



Appalachian Trail to Washington Monument

10k YRE AVA 108129 2018/Y1958

Myersville, MD

Credit only event, AVA trail rating 3C
Register using the Online Start Box (OLSB)

Sponsor: Seneca Valley Sugarloafers Volksmarch Club, Inc. (AVA 419), a member of the Maryland Volkssport Association.

Trail: The walk follows the Appalachian Trail along the South Mountain Ridge and then ascends to Monument Knob and the monument. The monument was first built in 1827 by the citizens of Boonsboro and has been rebuilt at least twice. The tower was rebuilt in its present form by members of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1936. Mountain Laurel blooms along the trail in the spring and fall is a peak time for spotting migratory birds such as hawks, eagles and falcons. The monument is the turnaround point for the walk and is an ideal place to plan a picnic lunch.

Special AVA Programs: Appalachian Trail, National Parks Centennial Challenge, Bridges Spanning the USA

Eligibility: We welcome everyone to walk with us. All participants must register using the Online Start Box and sign a waiver of liability. The walk is free without AVA credit and \$3.00 with AVA credit.

Registration: Please use the online start box provided by the California Volkssport Association (www.eva4u.org). Follow the left side link, 'Online Start Box', and the instructions provided to sign a waiver and register for this event. Payments for event information and IVV credit use Paypal. The event information includes both driving directions and trail instructions. Event information and insert cards are provided as PDFs that you can download and print as needed. The POC does not provide event information or accept alternate payment methods. The entire online process should take less than 10 minutes for a first time user.

Information: Contact Alice Filemyr alice.filemyr@gmail.com (email preferred) or 240-753-0009

Conditions: This event will be held regardless of the weather, unless conditions cause the Appalachian Trail to to be closed for safety reasons. Be aware that rain and snow can make footing on the trail treacherous and the summer heat and humidity can be oppressive. We suggest you walk with sturdy boots and trekking poles or a hiking staff. There are no services on the trail so you must carry water and food. Pets are allowed on the Appalachian Trail, but owners must keep pets on leashes six feet or shorter. The trail is not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers.

Disclaimer: Neither the Seneca Valley Sugarloafers Volksmarch Club, Inc. nor the AVA shall be liable for accidents, theft, or material damage. Every reasonable effort will be made to make this a safe, enjoyable, and memorable event.

Membership: Membership in the Sugarloafers Volksmarch Club is open to everyone. For questions about the club and club membership please check our club's website at sugarloafers.org.

For more Volksmarch information: ava.org and mdvolks.org

For more Trail information: appalachiantrail.org and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Monument_State_Park



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Trail Start Point:

The start point is the Appalachian Trail (AT) Parking lot on US-40 (1/2 mile west of Pleasant Walk Road) Myersville, MD (39.53555, -77.60408). If the parking lot is full then park along US-40.

Driving Directions:

Take I-70 to exit 42, MD-17 N, Myersville. There are services at the exit including gas, food and bathrooms. **There are NO services at the start point, on the trail or at the Monument.**

Turn RIGHT in Myersville to stay on MD-17 N, Wolfsville Road.

Turn LEFT onto US-40 W at the traffic light.

Go 3 miles to the AT parking lot on the left side of US-40. The parking lot is opposite the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fire Danger sign.

We suggest you walk with sturdy hiking boots and trekking poles or a hiking staff. The Monument is usually open for views from the top. There is also a patio with a view of the valley below and beyond to West Virginia. It is a perfect venue for a picnic lunch before you start back.

Trail Instructions:

1. From the top (west end) of the parking lot continue on the old road following the sign to the AT.
2. Turn **LEFT** at the blue blaze before the road barrier.
3. Continue straight across the I-70 pedestrian bridge. You are now on the AT South. The AT is marked with white blazes.
4. Follow the white blazes **LEFT** up the stairs and then **RIGHT**.
5. Cross Boonsboro Mountain Road. The AT jogs slightly left as you cross the road.
6. Follow the white blazes and then cross Boonsboro Mountain Road a second time.
7. Follow the white blazes for 3.5km. The AT rolls along the ridge line of South Mountain and then climbs more steeply at it approaches Monument Knob.
8. Bear **RIGHT** on the gravel road near the top of Monument Knob to the Washington Monument.
9. Return down the gravel road and bear **LEFT** onto the AT North.
10. Follow the white blazes of the AT as it descends from Monument Knob and along the South Mountain ridge.
11. Cross Boonsboro Mountain Road twice.
12. Turn **LEFT** to go down the stairs and then **RIGHT** across the pedestrian bridge.
13. Continue straight at the end of the bridge (AT turns left here) and follow the blue blaze toward US-40.
14. Turn **RIGHT** on the old road back to the AT parking lot.

Thank you for walking this Appalachian Trail YRE. Be sure to log back into the OLSB to complete your walk. Information about our club and our events other YREs are available at sugarloafers.org.

In case of Emergency Dial 911 - Event related assistance: Alice Filemyr 240-753-0009

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