised of both loops as described below.

The 6km College Hill (CH) Loop

travels down Benefit Street, a "mile of history" with an impressive concentration of original, privately owned colonial homes; Brown University, the 7th oldest Ivy League University in the nation; and Prospect Terrace, a photographer's delight with a breathtaking panorama of the city and countryside beyond.

The 5km Historic Downtown/State Capitol (HD) Loop explores Providence's architecture and passes by many buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Arcade, the oldest indoor mall in the country, the old Custom House, Grace Episcopal Church, and Providence City Hall. It also visits the Roger Williams National Memorial, the site of the original Providence settlement in 1636; Waterplace Park, a 4-acre urban park surrounding a tidal basin featuring landscaped terraces and walkways; and the Rhode Island State House, considered one of the most beautiful capitols in America.

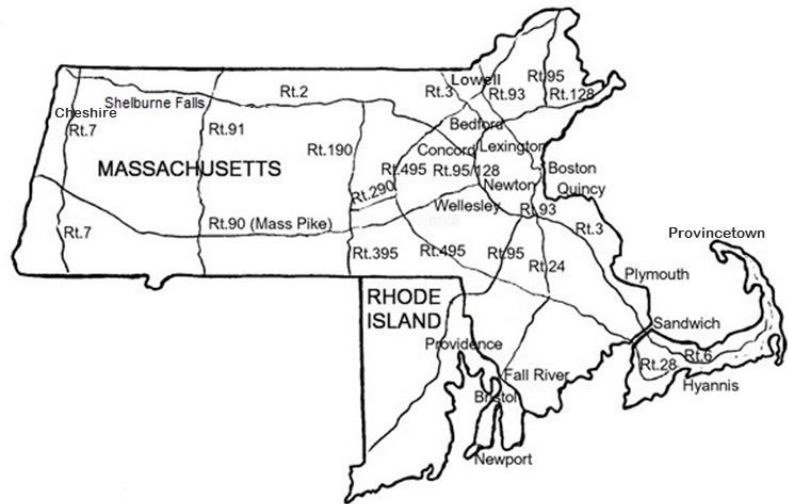
TRAIL RATING: With some cobblestone walkways, short hills and stairs, the AVA rating of both walk routes is 2B, **difficult for strollers and not suitable for wheelchairs.**

AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

- Par for the Course (CH: Carolyn Brassil Memorial Park)
- Step to the Beat (CH: Ashamu Dance Studio; HD: Providence Performing Arts Center)
- State Capital: Rhode Island
- Town Halls/City Halls: (HD: Providence City Hall)
- Walking with America's Veterans (CH: Soldiers' Memorial Gateway on Brown campus at Thayer Street; HD: Canal Walk passes Memorial Park with three war memorials)
- Walking the USA A – Z: P for Providence
- Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail

REGISTRATION: IVV Credit is available with online registration (<https://my.ava.org>).

You must use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event; do NOT mix and match. By registering using the OSB, you should not complete any items using the PSB (nor sign PSB log). The sponsoring club only receives credit for OSB participants when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.



AWARD: The “A” award is a fully embroidered patch depicting the Rhode Island State House as it sits above the city. **To purchase an award, please send a SASE with check payable to Walk ’n Mass Volkssport Club for \$4.00 to Ann Plichta at 79 Archer Street, Fall River, MA 02720**



START ADDRESS: The walk routes begin from **Roger Williams National Memorial Visitor Center which is located at 282 North Main St. at the corners of North Main, Smith, and Canal Streets.** See their website for open dates/hours: www.nps.gov/rowi/index.htm

RESTROOMS: If the Visitor Center is closed, public restrooms along the route are limited. Possibilities include the following: **College Hill Loop** – Café Pearl at entrance to RISD Museum at 224 Brown Street (less than 1km into loop); Seasons Market at 457 Benefit Street (1.8km into loop); Student Union building at Brown University (3.3km into loop). **Historic Downtown Loop** – Providence Train Station at 100 Gaspee Street (less than 1km into loop); inside Providence Place Mall (4km into loop); various restaurants.

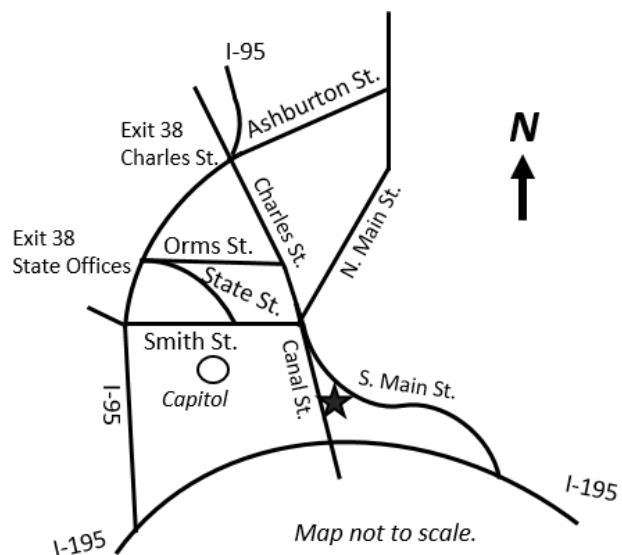
PARKING: on-street parking available along Canal Street or in NPS lot. For NPS lot, get temporary parking permit from ranger at Visitor Center to display on dashboard, allowing you extra time to complete your walk.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From the North: I-95 South to Exit 38 (Charles St.). Turn **RIGHT** at stop sign, then take first **LEFT** around onto Ashburton St. At the next light, bear **RIGHT** onto Charles St. which becomes Canal St. On-street parking or NPS lot on the left just beyond the second traffic light.

From the South: I-95 North to Exit 38 (State Offices). At end of exit ramp, continue straight through light onto State St. At next light, turn **LEFT** onto Smith St. Cross railroad bridge to next light at Canal St.; turn **RIGHT** onto Canal St. (one way). Stay to left. Parking is immediately on the left.

From the East: I-195 West to Exit 1C (South Main St. becomes North Main St.). Turn **LEFT** at Smith St. for one block. Turn **LEFT** onto Canal St. Parking available on the left.



REMEMBER: you must log back into the Online Start Box at <https://my.ava.org> to finish online registration procedure after completing this event.

In case of Emergency Dial 911.

Contact Ann Plichta with questions at amplic@comcast.net or 508-965-6922.

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Thanks for attending our walk! If you are interested in other nearby AVA events, in Rhode Island or Massachusetts, please see our website: <https://walknmass.org>



PROVIDENCE, RI VOLKSWALK
CAPITAL CITY YEAR-ROUND EVENT (YRE)



COLLEGE CAMPUS LOOP — 5KM

1. **LEFT** leaving start to traffic light.
2. **RIGHT** to cross North Main St. in crosswalk.
3. **RIGHT** on North Main St. to end of first building, St. John's Episcopal Church Office Building at #275. Immediate **LEFT before church**, going up small set of steps and continuing **STRAIGHT** on sidewalk alongside the building, keeping building on your left. This is not a dead end.
4. **LEFT** at end of building, following sidewalk to steps.
5. Ascend steps and follow steps and walkway up hill to Benefit St.
6. **RIGHT** on Benefit St. for 1+ km to end at Wickenden St. (1.78 km)
(Mile of History with the largest concentration in America of original Colonial and Early Federal architecture. The Providence Athenaeum, 1753, is one of America's oldest subscription libraries.)
7. **LEFT** on Wickenden St. to traffic light at Brook St.
8. **LEFT** on Brook St.
9. **LEFT** on Arnold St. at stop sign (*Par for the Course Carolyn Brassil Memorial Park on corner*) to Roome Lane, immediately after #27 and #29.
10. **RIGHT** to cross Arnold St., continuing **STRAIGHT** on Roome Lane to first intersection at John St. (no sign)
11. **LEFT** on John St. to the next right at Neighbors Lane (hydrant on corner, cobblestone lane).
12. **RIGHT** on Neighbors Lane to end at Williams St. (no sign).
13. **LEFT** on Williams St. to first right at Copley Lane, just past #88 on right.
14. **RIGHT** on Copley Lane to end at Power St. (no sign) (2.59 km)
15. **LEFT** on Power St. to the next right at Brown St.
16. **RIGHT** on Brown St., walking on right side to end at George St.
17. **CROSS** George St. in cross walk and continue **STRAIGHT** through gates onto Brown University Campus (*7th oldest college in United States, 1764*).
18. **RIGHT** at third paved path just past Sayles Hall. There is a blue campus phone with blue light on the corner. Walk past Lyman Hall and the Ashamu Dance Studio. (*Step to the Beat*)
19. **STRAIGHT** down stairs, continuing through the Soldiers' Memorial Gateway to Thayer St. (no sign) (3.36 km) (*Walking with America's Veterans*)
20. **LEFT** on Thayer St. to Meeting St. (no sign). Andrea's on corner, just past Avon Cinema.
21. **CROSS** and **LEFT** on Meeting St., walking on right side to third path (stone pillars) onto Pembroke College Campus. The Pembroke College Tribute will be on the left.
22. **STRAIGHT** up stairs and bear left to third paved walkway (paving stones and bricks) on left, just past Smith-Buonanno Hall.
23. **LEFT** on paved walkway to first intersection at Brown St.
24. **RIGHT** on Brown St. to first left at Bowen St. (stop sign) (4.00 km)

25. **LEFT** on Bowen St. to end at Congdon St.
26. **STRAIGHT** to cross Congdon St. into Prospect Park. Follow the paved path to the left, passing the Roger Williams Memorial before returning to Congdon St. Be sure to enjoy the view! (*Roger Williams Memorial Statue, 1603-83. His remains are interred here.*)
27. **RIGHT** on Congdon St. to end at Angell St. (no sign)

28. **RIGHT** on Angell St. to end at Benefit St.
29. **RIGHT** on Benefit St. for a short distance to first crosswalk.
30. **CROSS** Benefit St. and continue **STRAIGHT** on Thomas St. to end at North Main St.
31. **CROSS** and turn **RIGHT** to 5km and first 10km loop finish at the Roger Williams National Park Visitors' Center.

DOWNTOWN/STATE CAPITOL LOOP — 5KM
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32. **RIGHT** on North Main St. leaving Start to **RIGHT** down first set of stairs.
33. **LEFT** on brick walkway. **RIGHT** at second four-way intersection (stairs to your left), then **LEFT** at subsequent intersections, at one point walking parallel to North Main St.
34. **RIGHT** at last four- way intersection (Wayland Building in front of you) to end. **LEFT** to head to the corner of Park Row and Canal St.
35. Cross Park Row, continuing **STRAIGHT** on Canal St., crossing Steeple and Washington Streets to reach the pedestrian Canal Walk keeping the river on your right. You will pass several veterans' memorials on your left (*Walking with America's Veterans*) and the College St. Bridge, continuing to a short set of stairs at Crawford St. (name on bridge)
36. **RIGHT** at top of stairs, crossing the Rowan Bridge to Memorial Boulevard. (no sign)
37. **RIGHT** on Memorial Boulevard, crossing College St. at traffic light.
38. **LEFT** to cross Memorial Boulevard at crosswalk, continuing under arch to Westminster St. (no sign) (1.27km) (*Note the Turk's Head Building at the "V" in front of you. It is one of the oldest skyscrapers in Providence. Look above the door for the*

distinctive stone figurehead that gives the building its name.)

39. **LEFT** in crosswalk just before Exchange St. to cross Westminster St. Bear to the **LEFT** to continue on Weybosset St. (no sign). (*You'll pass by the historic Custom House at 24 Weybosset St. It was built in 1857, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Across from the Hampton Inn and Suites is the Arcade, the oldest indoor mall in the country, built in 1828. It is a National Historic Landmark.*)
40. **STRAIGHT** on Weybosset St., crossing Dorrance St. at the traffic light to Chestnut /Empire St. (*You'll pass part of the Johnson and Wales Campus, as well as the Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC), formerly Loew's State Theater. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Step to the Beat.*) (2.09 km)
41. **RIGHT** to cross Weybosset St. at traffic light, and **RIGHT** to continue down Weybosset St. on other side.
42. **LEFT** at second light on Mathewson St. (no sign. Across from PPAC entrance) (*Grace Episcopal Church is on the left. It was built in 1845-1846 in the Gothic Revival architectural style, and is on the National Register of Historic Places.*)
43. **CROSS** and turn **RIGHT** on Westminster St. continuing to Eddy St.

44. **CROSS** and **LEFT** on Eddy St. for two blocks to Washington St. (no sign). You will be in back of Providence City Hall. (*Town Halls/City Halls*)
45. **RIGHT** on Washington St. continuing along the side of Providence City Hall for one block to Dorrance St. (no sign).
46. **RIGHT** on Dorrance St. in front of Providence City Hall, crossing Fulton St. (*Providence City Hall was built in 1878 in the Second Empire Baroque architectural style. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*)
47. **LEFT** to cross Dorrance St., continuing **STRAIGHT** on Fulton St. Kennedy Plaza will be across the St. (3.16 km)
48. **LEFT** at Exchange St. to cross Fulton St. Fulton St. turns into Cookson Place along Kennedy Plaza. (*Note Federal Courthouse and Post Office across the St. Look back and see the Industrial National Bank Building. It's located at 111 Westminster St., and is the tallest building in Rhode Island. It is known as the "Superman Building, due to its resemblance to the Daily Planet Building in the Superman comics. It is currently vacant.*)
49. Carefully cross Exchange Terrace and turn **LEFT** to next set of lights at Francis St. (no sign)
50. **RIGHT** on Francis St., crossing Memorial Boulevard at next set of lights. (no sign)
51. **RIGHT** on Memorial Boulevard. After passing The Capital Grille slight **LEFT** under Waterplace Archway.
52. **STRAIGHT** to walk down flight of stairs to Waterplace basin.
53. **LEFT** to continue along the river, keeping water on your right, walking up a small set of stairs, continuing straight to cross over the General Pershing Bridge.
54. **LEFT** at end of bridge to set of stairs.
55. **ASCEND** stairs to Finance Way (3.74 km) turning **LEFT** for a very short distance, then **RIGHT** on Francis St. (no sign)
56. Continue **STRAIGHT**, crossing Hayes St. (no sign) in front of the State Capitol.
57. **LEFT**, then **RIGHT** on Francis St., continuing up the hill, keeping State Capitol on your right to end at Smith St. (*State Capitol constructed of white Georgian marble with one of the top four self-supported marble domes in the world.*)
58. **RIGHT** on Smith St. to traffic light. **LEFT** to cross Smith St., then **RIGHT** on Smith St. to end at Roger Williams National Park Visitors Center at North Main St.

Thank you for walking the Providence Capital City Walk!

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Emergency: 911

PROVIDENCE, RI – COLLEGE CAMPUS LOOP – 5KM

