



# Great Greenbelt Volksmarchers

## East Potomac Park/Hains Point Walk

**Trail Description:** This AVA walk is rated 1A. It is almost totally on paved paths and sidewalks. You will walk by the Jefferson Memorial around Hains Point with great views of Northern Virginia and the new DC Warf. You will continue back past Bureau of Fiscal Services (BFS), Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and the Holocaust Museum. During Cherry Blossom season this walk has many trees all around Hains Point. BEP has a great tour to show the printing of US Currency it is free, but you may need tickets. [Tour | Engraving & Printing](#). Information on the Holocaust Museum and hours [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

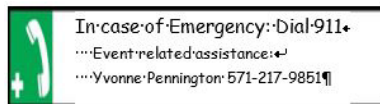
### Walk Registration:

Great Greenbelt Volksmarch club charges all participants over 12 a \$4 fee. When you register for your walk event, please DO NOT check the “No Credit” checkbox for any participant over 12 years of age. When you register for the walk event you can download the PDF file with walk information. The PDF includes directions to the walk start and walk instructions. The fee for the download is \$2. You will be credited for this fee if you complete the walk event and pay the participant fee within 60 days. 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 OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.

### Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

Please remember to log back into the OSB’s “Finish Table” after completing the walk event. Completion information includes the date the event was walked or cycled, the distance walked, and applicable special programs.

### In Case of Emergency:



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## Directions to Start

The walk starts at Smithsonian Metro Mall Exit. Information on Metro can be found at [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com).

**By Car:** There is free parking along Ohio Drive in Hains Point once you pass Buckeye Drive in 24 small lots. During peak cherry blossoms the traffic can be really backed up. Please consider using public transportation during those times. You will join the walk between instructions 18-20.

## Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers East Potomac Park 10km, 6km & 5km Loops

Washington DC is subjected to road/bridge closures due to construction/renovation/flooding or political/security reasons at any time. Please follow detours and return to described trail when practical.

**Instructions** written for walkers starting at the MALL exit from the Smithsonian Metro Station.

**How to read the instructions:** Numbered instructions are the basic directions, alphabetic indented instructions give directions between the numbered instructions. Bulleted instructions are used for special directions for Smithsonian 6km walkers or the E Potomac Park 5km walkers

**E Potomac Park 5km loop** must be started by parking on the one-way section of Ohio Dr SW.

**Parking along the Potomac River:** Start at instructions #18, Potomac River (R).

**Parking at Hains Point:** Start at instruction #19, water (R).

**Parking along the Washington Channel:** Start at instruction #20, Washington Channel (R).

**Abbreviations:** (L) on the left; (R) on the right; (SP) Special Programs; (A-Z) Walking the USA A-Z, Par4C Par for the Course.

### Starting at Smithsonian Metro Station Exit on the Mall.

1. **EXIT** the Metro facing the Capitol turn **LEFT** walk to 4-way intersection. Turn **LEFT**.
2. **STRAIGHT**, facing the Washington Monument, to 14<sup>th</sup> St SW.
  - a. **PASS** National Museum of American History. (R).
  - b. **PASS** Department of Agriculture (L).
3. Turn **LEFT** to Jefferson Dr SW.
4. **CROSS** both Jefferson Dr SW & 14 St SW.
5. **FOLLOW** the diagonal dirt path to traffic lights at Independence Ave SW and 15 St SW.
6. **CROSS** both lanes of Independence Ave SW, turn **RIGHT**, **CROSS** Raoul Wallenberg Pl SW /15 St SW.
7. Turn **LEFT** to walk to lights at Maine Ave SW (no sign) carefully crossing the on-ramp to Maine Ave SW.
8. **CROSS** both lanes of Maine Ave SW walk to path by Tidal Basin.
9. Turn **LEFT** to follow path along the Tidal Basin and up the ramp to **CROSS** the bridge over the Washington Channel.
10. Bear **RIGHT** to follow the path back to the Tidal Basin.
11. Turn **LEFT** along the Tidal Basin and up the few steps to the Jefferson Monument Plaza.

*Restrooms may be open in the basement of the Monument between the 2 gift shops.*

12. **WALK** past the steps to the monument, **CROSS** driveway, turn **LEFT** to walk on right-side of driveway to path on right behind concrete blocks.
13. Turn **RIGHT** through blocks to follow path through next barrier to STOP sign on Ohio Dr SW.
14. Turn **LEFT CROSS** Ohio Dr SW towards the George Mason Memorial.
15. Turn **RIGHT** to follow sidewalk around memorial and under road bridges to crosswalk.
16. Turn **RIGHT CROSS** Ohio Dr SW turn **LEFT** to walk on striped area to end of fence turn **RIGHT** to path along the Potomac River.
  - a. **PASS** Entering East Potomac Park sign (R).
  - b. **PASS** under road bridge.
  - c. **PASS** under Metro and rail bridges.
17. Turn **LEFT** to follow path along river to **STOP** & **DO NOT ENTER** signs on Ohio Dr SW.

*Check National Airport across the Potomac River on the right. (SP: (CAF))*



In case of Emergency: Dial 911  
Event related assistance:  
Pat Astill: 301-526-6705  
Yvonne Pennington: 571-217-9851

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

## Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers

### East Potomac Park 10km, 6km & 5km Loops

#### 6km Smithsonian WALKERS

- Turn **LEFT CROSS** grass and Ohio Dr SW to walk on left side of Buckeye Dr SW to end.
- **CROSS** Ohio Dr SW walk to sidewalk.
- Turn **LEFT**, Washington Channel (R).
- Go to instruction #21

*SP; Par4C E Potomac Park Golf Links (R).*

#### ALL OTHER WALKERS

- 18.** Continue along path by the Potomac River for about 2 km until forced to continue along Ohio Dr SW when the path is closed due to flood damage.

*Restrooms in circular buildings across Ohio Dr SP; Par4C E Potomac Park Golf Links (L).*

- 19.** **STAY** on the road as it curves at Hains Point to return with the Washington Channel (R).
- 20.** When possible, use the path along the water until Ohio Dr SW becomes 2-way at Buckeye Dr SW.
- PASS** Fort McNair which houses several colleges including the National War College.
  - PASS** Southwest Waterfront Park
  - PASS** the Wharf Marina on the far side of the Channel and the Day Dock by the path.

*Restrooms in circular building (L), need to cross 2 lanes of Ohio Dr SW*

#### E Potomac Park 5km WALKERS

- Turn **LEFT** to walk on left side of Buckeye Dr SW to end at Ohio Dr SW
- **CROSS** Ohio DR SW and grass to path by Potomac River.
- Turn **LEFT**
- **GO TO** Instruction 18 to return to your car.

#### ALL OTHER WALKERS

- 21.** **CONTINUE** along sidewalk to crosswalk after STOP sign at Maine Ave SW.
- PASS** under the I-395 bridge.
  - PASS** the National Mall & Memorial Parks Headquarters. (R).
  - PASS** Entering West Potomac Park sign (L).
  - PASS** under the train bridge.
  - PASS** under the 14 St SW bridge.

- Curve **RIGHT** then **STRAIGHT** to **CROSS** the Washington Channel while walking beside the raised 14 St SW (R), Tidal Basin across road (L).

- 22.** Turn **LEFT CROSS** Ohio Dr SW, turn **RIGHT**, **CROSS** diagonally both lanes of Maine Av SW.
- 23.** Turn **LEFT** then bear **RIGHT** on Raoul Wallenberg Pl SW/SW 15 St to red brick plaza.
- PASS** Bureau of Fiscal Services
  - CROSS** driveway.
  - PASS** Bureau of Engraving and Printing
  - CROSS** driveway
- 24.** Turn **RIGHT** on red brick paved plaza to go up the steps or ramp past the US Holocaust Memorial Museum (R) to 14 St NW.
- 25.** Turn **LEFT** on 14 ST SW to Independence Ave SW.
- CROSS** driveway.
  - PASS** "Escape Across the Potomac" storyboard on railing.
  - PASS** Sidney B Yates Federal Building/US Forest Services Department of Agriculture

#### 6km Smithsonian, 10km E POTOMAC PARK LOOP WALKERS

- 26.** **CROSS** 14<sup>th</sup> St SW and Independence Ave SW.
- 27.** **WALK** on left side of Independence Ave SW to the main entrance to the Enid A Houpt Garden between signs for Arthur M Sackler Gallery and Museum of African Art.
- PASS** between the buildings of the US Department of Agriculture.
  - PASS** elevator entrance to Smithsonian Metro station (L).
  - CROSS** 12 St SW and 12 St Expressway.
  - PASS** the Freer Gallery of Art (L).
  - PASS** the Arthur M Sackler Gallery (L) behind railing.
- 28.** Turn **LEFT** to enter the roof-top garden, turn **RIGHT**, turn **LEFT** at 1<sup>st</sup> path before Museum of African Art to 1<sup>st</sup> path (R).
- 29.** Turn **RIGHT** through Fountain Garden to statue of Spencer Fullerton Baird.



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## Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers East Potomac Park 10km, 6km & 5km Loops

**30.** Turn **LEFT** to T-junction and “Enid A Haupt Garden” storyboard (L).

**31.** Turn **RIGHT** through gate, turn **RIGHT** through Kathrine D Folger Rose Garden to entrance to Arts and Industries Building.

**32.** Turn **LEFT, CROSS** Jefferson Drive **STRAIGHT** on path to T-junction

a. **PASS** Carousel (L)

**33.** Turn **LEFT** to 4-way intersection.

a. **PASS** Carousel (L).

b. **PASS** Smithsonian Castle & statue of Joseph Henry (L).

c. **PASS** National Museum of Natural History (R) across the Mall.

### Smithsonian 6km & 10km WALKERS finishing at Smithsonian Metro Station

- Turn **LEFT** to Metro Station.

### WALKERS returning to car parked on Ohio Dr SW

- **GO TO** instruction #2.

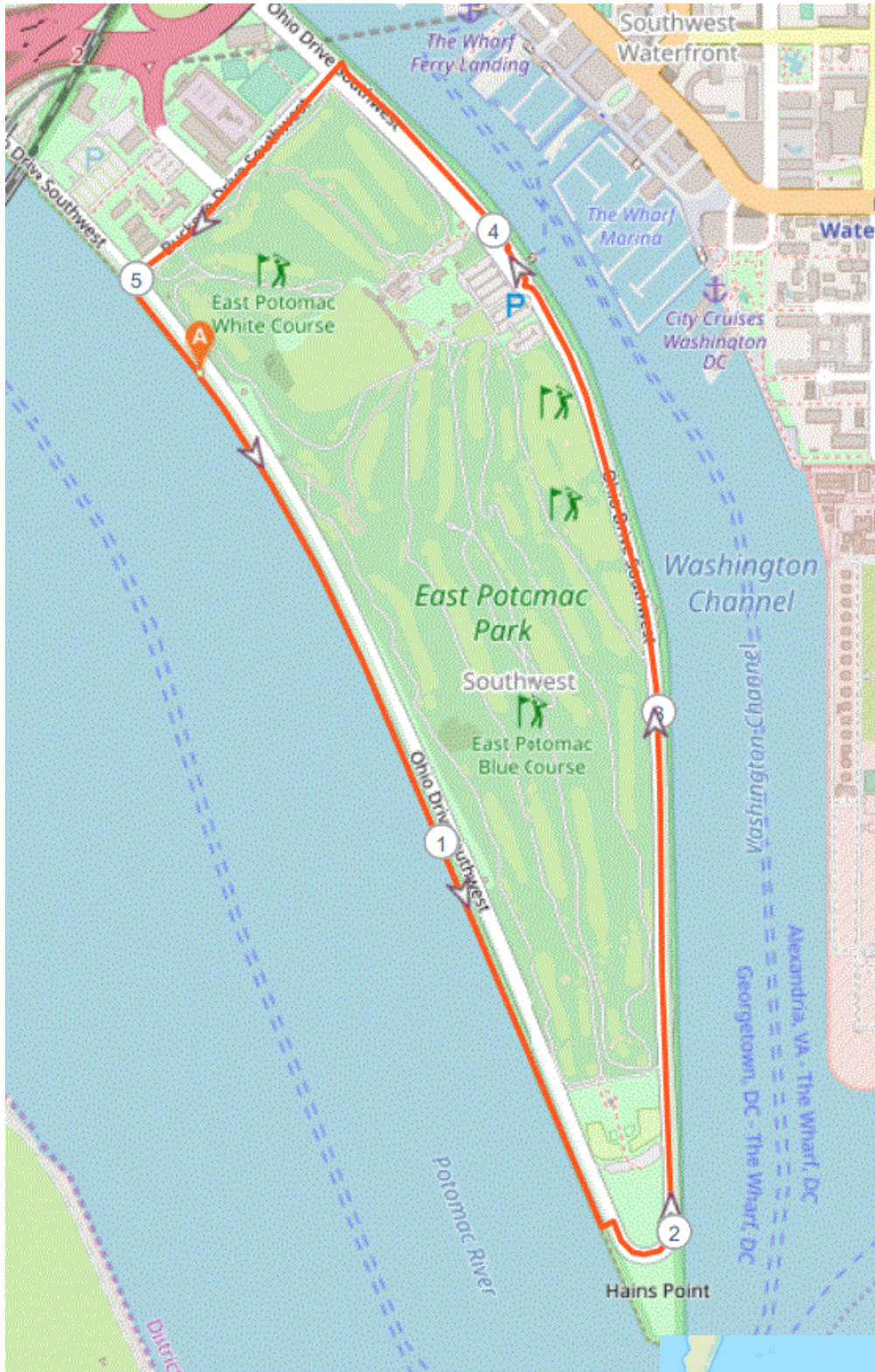


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# East Potomac Park/Hains Point 10/6/5K Maps

## East Potomac Park 5km Loop



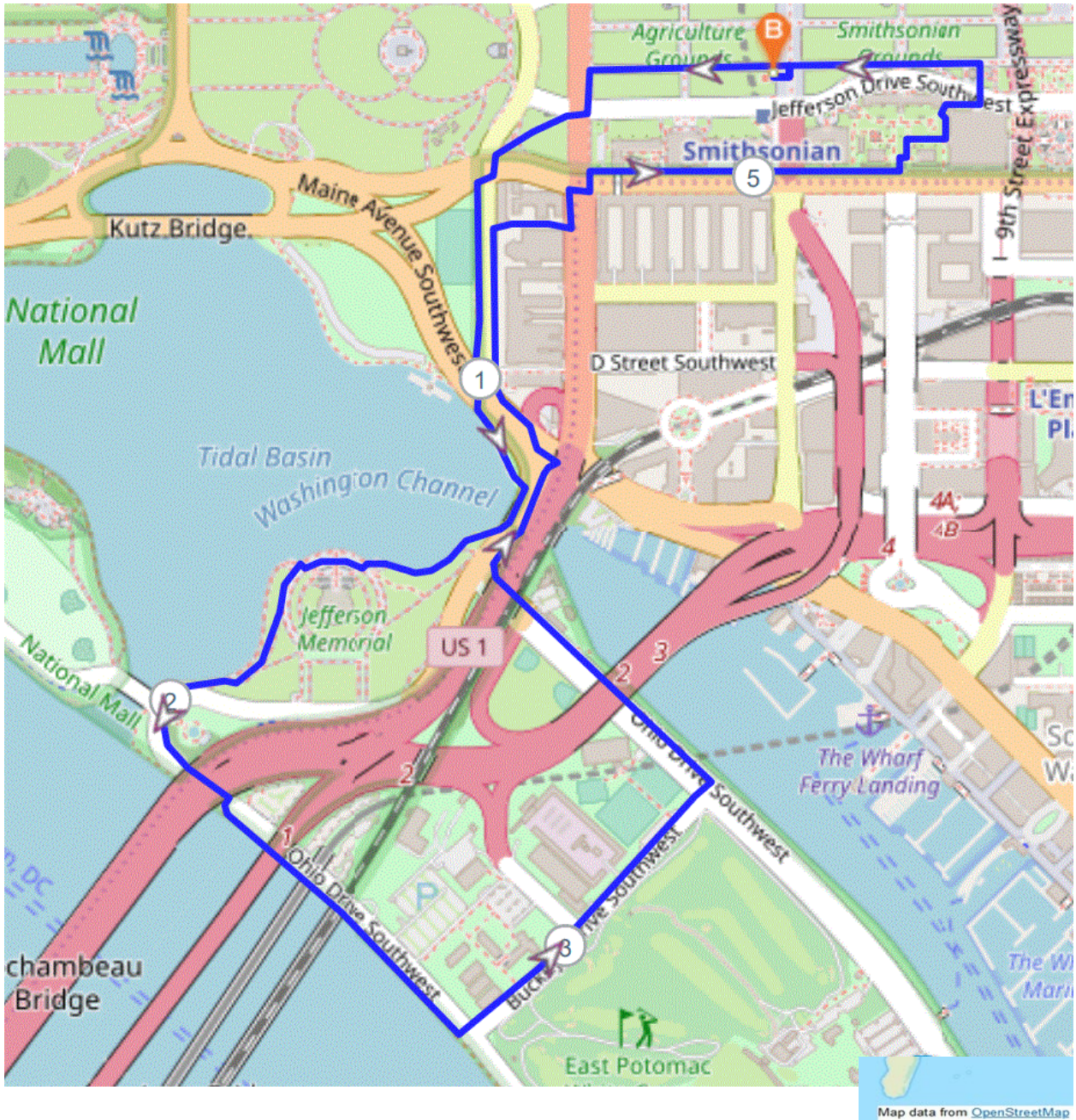
Map data from [OpenStreetMap](#)

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East Potomac Park/Hains Point 10/6/5K Maps

Smithsonian 6km Loop

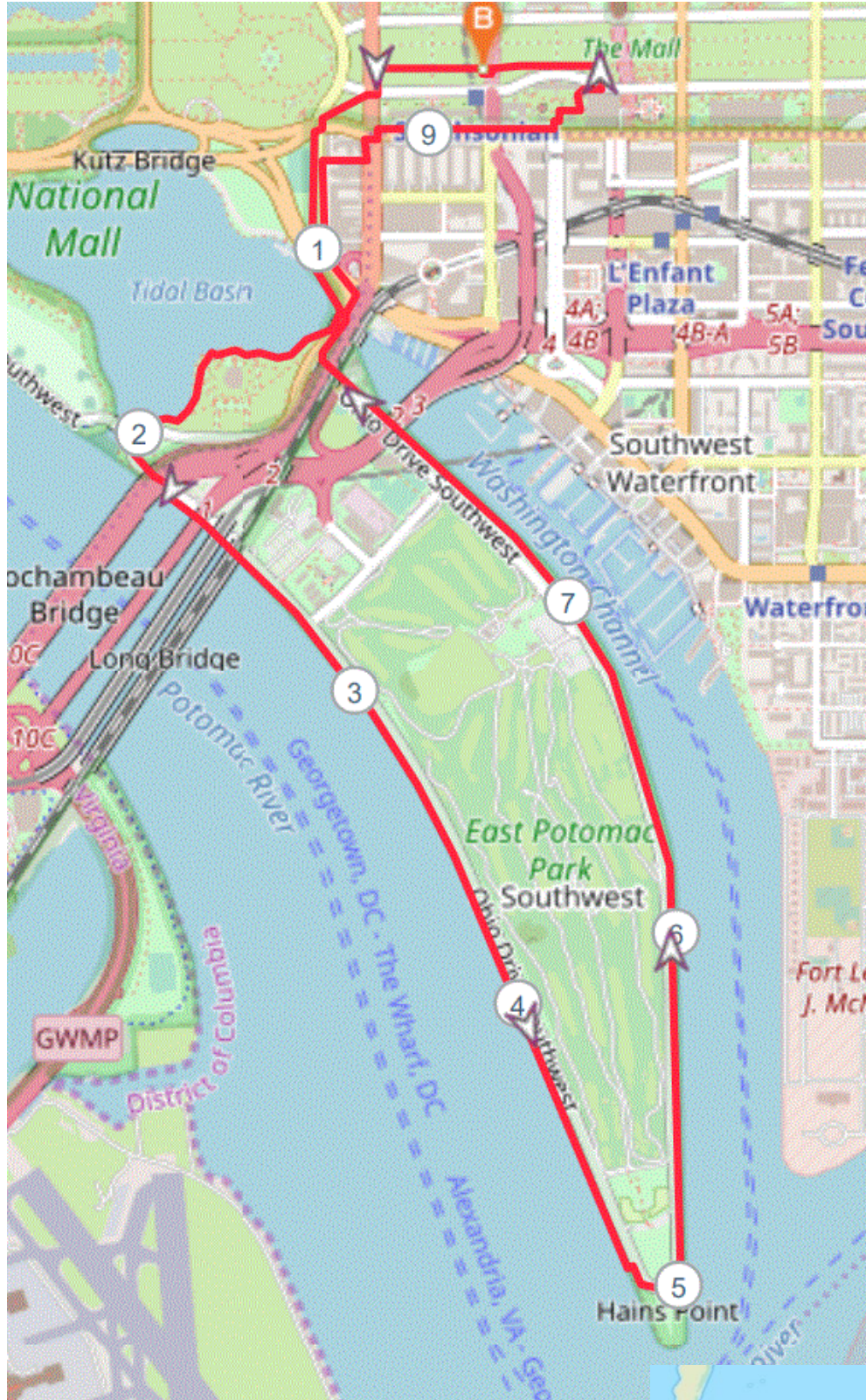


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East Potomac Park/Hains Point 10/6/5K Maps

E Potomac Park 10km Loop



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## Special Programs for East Potomac Park Walk

<b>Program</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Par for the Course	East Potomac Park Golf Links
2026 Anniversaries Hurrah	Thomas Jefferson and George Mason Memorials

## Places to Eat

L'Enfant Plaza has many restaurants and eateries. <https://www.lenfant-plaza.com/> On the 6 and 10 K at #28 cross Independence Ave and continue straight. Enter through the glass atrium on your left. It is also on the blue/orange/silver metro line one stop from Smithsonian.

There maybe food trucks along the mall.

## Contact us:

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GreenbeltVolkssports/>