

January 17, 2022

VIRGINIA VAGABONDS  
PORTSMOUTH, VA  
APRIL 1 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2022  
5/10 KM



**Special Programs:**

Find The LOVE

Little Free Library - #95673

Mayflower - Indian River

Rockin' Round the Clock

Town Hall/City Hall

Virginia Cities Program - Portsmouth

Walking the USA - A-Z - Portsmouth

Walking with America's Veterans

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](http://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

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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:** Hardee’s, 850 London Blvd, Portsmouth VA. Please park in the back away from their entrance. GPS Coordinates: 36.837287000, -76.308152830

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** FROM RICHMOND AND NEWPORT NEWS: Take I-64 to Exit 264 (I-664 South). Follow I-664 to Exit 9 (Route 164 East). Follow Route 164 East for approximately 5.7 miles to the split of US 58 East and West. Take US 58 West (Downtown Portsmouth). Take the London Blvd Exit (141 South). At the top of the ramp, go right on London Boulevard for approximately 1 mile. Turn left on Fort Lane (shortly after the light at Elm and the Super8 Motel – KFC on the right corner at this turn). Park in the lot in the back away from Hardee’s doors..

FROM NORFOLK AND VIRGINIA BEACH: Take your favorite route thru the Midtown Tunnel (US 58 West). Take the London Blvd Exit (141 South). At the top of the ramp, go right on London Boulevard for approximately 1 mile. Turn left on Fort Lane (shortly after the light at Elm and the Super 8 Motel – KFC on the right corner at this turn). Park in the lot in the back away from Hardee’s doors.

**RESTROOMS:**

Restrooms are available at Hardees, as well as at several locations along the trail. These locations are mentioned in the directions.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION:**

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*Portsmouth was founded as a town in 1752, on 65 acres of land on the shores of the Elizabeth River. This town was founded by William Crawford, a wealthy merchant and ship owner who at various times had held office as the Norfolk presiding judge, high sheriff, militia lieutenant colonel, and representative to the House of Burgesses. Because of his military service, he is frequently referred to as "Colonel Crawford". The 65 acres were part of Colonel Crawford's extensive plantation and were constituted as a town by an enabling act of the General Assembly of Virginia. The town was named after the English naval port of that name, and many of the streets of the new town reflected that English heritage. The town already had a rich history by the time it was separated from the county government and given status as an independent city in 1858. Its location as an East Coast deep water port has been the common denominator of the City's development throughout its centuries of growth.*

*Perhaps even Colonel Crawford, though, could not have foreseen the many fine houses that were to be built in Portsmouth in the coming centuries. Cited by an American Institute of Architects' study for having the greatest concentration of architecturally significant buildings from the 1700s and 1800s between, Charleston, SC, and Alexandria, VA, Portsmouth's Olde Towne and downtown offer a treasure trove of lovely houses, inspiring churches, and quaint commercial buildings. Homes in the Historic Districts of Craddock, Trunk, Park View, and Port Norfolk also grace the city with the charming architecture of bygone days.*

#### **TRAIL DIRECTIONS:**

1. Leaving Hardee's parking lot, proceed to London Boulevard (the main road in front of the store).

2. Turn left on London Boulevard. Changes to London Street at Effingham Street.

3. Stay on London Street until you reach Court Street.

4. Turn right on Court Street (traffic signal).

5. Cross and turn left on High Street (traffic signal).

*A clock (Rockin' Round the Clock) is at the top of the Law Building on the left just past High Street.*

6. Turn right on Crawford Street (traffic signal and T-intersection).

*The Portsmouth City Hall is located on your left at 801 Crawford Street.*

7. At the circle, follow Crawford Circle to the left.

8. Cross the entrance to the parking garage.

9. Turn left on the sidewalk.

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10. Continue straight across the wooden bridge.

11. At the sidewalk, turn right and walk past the Ocean Yacht Marina on the right.

12. Continue on the sidewalk to the walkway by the Indian River (Mayflower).

13. Turn left on the walkway and continue on it as it turns left to Water Street.

14. Turn right on Water Street and immediately left on the right side of High Street.

15. Turn right on Middle Street.

16. At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn right on London Street.

17. At the stop sign, turn left on Water Street.

*Restrooms are located in the Renaissance Hotel on the right.*

18. Follow Water Street as it curves left to Crawford Parkway.

19. At the stop sign, turn right on Crawford Parkway.

*Spanish War Memorial is on the left in the grass area in the center of Crawford Parkway*

20. Follow Crawford Parkway as it curves left. You will be walking close to the water.

*LOVE sign is on the right along Crawford Parkway.*

21. Watch for the crosswalk on the left at Court Street.

22. At the crosswalk, turn left and cross Crawford Parkway.

23. Continue straight on Court Street.

24. Turn left on North Street.

25. At the second stop sign, turn right on Crawford Street.

26. Turn right on Glasgow Street.

*Little Free Library is on the left at Glasgow and Middle Streets by the park.*

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27. Cross Middle Street and walk straight through the park.

28. At the stop sign, cross Court Street and continue straight on Glasgow Street.

29. Walk one block and turn right on Dinwiddie Street.

30. At the 4-Way stop sign, turn left on North Street.

*The Emmanuel AME Church is on the left before the 4-Way stop sign. The church was a way station along the underground railroad. Emanuel's interior harbored African American freedom fighters among false walls within the sanctuary. There is a labyrinth of tunnels beneath the church which brought escaping slaves to the Elizabeth River, where boats waited to take them out of slaveholding territory.*

31. At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn left on Effingham Street.

32. At the traffic signal, turn right on London Boulevard.

33. Continue to Hardee's for **A BREAK**. This is the end of the 5-kilometer trail.

**10-kilometer walkers** will continue with direction 34.

34. Leaving Hardees, proceed to London Boulevard (the main road in front of the store).

35. Turn right on London Boulevard.

36. Turn right on Fort Lane (first street).

37. Just past the far end of the cemetery on the right, turn left on Blair Street.

38. Turn right on Elm Avenue (second stop sign and T-intersection).

39. Walk one block and turn left on Ann Street.

40. Walk one block and turn right on Armstrong Street.

41. Turn left on Crawford Parkway (stop sign).

42. Turn right on Butler Street (second street on the right).

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43. Turn left on Leckie Street (stop sign).

44. Turn right on Guthrie Street (by "Dead End" sign).

45. Turn right on Spratley Street (stop sign and "Dead End" sign).

46. Turn left on Armstrong Street (first road after you cross the bridge).

47. At the end of Armstrong Street, turn right on Bay Street.

48. Turn left on Elm Avenue (stop sign).

49. At the end of Elm Avenue, turn right on Harrell Street (stop sign).

50. Turn right on Linden Avenue (T-intersection and stop sign).

51. Walk one block and turn left on Bay Street.

52. Turn left on Riverview Avenue (stop sign).

53. Turn right on Harrell Street (T-intersection and stop sign).

*The Portsmouth Naval Hospital grounds are located within the fence to your left.*

*In 1830, the new United States Naval Hospital opened after three years of construction. In 1876, the Naval Hospital looked much as it had when completed in 1830. Designed by Philadelphia architect John Haviland, the building was constructed using new bricks as well as many from buildings at Fort Nelson, a fortification built on this point of land during the Revolutionary War. The hospital was a haven for 587 Yellow Fever patients between July 25 and November 10, 1855, and in 1856 Portsmouth had bestowed six gold medals on naval physicians who helped its citizens at this federal facility.*

*Dramatic change came to Portsmouth's Naval Hospital on October 1, 1907 with the arrival of an order that the almost 80-year-old building had to be vacated within 10 days for a \$200,000 renovation project. Tents lighted by electricity and heated by steam were the only shelter for patients during the bitterly cold winters before the building was again opened on February 17, 1909. Designed by architects Wood, Don & Deming of Washington, D.C., the*

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*improvements provided modern bathrooms, multiple elevators, an operating room with ample sunlight, and other amenities for the 1830 structure.*

*A \$15 million Naval Hospital building was dedicated on April 22, 1960.*

54. Turn right on Parkview Avenue (yield sign).

55. At the second stop sign, turn right on Naval Avenue (no sign, but the road only goes right).

56. At the first street, turn left on Hatton Street (short block).

57. Turn right on Leckie Street (4-Way stop sign).

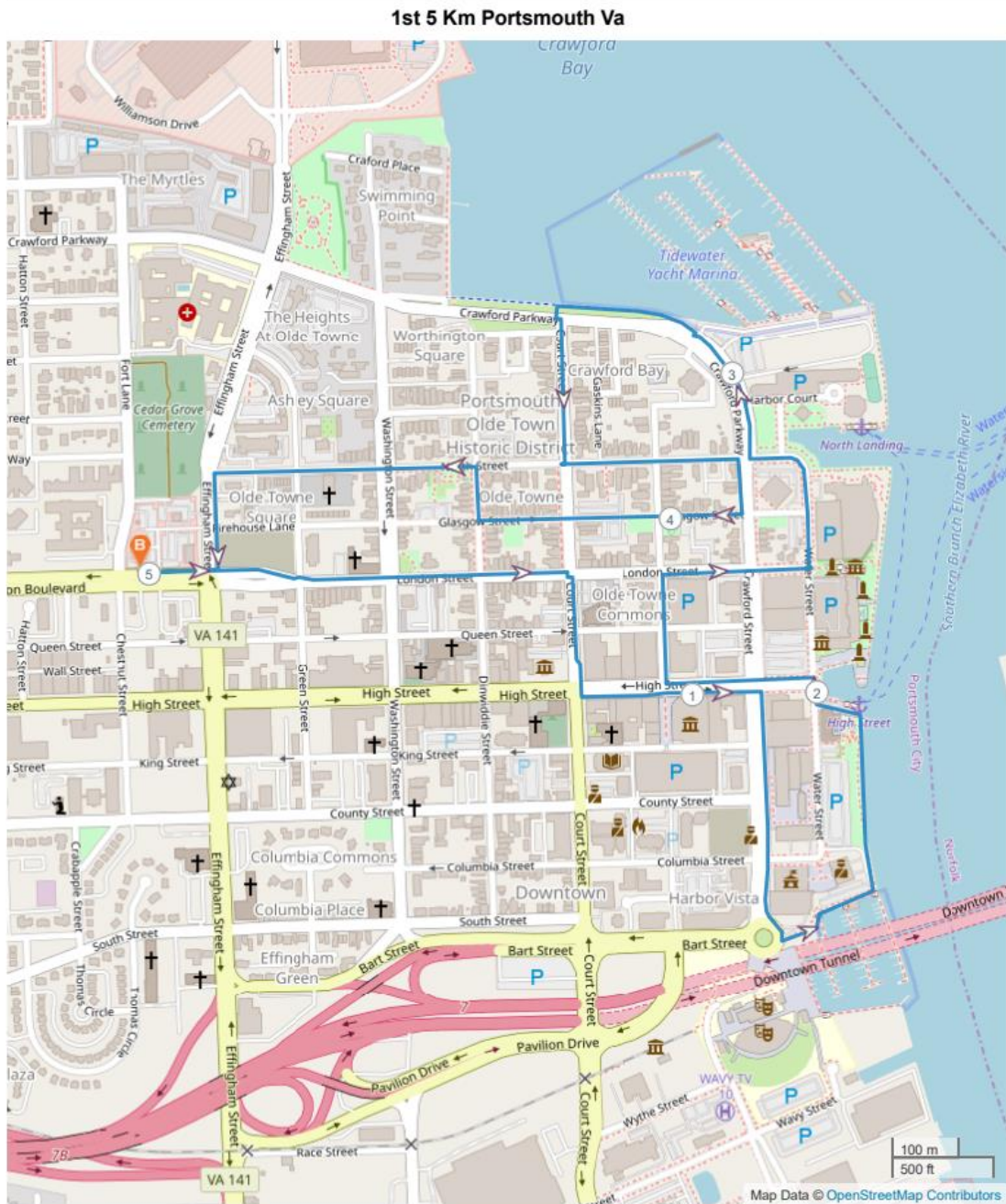
58. Walk one block and turn left on Webster Street.

59. Walk one block and turn left on Crawford Parkway.

60. At the traffic signal, turn right on Effingham Street.

61. At the traffic signal, turn right on London Boulevard and return to the start/finish at Hardee's parking lot.

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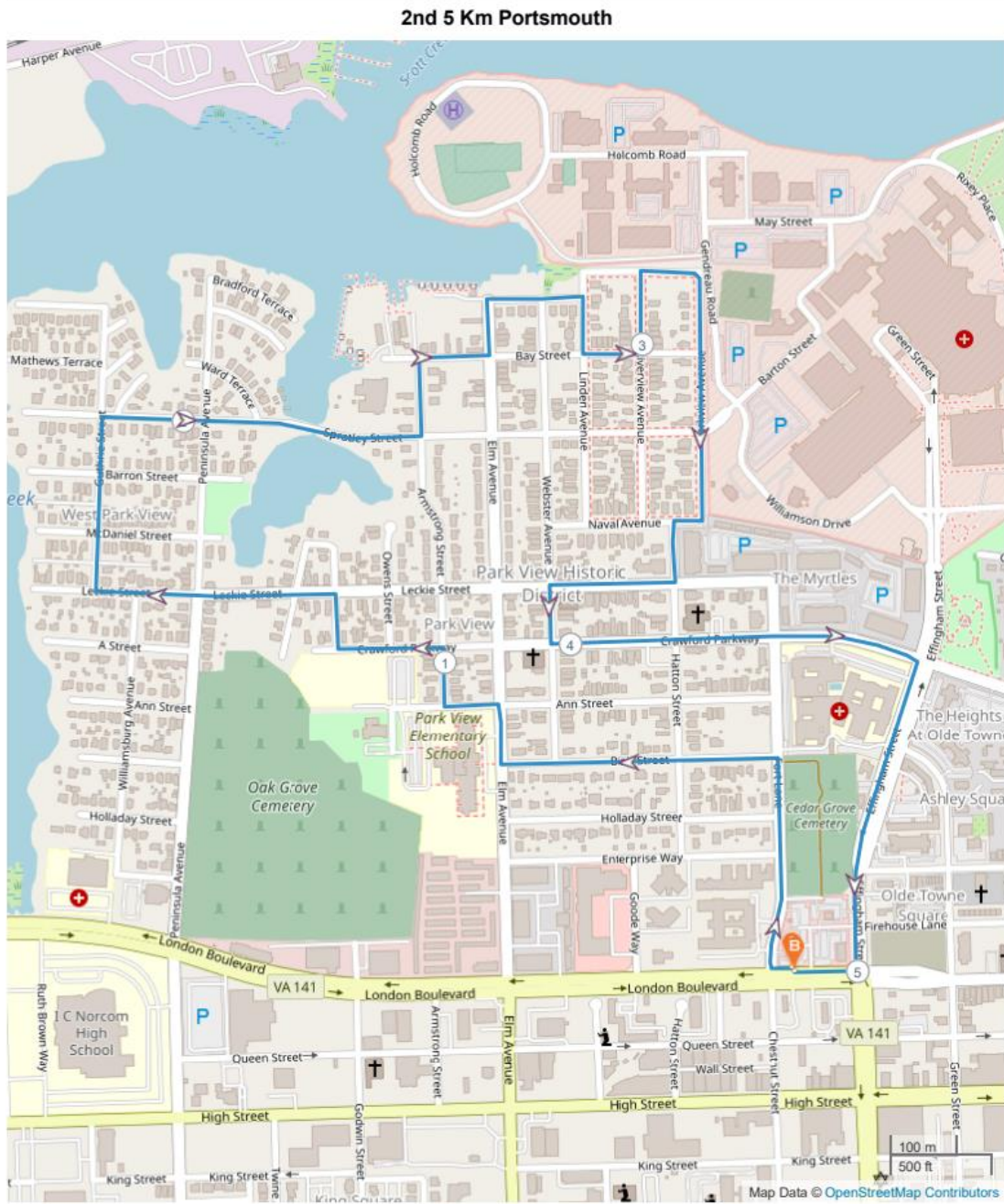
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