



**The First State Webfooters
Welcomes You to
Historic New Castle, Delaware
AVA Sanctioned Year-Round Walks**



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This walk consists of a 5 KM or an optional 10 KM walk. The trail passes through the historical section of New Castle, along a paved greenway, and a paved trail along the Delaware River. The 10K trail is comprised of the 5K and approximately 4K-5K (up and back) along the river. Historic New Castle was originally settled by the Dutch West India Company in 1651, under the leadership of Gov. Peter Stuyvesant. The Dutch originally named the settlement Fort Casmir, but this was changed to Fort Trinity following its seizure by the colony of New Sweden in 1654. The Dutch conquered the entire colony of New Sweden the following year and rechristened the Fort Nieu-Amstel (“New Amstel”). As the settlement grew, Dutch authorities laid out a grid of streets and established the town common (“The Green”), which continues to this day.

In 1664, the English seized the entire New Netherland colony in the Second Anglo-Dutch War and changed the name of the town to “New Castle”. In 1680, New Castle was conveyed to William Penn by the Duke of York and was Penn’s landing when he first set foot on American soil on October 27, 1682. New Castle’s location made it an ideal transfer point for trips along the coast. In 1704, Penn granted Lower Three Counties (today’s Delaware) independent status with New Castle as their capital. Delaware formally broke from Pennsylvania in 1704. Separation Day Celebration continues and is celebrated each June. Three signers of the Declaration of Independence were from New Castle: Thomas McKean, George Read, and Caesar Rodney.

New Castle was devastated by the Great Fire on Water Street, now known as The Strand, in 1824. The New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad opened in 1831. It was the first railroad in Delaware and one of the first in the nation. The New Castle-Pennsville, NJ ferry service was inaugurated in 1825, ending in 1951. Today there is a newly constructed pier at the end of Delaware St that is open for tours and sailing trips of the Kalmar Nyckel, a replica of 1600’s Swedish Merchant ship (seasonal).

Start Point: River Plaza Shopping Center (Walgreens is at 740 Ferry Cut Off St), Route 273 and Delaware St, New Castle DE

Walk Registration:

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box, on my.ava.org. Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions, both 5K and slightly under 10K) are available, and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

Once you have physically completed 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.

Table of Contents:

Use the following table to guide what portion of this document you may wish to print out.

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Start/Finish Point Location: River Plaza Shopping Center, Route 273 and Delaware St, New Castle

- **Start Point:** River Plaza Shopping Center (Walgreens is at 740 Ferry Cut Off St)
- **Parking** is available at the shopping plaza and nearby neighborhood streets.

- **Restrooms** are available along the route at the library, Visitor’s Center, First State National Park, and Battery Park. Some restrooms may be seasonal.
- **Restaurants:**
 - Jessops Tavern, 114 Delaware Ave, 302-322-6111
 - Nora Lee’s Cajun, 124 Delaware Ave, 302-322-7675

- **Special Programs:** Walking the United States
 - Walking the USA A-Z
 - Par for the Course
 - Walking with America’s Veterans (3 locations)
 - Washington Rochambeau

- **Directions:**
 - From I-95, take exit 5A DE-141 S/New Castle/Basin Road. LEFT onto DE-9 Coastal Heritage Scenic Byway/Frenchtown 273/DE-9
 - From Rt-1, bear left at the DE-1/RT13. Turn right onto DE-273/DE-9, Delaware St. Cross railroad tracks and left into parking lot at traffic light.

	In case of Emergency dial 911. Event-related questions, contact Kathy Kresko 302-653-6017
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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.

New Castle, Delaware 5K AND 10K Directions

Start Point: River Plaza Shopping Center (Walgreens is at 740 Ferry Cut Off St)

Note: Use caution on the brick sidewalks as there may be uneven spots

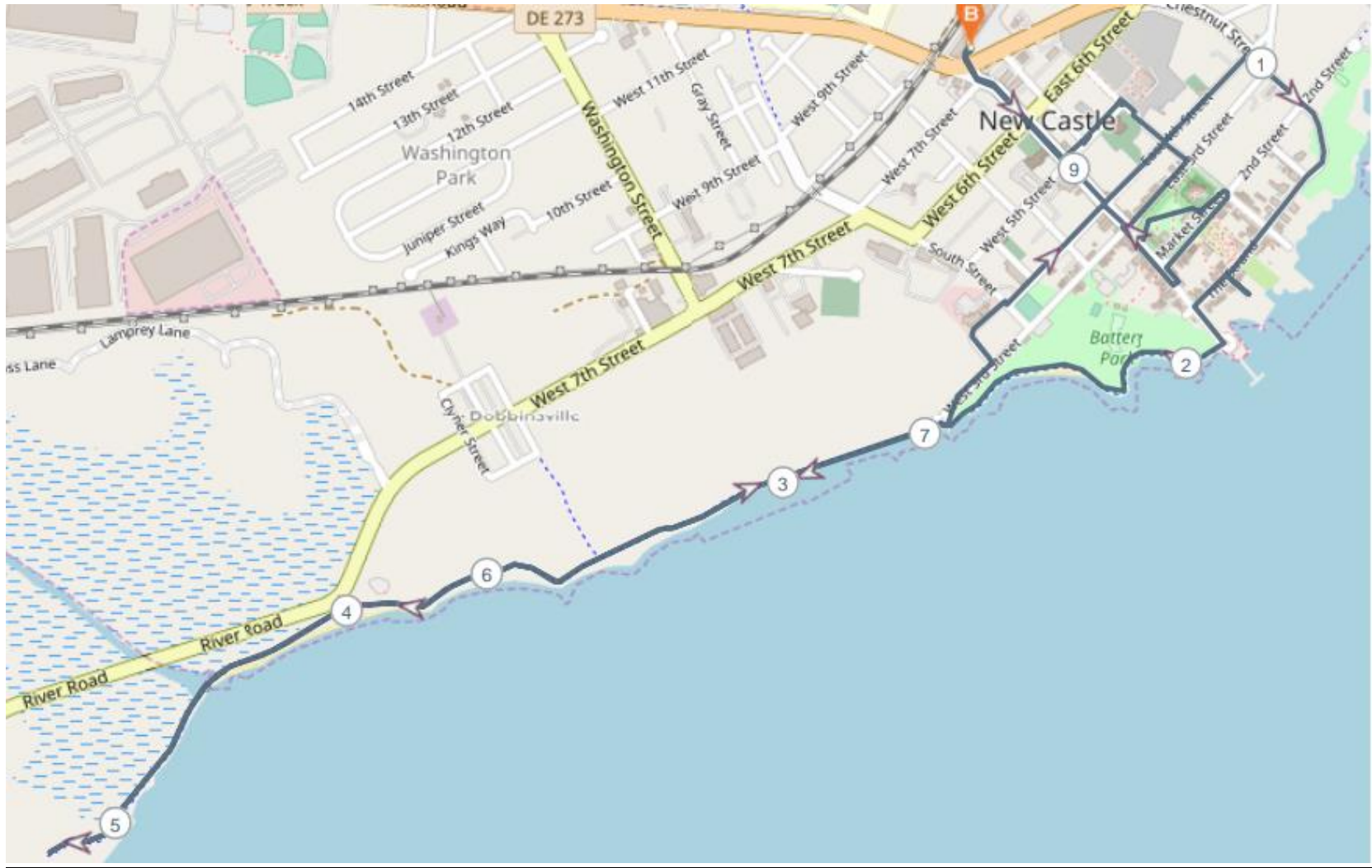
1. **5K/10K:** Start at the traffic light, corner of River Plaza Shopping Center. Using the cross walk, cross DE-273/DE-9 towards Delaware St, Old New Castle. RIGHT to cross over Delaware St to the other side.
2. LEFT and follow Delaware St.
3. LEFT on 5th St (library on corner).
4. RIGHT on Harmony (St Peter's on right)
5. LEFT on 4th St.
6. RIGHT on Chestnut. Note Veteran's Memorial in triangular grassy area in center of street (Veterans SP)
7. At end of Chestnut, cross unmarked road in direction of water. Note view of bridge and the Fort Casmir Monument. Playground on left (Par for the Course SP).
8. From small parking lot, RIGHT onto gravel road (water will be on your left). Gravel road turns into paved road, called The Strand. Walk on left side of the street.
9. Pass George Read House and Gardens on right, may be open for tours.
10. LEFT onto Packet Alley, proceed down Packet Alley to see the small homes and view. Then turn around and retrace steps to The Strand.
11. LEFT on The Strand.
12. At end, LEFT on Delaware St (unmarked, yellow house on corner).
13. At river, RIGHT on Trail on Battery Park. Follow trail, river will be on your left. Pass American flag memorial (Veterans SP) and note playground in park (Par for the Course SP). **5K/10K Split**
5K skip to #17
14. **10K:** Continue on trail passing brightly painted brick shed (New Castle Sailing Club).
15. **10K:** Proceed on trail until it ends (approximately 2K). At end of trail, turn around and retrace your steps.
16. **10K:** When you reach the painted brick shed again (New Castle Sailing Club), LEFT towards parking lot. **Skip to # 18.**
17. **5K:** Just past Bench #25, you will see a small brightly painted brick shed (New Castle Sailing Club). At the shed, RIGHT towards small parking lot.
5K/10K Trails Merge
18. **5K/10K** Proceed through parking lot and LEFT onto gravel road, just before the white and green house on the left.
19. Continue on gravel road which will turn into a paved road (4th Street).
20. CROSS South Street and continue on 4th Street (tennis courts on right).
21. RIGHT on Delaware St (walk on right side of street). At corner of Delaware and 3rd

St, note Van Dyke Home on right and W3R plaque (Washington Rochambeau SP).

22. Continue on Delaware St to Jessop's Tavern on right. LEFT to cross Delaware (mid-block, use caution). LEFT on Delaware (you are now walking in the opposite direction on Delaware).
23. First RIGHT on Second St. Pass Presbyterian Church on right.
24. LEFT at first street (Harmony St, may be unmarked) and then IMMEDIATE LEFT on Market St. (you've now basically made a U-turn)
25. Pass Episcopal Church and cemetery on right.
26. RIGHT on brick path after cemetery wall ends. Follow brick path diagonally across rectangular green space (The Green).

27. In the center of The Green, note very large tree and plaque in ground noting the FREEDOM TREE (Veterans SP).
28. Take LEFT brick path towards the large brick building with blue/gray shutters (New Castle Courthouse Museum). Take the 2 steps down to the sidewalk.
29. RIGHT on Delaware St.
30. Cross and first RIGHT on 3rd St (walk on left side of the street). Pass the Old Library.
31. LEFT on Harmony St.
32. First LEFT on 4th St. Pass Amstel House and Gardens on left
33. RIGHT on Delaware Street. Continue a few blocks to return to START/FINISH

In case of Emergency dial 911. Event-related questions, contact Kathy Kresko 302-653-6017



New Castle 10K Map

