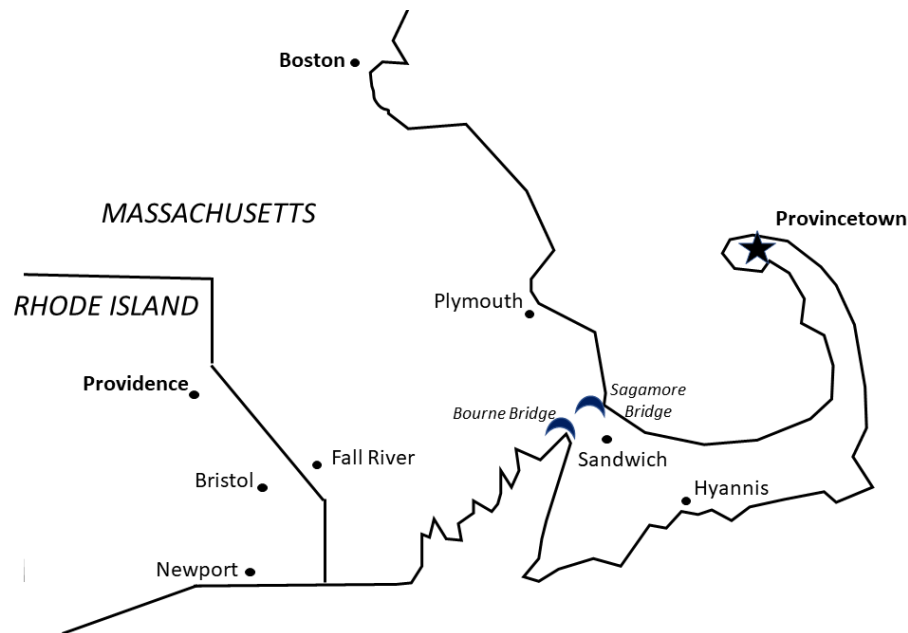


**6km/10km routes in Provincetown, Massachusetts
Walks in the Birthplace of American Liberty**

EVENT ID: 2025/Y2587

Open: April 1 to December 31, 2025



TRAIL DESCRIPTION:

Come walk in historic Provincetown nestled on the very tip of Cape Cod, site of the Pilgrims' first landing (before Plymouth) and currently home to a vibrant arts community. Walk route accessible whether you arrive by car or by ferry.

TRAIL RATING:

Route is on paved surfaces and has an AVA rating of 2A.

AWARD: This is an IVV Credit Only event with online registration only (<https://my.ava.org>). The online system does not allow Free walkers, a minimal charge is incurred for directions.

AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

- Lighthouses II
- Par for the Course
- Step to the Beat
- Town Halls/City Halls (260 Commercial Street)
- Walking with the Wild Things
- Walking the USA A – Z: P for Provincetown

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Boston and Points North

1. Start on MA Route 3 heading South
2. Follow Route 3 to and over the Sagamore Bridge (you are now on MA Route 6 Eastbound)
3. ** Route 6 to the Orleans Rotary (after Exit 89)
4. Go halfway around the rotary and CONTINUE on Route 6 East
5. CONTINUE through the towns of Eastham, Wellfleet, and Truro to Provincetown
6. LEFT at the Conwell Road traffic light (second Provincetown exit)
7. RIGHT on MA Route 6A West (Bradford Street)
8. LEFT on Standish Street
9. RIGHT on Commercial Street
10. Immediate LEFT to CONTINUE on Standish Street
11. After the first street on the right (Ryder Street Extension, no sign), go STRAIGHT through the entry gate to enter the MacMillan Pier Parking Lot (on the right)

From Western Massachusetts and Points West

1. Follow the Mass Turnpike to Exit 106 (495 South – Milford/Cape Cod)
2. Interstate Route 495 will become MA Route 25 in Wareham
3. CONTINUE on Route 25 to the Bourne Bridge
4. * Once over the bridge, go $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the rotary and take the exit for Route 6 East (Hyannis – Provincetown)
5. CONTINUE along Route 6 East (Cape Cod Canal on your left side) until you reach a traffic light with the sign for Route 6 East
6. RIGHT at the light and follow sign for Route 6 Eastbound (If you cross under the Sagamore Bridge, you have gone too far!)
7. Once on Route 6 East, follow the directions above from ** Route 6 Eastbound

From Providence, Rhode Island, and all points in Connecticut and New York

1. Follow Interstate Route 95 North until Providence
2. Take the exit for Interstate Route 195 (Cape Cod)
3. Follow Route 195 to Exit 1 (MA Route 25)
4. CONTINUE on Route 25 to and over the Bourne Bridge
5. Follow the directions above from * the Bourne Bridge

Walk directions begin from the MacMillan Pier Parking Lot. **Alternate parking/start options for both routes are available:**

- Provincetown High School/Grace Hall Parking Lot -- corner of Prince Street and Bradford Street -- START walk with direction #36
- Provincetown Pilgrim Monument Parking Lot -- at 1 High Pole Hill Road -- START walk with direction #39
- **PARKING:** in MacMillan Pier Parking Lot or the alternate parking/start options noted above. You may also park wherever you find parking available in town, however please adhere to all business and town parking rules.

FERRY ARRIVALS: if you are traveling to Provincetown by ferry, both the Bay State Cruise Company and Boston Harbor Cruises ferry lines arrive at MacMillan Pier/Wharf.

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 Pat Damiani with route questions at PMDWalks@comcast.net

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

Copyright © 2025 Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club

Thanks for attending our walk! If you are interested in other nearby AVA events, we recommend our other Cape Cod walks in Sandwich and Hyannis, as well as our bike event in Sandwich. For details on these and other events, please see our website: <http://walknmass.org>

(PMD 3/30/2025)

Start Point: MacMillan Wharf Parking Lot / Commercial Street at Lopes Square

Use address 24 MacMillan Pier Provincetown, MA 02657

Alternate Parking Lots:

- Provincetown High School Parking Lot -- corner of Prince Street and Bradford Street -- START walk with direction #36
- Provincetown Pilgrim Monument Parking Lot -- START walk with direction #39

1. Go the corner of the parking lot at the entry gate (corner of Standish Street and Ryder Street Extension at the MacMillan Pier sign). Exit the parking lot and immediate RIGHT onto the wooden plank sidewalk towards the wharf keeping the parking lot on your RIGHT.
2. At the end of the parking lot, RIGHT on the boardwalk entering the Provincetown Waterfront Memorial Park.
3. At the end of boardwalk, RIGHT to pass Ryder Street Dining, keeping the parking lot on your RIGHT.
4. At the end of the parking lot, cross Ryder Street Extension, turn RIGHT past the bus stop, Seasonal Public Restrooms, and Chamber of Commerce on your left back to Standish Street.
5. LEFT on Standish Street (no sign).
6. CONTINUE up past Lopes Square with the large anchor on your RIGHT to Commercial Street. CROSS Commercial Street and LEFT one block to Ryder Street and Portuguese Square.
7. CROSS Ryder Street and RIGHT past the Veterans' Memorial on the left.
8. CROSS Bradford Street and proceed slightly RIGHT. Take the brick path COUNTERCLOCKWISE to view the Mayflower Compact Memorial.
9. At end of brick path LEFT on Bradford Street and retrace steps to corner of Commercial and Ryder Street. RIGHT on Ryder Street.
10. RIGHT on Commercial Street using the sidewalk. Follow Commercial Street past many shops and restaurants.

At 260 Commercial Street is Town Hall, built in 1886 and recently completely renovated.

At 252 Commercial Street is Adams, formerly Adams Pharmacy, which bills itself as the "oldest business in continuous operation at one location in Provincetown." It was a full service pharmacy from 1875 until 2009, when the prescription service was sold to Shop & Shop.

At 237 Commercial Street is Whalers' Wharf with shops, galleries,

eateries, and public restrooms. At the far end one can see the beach and harbor.

Unlikely as it may seem today, the Aquarium Marketplace at 205-209 Commercial Street was an aquarium in the 1960s and early 1970s: the Provincetown Marine Aquarium. Jackie, Lady, and Lucky — three Atlantic bottlenose dolphins — were the principal attractions.

With its elaborate octagonal lantern top and ample front yard, the Grozier House at 160 Commercial Street is one of the largest and most distinctive homes in town. It was built around 1830 by Capt. John Atkins to command a view of the back shore. When the captain's wife saw her husband's vessel on the horizon, she would place a lantern in the tower to let everyone know of its approach.

11. At the Coast Guard Station on the LEFT and Perry's Liquors on the far RIGHT corner, use the crosswalks to CROSS Franklin Street and then LEFT to CROSS Tremont Street to STAY ON COMMERCIAL STREET AS IT TURNS LEFT. (Do not proceed forward on Tremont Street.) (1.4 K)

The Octagon House at 74 Commercial Street was built by whaling master Robert Soper in 1850. He believed that the shape would help deflect the power of storms. Take note of the home at 72 Commercial Street. This is known as the "oldest house" in Provincetown, although there are a few other claimants in town, all having been built around 1746-1750.

As you walk down this portion of Commercial Street, take note of the houses with a white-on-blue plaque showing a house aboard a scow; the plaque indicates a building that was floated over to the town from Long Point, an 1818 settlement established on the very tip of Cape Cod. In the late 1860s, the settlement was moved across Provincetown Bay and almost 40 structures were salvaged and floated across the waters just as the plaque suggests. See the plaque at the following addresses on Commercial Street: 18, 26, 34, 43, 45, 46, 47, 49, 51, 58, 59, 61. Notice Alice Brock Studio at 69 Commercial Street. Alice Brock is an artist who also has the distinction of being the real "Alice" from Arlo Guthrie's 1960s anti-war song "Alice's Restaurant."

Take note of the luscious gardens at 32 Commercial Street. This was the home of Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-winning poet Stanley Kunitz (1905-2006) who told *The New York Times* in 2005, "I conceived of the garden as a poem in stanzas....each terrace contributes to the garden as a whole in the same way each stanza in a poem has a life of its own." Kunitz was named Poet Laureate of the United States when he was 95 years old, and he spent almost 50 years in Provincetown.

12. CONTINUE on Commercial Street until you come to the Provincetown Inn on the LEFT.
13. CROSS at the yield sign to the LEFT side of Commercial Street and CONTINUE following the roundabout clockwise toward the breakwater.

The breakwater was constructed in 1911 to protect the town's harbor from the dune's shifting sands; it is approximately 1.2 miles long and provides pedestrian access to Wood End Lighthouse (directly across the breakwater) and Land's End Lighthouse at the very tip of Cape Cod (to the LEFT).

14. Before the breakwater entrance on the LEFT (at Tidal Info Sign), CROSS to the center of the rotary and pass through Pilgrims' First Landing Park. (2.5 K)

The plaque here marks the approximate location of the Pilgrims' first landing in the New World before they continued on to Plymouth.

15. From the center of the park with the plaque marking the Pilgrim's first landing to your back, take the path directly ahead of you and LEFT to return to the road.
16. Carefully leave the rotary island, RIGHT to follow Province Lands Road (no sign); keep the marshes to your LEFT.
17. First RIGHT on Route 6A (Bradford Street Extension). Stay on the LEFT shoulder inside of the traffic line.

6K Walkers: CONTINUE straight on Bradford Street Extension. Skip to Direction #23. (3.2 K)

18. Second LEFT on Pilgrim Heights Road.
19. Follow Pilgrim Heights Road to the end where it intersects with Bayberry Avenue. RIGHT on Bayberry.
20. At the stop sign, turn RIGHT on Blueberry Avenue.
21. FOLLOW Blueberry Avenue as it turns into West Vine near the horse farm. Follow the road around a few curves to Bradford Street/Route 6A.
22. LEFT on Bradford Street. (3.5K)
23. When you reach the playground on RIGHT, LEFT on Nickerson Street.
24. Follow Nickerson to the end at the Nickerson Loft Condominiums, and RIGHT on Creek Road. There is no sign, but the mailboxes for the condos directly in front of you will note Creek Road.
25. Follow Creek Road to the stop sign, and LEFT on Franklin Street (no sign).
26. Follow Franklin Street to the T-intersection at the end, and RIGHT on Pleasant Street (no sign).
27. CONTINUE past Brown Street and take the next LEFT on King's Way.
28. First LEFT at end of King's Way on Fritz's Way (no sign).

29. First RIGHT at the end of Fritz's Way on Brown Street (no sign).
30. Turn LEFT on Shank Painter Road (no sign – Fire Station across the street) towards the Stop & Shop. Public Restrooms. (6.0 K for 10K walk, 4.7 K for 6K walk)
31. Turn RIGHT away from the Stop & Shop building, and at the crosswalk carefully CROSS Shank Painter Road to Court Street, following it to the Winthrop Street Cemetery.
32. Keeping the cemetery on your RIGHT, CONTINUE STRAIGHT onto Court Street.
33. After passing the cemetery, take a hard LEFT on Holway Avenue (not Watson Court). There is no sign for Holway Avenue, but there will be a "Do Not Enter" sign ahead of you.
34. First RIGHT on Prince Street. There is no street sign for Prince Street, but there is a "Dead End" sign straight ahead; St. Peter's Church will be on your LEFT.

The Winthrop Street Cemetery was founded in 1723 and the earliest gravestone here dates back to 1729. The 2.75-acre grounds serve as the final resting place to more than 500 souls from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

To the left of St. Peter's Church is the main building for the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies (the headquarters are on Bradford Street). Founded in 1975, the Center conducts scientific marine research and provides educational activities that encourage responsible use and conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems.

St. Peter's Church is described as "the heart of the Portuguese community" and is the starting point for the annual Blessing of the Fleet, which kicks off the town's yearly Portuguese Festival. After standing tall for 130 years, even surviving the Hurricane of 1938, the original building was destroyed in a fire in 2005. The current structure was completed in 2008.

35. CONTINUE past Mozart Avenue and the Provincetown High School parking lot tollbooth on the LEFT. Pass the tollbooth staying on Prince Street (sidewalk ends – no shoulder)
36. CROSS Bradford Street (no sign) at crosswalk and LEFT. CONTINUE on Bradford Street to Gosnold Street.
37. CROSS LEFT at corner of Gosnold Street and Bradford Street onto Winslow Street. Go up the hill passing Provincetown High School.

Although labeled as "Provincetown High School" on the school's stone façade above the entrance on Winslow Street, the school currently houses the town's elementary and middle school programs. In 2010, the school committee reluctantly voted to phase out the high school due to rising costs and low enrollments. The final graduating class in 2013 consisted of only eight young women. This building was dedicated in 1931, and its enrollment peaked when the class of 1967 graduated 53 students.

38. First RIGHT on High Pole Hill Road, entering the parking lot for Pilgrims' Monument.

Founded in 1892, the monument is the tallest all-granite structure in the United States, and it commemorates the Mayflower Pilgrims' first landing in the New World in Provincetown in November 1620. The Pilgrims spent five weeks here exploring the tip of Cape Cod before sailing on to Plymouth. President Theodore Roosevelt laid the cornerstone in 1907, and President Howard Taft dedicated the finished 252-foot tower in 1910. For a small fee, visitors can climb the 116 steps and 60 ramps to the top of the monument for beautiful views at 350 feet above sea level. (Most people can easily reach the top within ten minutes.) The tower is patterned after the Torre Del Mangia in Siena, Italy, as designed by architect Willard Thomas Sears (whose credits also include Boston's Old South Church, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Cyclorama). With the admission fee, guests can also visit the museum, which boasts both permanent and temporary exhibits.

39. Pass the monument on your RIGHT and CONTINUE down the hill to Bradford Street.

6K Walkers: LEFT on Bradford Street to Standish Street. RIGHT on Standish Street. CROSS Commercial Street and CONTINUE on Standish Street back to the MacMillan Wharf parking lot. 10K Walkers: Sharp LEFT (180 degrees) on Alden Street, keeping the small parking lot on your RIGHT. (5.9 K)

40. First RIGHT on Cemetery Road.

On Cemetery Road you will pass Gifford and Hamilton Cemeteries, each of which include gravestones that date back as far as 1812.

41. CONTINUE straight on Cemetery Road to the T-intersection at Conwell Street. CROSS Conwell and turn RIGHT. There is very little shoulder on this road, so **stay to the LEFT** as you make your way up a short distance, passing Ace Hardware/Conwell Lumber store. (7.8 km)

42. Just after you pass Ace Hardware/Conwell Lumber, LEFT on Harry Kemp Way. After the parking spaces, CROSS to the sidewalk on the RIGHT side of the road.

Harry Kemp Way is named for "the poet of the dunes," a writer who lived periodically in a shack in the dunes of Provincetown for nearly four decades, and he died here in 1960.

43. When the sidewalk ends CROSS to the LEFT side and CONTINUE straight to the end at Howland Street.

44. CROSS Howland Street and turn RIGHT.

45. Stay on the LEFT until there is a sidewalk on the RIGHT. CROSS Bradford Street (playground on RIGHT) to the T-intersection at Commercial Street. RIGHT on Commercial Street. (9.0 km)

Take a look at the figurehead over the door of 476 Commercial Street. This was once the home of Capt. Henry Cook. In April 1867, the *A.L. Putnam*, a whaling schooner in the Cook fleet, came across an 8-foot long figurehead; she was taken aboard, cut in half, and brought to Provincetown, where she was placed first in the Cook's store across the street, and then on Henry's house. The current figurehead is a plaster replica. Henry's granddaughter was Abbie Cook Putnam, the town's librarian from 1901-1935. Taking her position very seriously, she refused play write Eugene O'Neill a library card in 1917 because he did not have proper identification, in spite of him having just won the Pulitzer Prize. In 1924, O'Neill's play *Desire Under the Elms* featured an adulterous character who kills her own child. The character's name is Abbie Putnam.

Established in 1914, the Provincetown Art Association and Museum at 460 Commercial Street is a nationally recognized, year-round cultural institution that fuses the creative energy of America's oldest active art colony with the natural beauty of outer Cape Cod that has inspired artists for generations.

46. CONTINUE on Commercial Street passing the Provincetown Library at 356 Commercial Street. Public Restrooms

Originally built as the Center Methodist Church in 1860, the building that as of 2005 houses the Provincetown Library inspired artist Edward Hopper in his 1930 painting of P'town. The library houses more than books these days. **If the library is open** take a look at the Lipton Cup, a magnificent trophy awarded to P'town's Capt. Marion Perry by the legendary tea baron, Sir Thomas Lipton. On the second floor, visitors can view a magnificent model of the ship *Rose Dorothea*. Head up to the third floor for terrific views of town through 15-foot tall windows, and then turn around for an impressive view from the balcony of the 66½-foot model of the schooner.

47. Just past the Lobster Pot, LEFT on Standish Street passing the Coffee Pot on the LEFT and Chamber of Commerce on the RIGHT.

Note the unique building at 351 Commercial Street; now the home of the shop Good Scents, it was constructed in 1850 and was Fire House No. 5 until the mid-1940s.

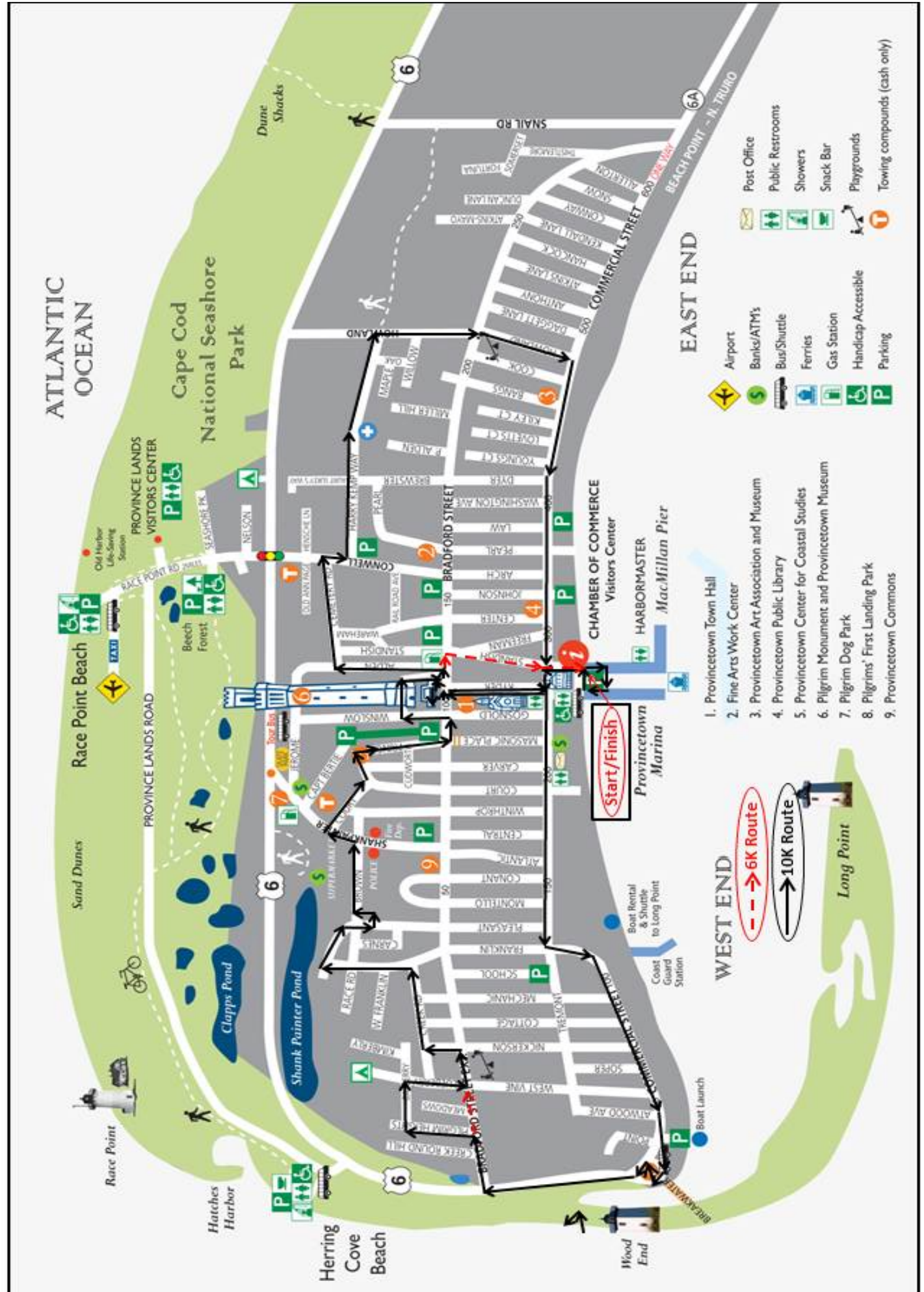
48. CROSS Standish Street at the crosswalk and CONTINUE back to MacMillan Wharf parking lot.

Stop in at the Provincetown Chamber of Commerce on your RIGHT as you turn on Ryder Street Extension. Friendly staff members can help you fill your day with activities and will often provide coupons!

These directions may be used only upon registration at this sanctioned IVV/AVA event. Copyright © 2025, Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Cape Cod National Seashore Park



1. Provincetown Town Hall
2. Fine Arts Work Center
3. Provincetown Art Association and Museum
4. Provincetown Public Library
5. Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
6. Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum
7. Pilgrim Dog Park
8. Pilgrims' First Landing Park
9. Provincetown Commons

- WEST END**
- - - 6K Route
 - 10K Route
- Long Point**

Start/Finish

EAST END