

Who We Are

The Willamette Wanderers Club of Salem & Keizer is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer organization formed in 1986. It is a member of American Volkssport Association (AVA). "Volkssport" reflects its German origin.

The Wanderers focus on walking in groups, with family and friends or alone following club 5/10k routes with written directions and maps. A 5K (kilometer) is 3.1 miles and a 10K is 6.2 miles. If not an AVA credit walker, please consider donating as a Guest to help with club costs.

Besides these 15 walks, the club has a monthly Sunday Stroll on the 2nd Sunday. Some club members also do the weekly Thursday walks often in other towns. Special one-day weekend walks may be offered as well as summer evening walks. It is more fun when walking with others. See our Calendar at our website for these walks' details.

Visit Us at Our Website

www.willwander.weebly.com. Click "Contact Us" for more information. We are on Facebook and at Meetup. We will be glad to add your e-mail address for notifications about our upcoming walks.

Meetings

A monthly meeting is held on the third Wednesday at 1:00 PM at the Salem Library, 585 Liberty St SE. Meetings are one hour long and address club operations.

Membership

Information/application can be found at our website under Join Us. Annual dues are \$10 for individual membership, \$15 for family membership. Club t-shirts are for sale to members and non-members. The Oregon State Capitol is seen in our logo. The walking figure is the gold Pioneer who left his dome position to do a walk.

Location of Willamette Wanderers'

Cities for 2025 Fifteen Walks

Salem Hospital: 2½ miles west of I-5, exit 253;

Salem: Broadway Commons: 2 miles west of I-5, exit 256;

Turner: 3 miles SE of I-5, exit 248

Independence & Monmouth: 5 miles SW of downtown Salem to Independence;

Dallas: 10 miles NW from Independence or 25 miles SW from McMinnville;

McMinnville: 26 miles NW from Salem;

Newberg: 14 miles NE from McMinnville;

Springfield: 2 miles NE from I-5, exit 191;

Lincoln City: 58 miles NE from Salem on US101;

Depoe Bay: 13 miles S of Lincoln City on US101

 *Our walks are dog friendly*

Willamette Wanderers



Sponsor Fifteen

**2025 Self-Guided Walks in
Towns in Five Oregon Counties:
Salem, Independence, Monmouth,
Dallas, McMinnville,
Newberg, Turner, Springfield, &
Coastal Walks in Depoe Bay
& Lincoln City**

P.O. Box 13982

Salem, OR 97309

www.willwander.weebly.com

Info: Julia, pjwesterberg@comcast.net



www.meetup.com/Willamette-Valley-and-Mid-Coast-Walkers/



Our Walks in 2025

People can do these walks on their own. Driving directions and registration location can be found at the AVA website address given below. Besides being able to register at the walk's starting point, a walker can also register on-line at the AVA On-line Start Box (OSB) at www.myava.org. The ratings refer to the condition of the walkways and elevation. A rating of 1A means primarily paved walkways with little elevation. Higher number/letter ratings refer to more unpaved and with hills.

Walks in Marion County:

Register for three Salem walks at Salem Hospital, Bldg A (ER), 890 Oak St SE. The first two start from the Hospital.

- 1) **"Old South Salem."** Y1028, 5K (rated 1A) & 10K (rated 2A). Both routes go through the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park Historic District with attractive houses/gardens. The 10K continues to more lovely residential areas on hills. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128326>
- 2) **Capital – Waterways**, Y1413, 6/10K, rated 1A Walk Includes the downtown, the Carousel in Riverfront Park, several veterans war memorials, the State Capitol, and Willamette University. Lovely walk by several waterways. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128323>
- 3) **Minto-Brown Island Park**, Y1264, 2 5K loops, rated 1B. River loop may be closed at times due to high water. **Register at the hospital but the walk starts at this popular Park 3 miles to the SW. OSB is recommended.** <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128324>

Northeast Salem, Y3223, 5/10K, rated 1A. Broadway Coffeehouse, 1300 Broadway St NE, Salem. Walk in the Salem Heritage Grant and Highland Neighborhoods. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128325>

Historic Turner, Y3222, 6K (rated 1A) , 10K (rated 2B). Turnaround Café, 7760 3rd St SE, Turner, Explore new and older parts of this former lumber town. 10K includes hilltop cemetery. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128327>

Walks in Polk County:

Two walks start in Independence from Hi-School Pharmacy, 1357 Monmouth St,

- 1) **Independence**, Y1669, 5/10K, rated 1A. Both routes go to the residential/downtown areas listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Downtown has Riverview Park, new housing and great Willamette River views. The Inspirational Garden by Master Gardeners is not to be missed with a variety of gardens and a riparian trail. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128303>
- 2) **Monmouth**, Y1265, 10K, 2 5K's, rated 1A. The 10K & remote 5K go to Western Oregon University (revised), the historic downtown and residential areas. Another 5K goes to the unique Edwards Addition residential area from the start point which is also on the 10K. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128321>

Dallas, Y1160, 10K & 2 5K's, all rated 1A, start at Tater's Café, 683 SE Jefferson St. The 10K includes housing on hills, historic downtown, City Park/Arboretum & Rickreall Creek Trail. The 2 5K routes derived from the 10K do not have hills. The 10K and one 5K include the new Japanese Garden in City Park. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128301>

Walks in Yamhill County:

Register for the two McMinnville walks at McMenamins Hotel Oregon, 310 NE Evans St.

- 1) **McMinnville Town**, Y1916, 5/10K, rated 1A. Downtown public art on 5K including the new Art Alley; 10K also includes Linfield Univ. and more residential areas. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128307>
- 2) **McMinnville: Discovery Meadows Park**, Y3430, 5/10K, rated 1A. **Remote start 2 miles SW**. OSB advised. Walk starts in a lovely park and goes to residential areas. 10K has more parks, wetlands & newer residential areas. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128306>

Newberg: Historic Newberg and George Fox Univ. Y3227, 5/10K, rated 1A. **OSB registration only**. Walk starts at Nap's Thriftway in downtown, goes through two Parks, George Fox University, and residential areas. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128322>

Walk in Lane County:

Springfield: Murals, Historic Houses & Nature, Y2355, 5/6/10K, rated 1A. Pump Café, 710 Main St, Springfield. 5/10K routes focus on the many lovely downtown murals and Washburne Historic District; 10K also includes the West D Street Greenway by the Willamette River. 6K has murals and Greenway. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128328>

Walks on the Coast in Lincoln County:

Depoe Bay: Oregon's Whale Watching Center, Y0330, 5/6/10K, rated 2B. Gracie's Sea Hag Restaurant, 58 N US101, Depoe Bay. 10K includes forest trail and 2 coastal loops. 5K only the forest trail and 6K the two coastal loops. Coastal loops have lovely old houses with great views of the Pacific Ocean. World's smallest harbor also here. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128302>

Two Walks in Lincoln City: D Sands Condominium Motel, 171 SW Hwy 101. **Start at nearby D River Wayside.**

- 1) **Town Walk**, Y0311, 10K, 2 5K's, rated 2B. 10K route divided into 2 5Ks with the 2nd 5K being a remote start, 1½ miles north including the Connie Hansen Gardens seen on the 10K but not on the other 5K. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128305>
- 2) **Beach Walk**, Y0312, 5/6/10/20K, rated 1C. North Beach 5/10K walk from D River to Road's End Park. South Beach seasonal 6/10K walk (April-Sept) from D River goes to the Taft community. Best done at low tide. Returns include street walking. Do both for a 20K. <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128304>