

5 km/10 km EXETER NH SEASONAL WALK

EVENT ID: Y1658

TRAIL DESCRIPTION:

This walk explores Exeter, a historic and attractive town in southern NH. There are many historic buildings in town, and a nice collection of shops and restaurants. Exeter was State Capital during the American Revolution. Settled in 1638, it is a town rich in history & architecture. Walk along Squamscott River, through beautiful Phillips Exeter Academy campus & visit Powder House used to store gunpowder 'removed' from Ft. William & Mary prior to start of Revolution & later used at Battle of Bunker Hill. Daily dawn to dusk.

TRAIL RATING:

The 5 km and 10 km trails are rated 2A. Footing is almost entirely on sidewalks except for brief sections on grassy paths. An alternate trail is available where difficult for wheelchairs & strollers. Leashed pets are allowed to walk, but cannot do the portion along Swasey Parkway. An alternate route for pets and their owners is available to avoid this section.

AMENITIES:

Exeter has a good mix of shops and eateries. Restrooms are available when open.

AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Ice Cream Parlors
- Little Free Libraries
- Mayflower - 400th Anniversary Walk
- Rockin' Around the Clock
- Walking the United States A through Z

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Take Exit 11 off of Rt. 101 heading towards Exeter onto Rt. 108 (from East turn left onto Rt. 108 and from the West Turn right onto Rt. 108). Shortly after passing Walgreens on the right, turn right onto High St/Rt. 108/Rt. 27/Rt. 111 at traffic lights. High St becomes Water St. after you pass Franklin St. on the left (across from Sea Dog Brewing Co. on the right). Across from the Remax and before the Ioka Theater, turn left into the Public parking lot at 42 Water Street. Look for Szechuan Taste Chinese Food sign next to parking lot.

WALK COMPLETION AND CREDIT

Be sure to log back into the OSB system 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 date the event was biked, the distance biked, and the selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. (Nevertheless, 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. Note, however, the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF will expire in 60 days.).

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



In case of Emergency: Dial 911

Event related assistance:

Claudia Cauchon: 603-842-5272

Exeter, NH 10km Walk

Exeter was settled in 1638 by John Wheelwright and 175 who were exiled out of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Exeter has a population of 14,306 and is in Rockingham County. In 1853 the Republican Party was founded in Exeter and Abraham Lincoln visited Exeter in 1860 to visit his son who was attending Phillips Exeter Academy.

1) Exit parking lot heading towards Water St. (no sign) and **TURN RIGHT**. You will see Travel Nature store and a Do Not enter sign.

2) At the Gilman Garrison House cross Water St. at crosswalk (Seadog Brewing company across the street) and **TURN RIGHT crossing bridge**.

- The Gilman Garrison house was built in 1709 by the Gilman family who were owners of the original sawmills in Exeter.

3) After crossing Great Bridge **TURN LEFT** onto Pleasant St walking on paved path keeping water on your left and Pleasant St. on your right.

4) **BEAR LEFT** at Y still keeping water on your left.

5) Walk underneath overpass that goes through Exeter Public Library parking lot.

- Exeter Public Library was first established in 1853 and the current building was built in 1987.

6) At stop sign **TURN RIGHT** going uphill. This is String Bridge St.

7) **TURN LEFT** onto Chestnut St. (top of hill). Walking on left side sidewalk keeping Exeter Mill on your left.

- The Exeter Mill was built in 1827 which was a textile mill from cotton to sneakers. It was converted to apartments in the mid-1980's.

8) At end of street **TURN LEFT** onto Judy Hill Ave.

9) At end of street **TURN RIGHT** to walk around iron gate and onto dirt trail that goes around the water. You will be walking counter clockwise around water.

- If it is impassable due to snow turn around and walk between buildings and walk on paved path until you reach String Bridge Street (Continue onto direction number 11)

- The Powder House is where some of the powder that was captured at Fort William and Mary in New Castle in December 1774 was stored.

10) At end of path and in front of brick building **TURN RIGHT** heading towards paved walkway and continue on it keeping building on your left and the water on your right.

11) At String Bridge St. (no sign – Exeter Public Library across Street) cross street and **TURN RIGHT** and cross bridge. (1.9km)

- String Bridge is called this because it goes over a little island that makes up the center of the bridge. In its first incarnation it was a narrow pedestrian that was made up of a single "stringer" log on one side of the island then a few years later on the other side another pedestrian bridge was built. The bridge was a pedestrian bridge until 1817 when it was decided to make it into a carriage bridge. The bridge was rehab in 2017.

12) At end of street **TURN RIGHT** onto Water St. (no sign – bandstand across street).

13) **TURN RIGHT** onto Swasey Parkway after boathouse



**DOGS ARE NOT ALLOW
IN Swasey Parkway!** If

you have a dog continue straight and at next street turn right (yes, this is still Water St.)

This street goes parallel to

Swasey Parkway. When you reach Summer St. turn left and continue onto direction number 17.

Exeter, NH 10km Walk

- Swasey Parkway was given to the town of Exeter in 1929 by industrialist Ambrose Swasey. It was designed by Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, MA. Before Swasey Parkway was designed it was a dump and where shipbuilding was located in the 17th to 19th century.

14) After walking past flagpole on right and at stone fence with an intent for looking over the water **TURN LEFT** up path (after crossing Swasey Parkway). (2.9km).

15) **TURN LEFT** onto Water St. (no sign).

16) **TURN RIGHT** onto Summer St. (first street on right after turning left).

17) Go over Railroad Tracks (the road is now Salem St.

18) **TURN LEFT** onto Oak St. (no sign)

19) At end of street **TURN RIGHT** onto Park St. (no sign)

20) At Locust Ave cross Park Ave at crosswalk and go onto path that goes through Park Street Common. Keep ball field and playground on your left

- At end of path you will see a Little Free Library box at 14 Epping Rd (Charter #39121). If you wish to check it out please carefully cross the street as the road can be busy certain times of the day and there isn't a crosswalk nearby to use.

21) **TURN LEFT** onto Epping Rd (no sign)

22) As road curves left it becomes Main St. Please continue on this road until you reach Water St.

- At Tan St. if you look to your right you will see the clock tower on the Academic Building at Phillips Exeter Academy.

23) Cross Water St. at crosswalk and **TURN LEFT** to continue on Water St. walking on the right hand side and keeping the American Independence on your right.(4.7km)

- On the corner of Water St. and Spring St. is the American Independence Museum where you will find the Folsom Tavern. It was built in 1775 by Colonel Samuel Folsom and yes George Washington did stop by 1789 but did not sleep here. If you

have time please go into the Museum as it has the first printing of the Declaration of Independence that was printed on July 4, 1776 by John Dunlap.

24) At the corner of Front St. and Water St. cross Front St at crosswalk in front of the Town Hall.

25) **TURN LEFT** after crossing Front St..

26) **TURN RIGHT** onto Water St. (no sign- Me & Ollie on corner).

****Use 2nd Loop Map from this point on****

27) Continue on Water St and after Gilman Garrison House **cross Clifford St.** at crosswalk then **cross Franklin St** at crosswalk and **continue on Water St** crossing the Great Bridge.

28) **TURN RIGHT** onto Gilman Ln (before traffic light) (5.4km)

29) **GO AROUND GATE** and head down path (keeping athlete fields on your left and the river on your right)

- On your left is the Grainger Observatory that first opened in 1989. It includes two domed observatories and is open to the public on clear Friday evenings when school is in session.

30) After dog park **TURN RIGHT** going over bridge. (the dog park is the fence in area at the corner of the dirt trail – hopefully there will be dogs in the dog park as there isn't a sign that says this is a dog park).

31) **GO AROUND GATE** after crossing the bridge and **CONTINUE** straight keeping athlete fields on your right and water on your left (5.9km).

32) At pavement **BEAR RIGHT** and continue up paved path going around gate (keeping athlete fields on your right) heading towards Court St. (believe it or not there is a red sign on the lightpole stating that Court St. is straight ahead).

- On your right is the Goel Center for Theater and Dance which opened in 2018.

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33) After fire hydrant and stone bench **BEAR LEFT** to go onto Court St. (no sign – it is a paved path that goes into a concrete path).

34) At Marston St **CAREFULLY CROSS** Court St. and continue on it until you reach Pine St. (6.8km)

35) **BEAR RIGHT** onto Pine St. which is the next street (it has an island at the intersection with a fire hydrant and a stone in the island).

36) At **GROVE ST. CROSS PINE ST.** at crosswalk and continue on Pine St.

37) Carefully cross Linden St. then left onto path to walk through the Gale Park War Memorial & Park. Bear right to walk right of statue then **TURN RIGHT** onto path to head out of Park towards Front St.

- The Gale Park War Memorial & Park was dedicated on July 4, 1922. The land was donated by Alice Gale Hobson, in memory of her father, General Stephen H. Gale. The statue was created by Daniel Chester French whose best know work is a sculpture of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln memorial in Washington D.C.

38) Cross Front St. (no sign) at crosswalk and head onto Lincoln St. (St. Michael's Church on corner of Lincoln St. and Front St.

39) **TURN LEFT** onto Lincoln St.

- As you walk up Lincoln St. you will see the train station for the Downeaster at Gerry's Variety Store that goes from Boston, MA to Brunswick, ME. The train started service in Dec. 2001.

40) At end of Lincoln St. **TURN RIGHT** onto Main St. (no sign – Shell gas station on corner).

41) **TURN RIGHT** onto Tan Lane (8.5km)

42) Cross at crosswalk before stone building on right (it is a church). Go straight onto paved path heading towards Front St. (no sign).

- The stone building is Phillips Church that was build in 1897 then brought by Phillips Exeter Academy in 1922.

- The building with the clock tower on it to your left is the Fourth Academy building that was built since the other three burned down. It was decicated in 1915. It is the major hub of the campus.

43) **CROSS FRONT ST.** (no sign) at crosswalk and head straight into Phillips Exeter Academy (9.5km)

44) Continue straight heading towards metal bench & bike rack (library on your left and Dunbar Hall on your right).

- The Phillips Exeter Academy Library was built in 1972 and was designed by Louis Kahn.

45) Pass Webster Hall and Wentworth Hall on your right.

46) **CROSS COURT ST.** (no sign) at crosswalk and **TURN LEFT** onto Court St. (no sign).

47) **CROSS BOW ST.** after fire station and turn right onto it.

- The fire and police station were built in 1979.

48) At **PARKING SIGN ON TELEPHONE POLE TURN LEFT** into parking lot because this is the back entrance to the parking lot to where you parked your car.

THANK YOU FOR DOING THE EXETER, NH WALK. WE HOPED YOU ENJOYED.

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