

January 15, 2022

VIRGINIA VAGABONDS  
FRANKLIN  
VIRGINIA  
APRIL 1 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2022  
5 AND 10 KM

**Special Programs:**

- Find The LOVE
- Rockin' Round the Clock
- Town Hall/City Hall
- Virginia Cities Program - Franklin
- Walking the USA - A-Z - Franklin
- Walking with America's Veterans – 10 Km only

Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match. For example, if you register using the OSB, do not complete your event by using the PSB (nor sign the PSB log sheet). The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.

**Walk Registration:**

Please use the online start box provided by the American Volkssport Association website (my.ava.org). The directions and insert cards are PDFs that you can download and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods. The entire online process should take less than 10 minutes for a first time user.

**Walk Completion and Walk Credit:**

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account and select the "Maps /Finish" tab. 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 later choose to print out.

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**START POINT:** Parking lot across from Fred's Restaurant, 107 South Main Street, GPS: N36° 40.6258', W076° 55.3264'

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** Take I-664 to Exit 13A. Merge on US 13 S/US 58 W to US 460 W/Suffolk. Follow US 58 W 33.5 miles to US 258 ramp to Franklin/Murfreesboro. Right to US 258 N/S St for 1.6 miles. Slight left to S Main. Restaurant on left. Park in lot across from restaurant.

**RESTROOMS:** Restrooms are available at Fred's, as well as at several locations along the trail. These locations are mentioned in the directions.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION:**

Franklin is an independent city in Virginia. The city of Franklin had its beginnings in the 1830s as a railroad stop along the Blackwater River. During this era, the river was used to transport goods to and from the Albemarle Sound in North Carolina.

In 1862, the American Civil War came to Franklin, in what was referred to as the Joint Expedition Against Franklin. As several United States Navy Flag steamships, led by the USS Commodore Perry, tried to pass through Franklin on the Blackwater River, a band of local Confederates opened fire on the ships. As stated by an officer aboard one of the ships, "The fighting was the same—Here and there high banks with dense foliage, a narrow and very crooked stream, with frequent heavy firing of musketry."

In all, the battle yielded five naval casualties and 16 wounded. As the naval vessels retreated, the Confederates tried to block the narrow Blackwater River by felling large trees across the width. In the end, the Confederate attempts failed as no soldiers were captured and no ships were lost. A total of seven Medals of Honor were awarded to individual seamen for their distinguished service.

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## 10-Kilometer Directions:

1. At the parking lot, face Fred's (white building), walk out to Main Street and turn left.

*Clock is on the left just before the railroad tracks.*

2. At the stop sign (South Street), walk to the second set of information signs along the Blackwater River.

3. Leaving the information signs, reverse your direction on Main Street.

*If you look to your right at Barrett Street South, you will see a block building with a flag. Restrooms are available here.*

4. Just before Wm. M. Johnson & Sons, Inc., turn right on Elm Street.

5. At the end of Elm Street, turn left on Mechanic Street (no sign).

*Restrooms are available at the Hardees on your left at Second Avenue.*

6. At the traffic signal, continue straight on Mechanic Street. **1.02 km at Third Avenue**

7. Walk two blocks and turn left

on Fourth Avenue.

8. At the traffic signal, turn right on Main Street.

9. At the stop sign, turn left on Jackson Street.

10. At the first stop sign, turn right on North High Street. **2 km at 708 North High Street on the right**

11. Immediately after you cross the railroad tracks, turn right on the small road to walk parallel to the railroad on the right and the cemetery on the left.

12. Continue on the gravel road, keeping the cemetery to the left, passing the flag on your left.

13. Continue on the cemetery road to the T-intersection with North High Street (no sign).

14. Turn right on North High Street and immediately left on Beaman Street.

*The brown building to your right is a Girl Scout cabin. It has a simple wood frame, gable roof structure and was built ca. 1960.*

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**15.** Just past the Dameron headstone on the right, turn right at the first gravel road in this section of the cemetery and follow the gravel road until you reach a paved road.

**16.** When you reach the paved road (Beaman Street - sign to the right across the railroad tracks.), turn right to cross the railroad tracks. **3 km at Fontaine Street on the left**

**17.** At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn right on Clay Street.

**18.** At the first street to the left, turn left on Meadow Lane.

*Franklin Memorial park is on the right of Meadow Lane and Clay Street. The plaque honoring the Veterans is on the brick wall behind the flags.*

**19.** Continue on Meadow Lane as it curves right. **4 km at 325 Meadow Lane (a red brick house) on the left**

**20.** At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn left on Clay Street.

**21.** At the traffic signal, turn left on

North College Street. **5 km at the gravel drive for the open field on the left. 6.06 km at Armory Drive.**

**22.** At the second traffic signal, carefully cross Armory Drive and continue straight on South College Street.

*Rite Aid on the left after you cross Armory Drive has restrooms.*

**23.** At the traffic signal (T-intersection), turn left on South Street. **7.01 km at 1608 South Street on the left**

**24.** At the ParkNShop (Hall Street) on the left, turn right, crossing South Street, to continue straight on Pretlow Street. **8 km at 407 Pretlow Street on the right**

**25.** At the second street to the left, across from 609 Pretlow Street, turn left on Magnolia Street.

**26.** At the second stop sign, turn left on Walnut Street.

**27.** At the stop sign, cross and turn right on South Street.

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**28.** At the traffic sign, turn left on South High Street. Name changes to North High Street at First Avenue. **9 km at 305 South High Street on the left**

**29.** At the first traffic signal, turn right on Second Avenue.

*The Franklin City Hall is on the right just before Franklin Street.*

*A mural with LOVE on it is on a building*

### **5-Kilometer Directions:**

**1.** Follow 10-kilometer directions 1 thru 16.

**2.** Immediately after you cross the railroad tracks, turn left on Norfleet Street. **3 km at Fontaine Street on the right**

**3.** One block after you cross Lee Street (stop sign), turn right on Gardner Street.

**4.** Cross Clay and Charles Streets.

**5.** At the next street, turn right on Cameron Street.

**6.** At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn left on Campbell Avenue.

*just past 108 Second Street on the left.*

**30.** At the traffic signal, turn right on Main Street.

**31.** Return to the start/finish at the parking lot across from Fred's on the right.

*Fred's has really good food, if they are open and you are ready to eat.*

**7.** At the stop sign, turn right on Gardner Street.

*You can see the water tower in the distance to the right at Gardner Street and Armory Drive.*

**8.** At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn left on Armory Drive. **4 km**

**9.** Walk two blocks and turn left on West Second Street.

**10.** At the traffic signal, continue straight on West Second Street

*The Franklin City Hall is on the right just before Franklin Street.*

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*A mural with LOVE on it is on a building  
just past 108 Second Street on the left.*

30 thru 31.

**11. Follow 10-kilometer directions**



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5 km map:



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10 km map:

