

**Directions for 5K/10KM
(Rating 2C)**

**Lake Mead Memorial Bridge/Hoover Dam and
Railroad Tunnels Walk**

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, by registering using the OSB then completing your event using the PSB or signing 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.

**THE START POINT OF THE WALK IS AT THE
BOUDER DAM BRIDGE PARKING LOT ON NV-172,
the HOOVER DAM ACCESS ROAD
(36.014, -114.756)**

- A. From Las Vegas, take US93/US95/I-11S to Exit 2.
- B. From Arizona, take US93N/I-11N across Memorial Bridge to Exit 2 and NV-172.
- C. Follow the signs for NV-172 and Hoover Dam.
- D. Bear right to Bridge Way Walkway sign. You will go through a security check station.
- E. Turn right into Memorial Bridge Plaza and park.
(Restrooms are available. No dogs are allowed on the Bridge or on Hoover Dam.)

WALKING DIRECTIONS

1. **Cross** the parking lot toward the Memorial Bridge walkway and **turn LEFT** onto the walkway.
2. Follow the walkway up through the information plazas to the Bridge.

(Take time to read the information plaques in the plazas. They explain the history of the construction of the bridge, as well as info about Governor O'Callaghan and Pat Tillman, the namesakes of the bridge.)

At the center of the bridge is a medallion on the sidewalk. You can now stand with 1 foot in Nevada and 1 foot in Arizona.

3. Walk to the end of the bridge, **turn around** and retrace your steps back to the parking lot.
4. **Cross** the parking lot, passing restrooms on your right.
5. Go through the gate and down the steps. Follow the gravel path, veering right to the highway crosswalk.

Note: If the gate is locked, use the driveway to get down to the highway. Stay on right side of highway in the desert until you get to the crosswalk.

6. At the crosswalk, cross the highway to the lower parking lot. **Turn RIGHT** and **cross** the parking lot. At the blue police information sign, **turn LEFT** onto the paved road.
7. At the crossroads trail sign, **turn RIGHT** and walk down the switchbacks to the parking garage roof.
8. **Bear LEFT**, **cross** parking lot and **turn LEFT** at exit to the elevator.
9. Either walk down the stairs or take the elevator to the 1st floor. Exit, **turn LEFT** and walk down to the street.

(Restrooms available; food and Gift Shop on your right.)

10. Follow walkway down to the dam.

**DON'T GO DOWN ESCALATOR TO
'VISITOR'S CENTER AND TOURS'.**

(You can visit if you want to, but the walk continues across the dam.)

11. Continue on the left sidewalk to walk over the dam. At the end of the dam, **turn RIGHT** using crosswalk. **Turn RIGHT**, walking back over the dam.

12. **Turn RIGHT** and cross at the last crosswalk. **Turn LEFT** towards the parking garage.
13. **Turn RIGHT** to elevators and take elevator back up to the 5th floor parking garage roof.
14. Retrace your steps back over the garage roof and up the switch back ramps. Walk back to the intersection at the crossroad trail sign.

*****5K WALKERS*****

Turn LEFT and retrace your steps back to the Memorial Bridge Walkway parking lot.

10K WALKERS: Go to step 15.

15. Continue walking straight through the yellow posts.

(Information signs on your right.)

16. **Turn right** at the historical railroad trail toward the bone yard exhibit.

17. At top of switchback, **continue straight** on dirt pathway. Pass the bone yard exhibit on your left. Keep walking straight.

(The bone yard displays some of the equipment used at the Dam.)

18. After the fence, ignore the path on your left. Walk past two benches. (A garage can be seen on your left.) Continue on dirt path. You will pass BLM buildings on your left. *(Restrooms and picnic table are available)*

19. Proceed through the 1st tunnel (#5) and the 2nd tunnel (#4). (7K)

20. Turn around and retrace your steps through the two tunnels, returning to the restroom area.

21. **Bear LEFT** through the fence with the BLM maintenance area on your right. Retrace your steps, keeping on the dirt pathway to just past the two benches and the garbage cans.

22. At the historical railroad trail sign, make a **RIGHT turn** via short cut and continue to follow trail downhill.

23. At the end of the power station, **turn right** onto the 1st paved road.

(Memorial Bridge Walkway sign.)

24. At the stop sign, **turn RIGHT** following the Bridge Walkway signs.

25. At pedestrian crosswalk sign, **turn LEFT** and carefully cross highway. Follow the dirt switchbacks to the cement stairs. Go up the stairs and through the gate to Start/Finish.

Be sure to log back into the OSB system (my.ava.org) to finish/complete your online registration after doing the walk.

The OSB system does not deduct any walking fee from a walker Event Bank until they have submitted walk completion info including the date the event was walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that the walker is participating in.

(Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded pdf is deducted from the user Event Bank when the pdf is downloaded. Later, any pdf fees are credited back to a walker Event Bank when he/she submits the walk completion info as paying for credit walker.)

Note however that the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF expires in 60 days.

For emergencies: Dial 911

**Event related questions:
Call Brenda Harris 702-845-1550**

Local walk info: lvhrs.org

RULES OF THE TRAIL

- Stay on designated trails
- Carry out all trash and food
- Be courteous and yield to other users on the trail
- Leave rocks, plants, and artifacts where you find them
- Observe wildlife from a distance and never feed them
- Dogs are allowed on the trail only
- Keep dogs on a 6ft. leash at all times
- Bring and use dog waste bags

WALKING TOUR THROUGH THE TUNNELS

In 1931, a construction contract was let to Six Companies Inc., a consortium of six major western firms. Together with the government, they built almost 20 miles of railroad connecting Boulder City with all the facilities needed to build Hoover Dam. Locomotives hauled tons of gravel to a screening plant on the other side of the river 24 hours a day. The foundations of the plant are now about 150 feet below the water level of Lake Mead. The Six Companies Inc. Railroad was abandoned after the completion of Hoover Dam in 1935. The railroad section was sporadically used until 1961, when the last generator was hauled over its rails and installed at the power plant. The tracks were dismantled in 1962 and sold as scrap. The tunnels and trail were nominated in 1984 to the National Register of Historic Places.

***Tunnel 1** has eight sections of vertical supports, five of which have horizontal planks to prevent the fall of loose rocks. **Tunnel 2** burned in an arson fire in 1990. It was sprayed with shotcrete to fortify the now looser rock. Between Tunnels 2 and 3, another road is visible. Rock excavated from the tunnels was used for the fills you are now walking on. Tunnel 5 was burned and then sealed in 1978. It was reopened in 2001. All Tunnels are approximately 30 ft. in length, and 25 ft. in diameter. They were oversized to fit penstock sections and large equipment being transported to Hoover Dam. In 2005-2006, all five tunnels were re-fortified because of erosion over the years.*

Hoover Dam Lake Mead 5km -10km Walk



NOTE: The terrain dips shown above are at water level, below bridge and dam, not your walking level.

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