

**EAST TENNESSEE WANDERERS
KNOXVILLE MUSIC, MOONSHINE, AND ART WALK
5K/10K**

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KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

This walk uses sidewalks in the City of Knoxville. With on-going construction projects, please be prepared to take detours as necessary due to closed streets and sidewalks.

As you walk, be sure to watch for the Cradle of Country Music Tour signs for additional information about the musical history of Knoxville.

Knoxville was the Capital of Tennessee from 1796 to 1812 with the exception of one day in 1807 when the legislature met in Kingston. The state of Tennessee received the "Volunteer" name in the nineteenth century due to Tennesseans' willingness to serve their country in the military. References to the Tennessee Volunteers began during the War of 1812 when Tennesseans volunteered en masse in response to President Madison's call for service. Then during the Mexican War, when the secretary of state asked for 2,800 Tennessee volunteers, he got 30,000 which established the state's nickname as the Volunteer State. The Atlanta Constitution was the first to call UT athletes "Volunteers," after a Tennessee-Georgia Tech football game in 1902.

While the directions for the 5 and 10 km walks are combined, there are separate maps due to potential confusion on the routes.

STARTING POINT

The starting point for both distances is the Knoxville Visitor Center, 301 South Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902

Directions: From the east on I-40, take Exit 389 for Hall of Fame Drive toward US-441 N/Broadway. Keep left to continue on Exit 388A, follow signs for TN-158 W/US-441 S/James White Pky/Downtown/University of Tennessee. Continue on TN-158 W. Use the right lane to take the Summit Hill Drive exit. Follow E. Summit Hill Drive SE to S Gay St.

From the west on I-40, take Exit 388 for US-441 S/Henley St. toward downtown. Keep right, follow signs for TN-62/Western Ave/Summit Hill Dr. Follow TN-62 E/Western Ave and W. Summit Hill Dr SW to S Gay St.

Parking: While there are a few free parking places at the Visitor Center (get permit inside), they are time limited. One can at times find street parking, but at a cost (metered). Best parking is at the Market Square Garage, 402 Walnut St. You will be only 0.2 mile from the Visitor Center and there are restrooms in the parking garage. Parking is free on the weekends.

Latitude 35.967047, Longitude -83.919549

GENERAL WALK INFORMATION

Walk during daylight hours. Restrooms are available in the Market Square Parking Garage, some shops on the route, and in the public restroom in World's Fair Park. There are numerous interesting places to eat in Market Square which falls on your route and is only about 0.2 miles from the Visitor Center

POINT OF CONTACT

Dan Lewis (president @easttennesseewanderers.org) 865-441-2429
If you have questions, comments, or recommendations with respect to this event, please do not hesitate to make contact.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The three Special Programs associate with this walk are A-Z (Knoxville, TN), 50 States (Tennessee), Little Free Libraries, and Walking with America's Veterans.

OSB REMINDERS

Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration. You can then print out your insert cards for this 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 nor signing 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.

OTHER EAST TENNESSEE WANDERERS EVENTS

While in the area, you might enjoy some of our other events.

Alcoa Greenway, Alcoa Bike, Alcoa/Maryville Extended Greenway, A.T. Through Tennessee, Clinton 12, Gatlinburg Trail, Gatlinburg Tourist, Elkmont Historic, Newfound Gap (A.T.), Knoxville (University of Tennessee), Knoxville (North Knoxville – 4th & Gill), Seven Islands State Birding Park, Maryville, Oak Ridge, Townsend, and Fort Loudoun State Historic Park.



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**The East Tennessee Wanderers
Music, Moonshine, and Art Walk ©
Knoxville, TN
5/10 KM
Y2049**

This trail does not have markings; so, you are encouraged to pay close attention to these directions.

1. As you **exit** the Visitor Center, **turn left** on Gay Street.
2. **10 k Walkers: Cross Gay St.** at the light, then **turn left** to cross West Summit Hill Dr. **5 k Walkers: Turn left** on W. Summit Hill Dr. and **SKIP to Step 13.**
3. At the corner of Gay St and W. Summit Hill Dr, is a small park with the Knoxville Music Monument to Performers of East Tennessee. Two notable locals who made it big were Chet Atkins, who began his career in 1941 as a WNOX studio musician, and Archie Campbell, who began as an announcer for WNOX in 1937.
4. **Continue** along the 100 Block of Gay St. From the 20s to the 50s this area was the focus of a new form of music, known as "hillbilly" or "mountain" music.
5. Between Vine St. and Jackson you will see remains of a building that once was WNOX's studio and "radiothorium" from the late 30s to the 50s. The *Midday Merry-Go-Round* was broadcast from here and proved to be an important stepping stone to stardom on Nashville's *Grand ole Opry*.
6. **Continue** along Gay St to **cross** Vine St. and Jackson Ave. If you look to your right as you cross the Gay St. Viaduct, you can see the JFG Coffee sign. The JFG Coffee Company originated as a wholesale grocery company in 1882, selling coffee to grocery stores. JFG ("The Best Part of the Meal") has been downtown since 1926, providing its pleasant aroma to the downtown area.
7. As you **cross** the viaduct, look ahead and to your right to see the Southern Depot, built in 1903. One of the street musicians who performed here was Charlie Oaks, a blind man who some in country music credit as being the first professional country musician. One of his best known songs is *The New Market Train Wreck*, which tells of a head-on collision between two trains about 20 miles east of Knoxville. One train had recently departed here and the other was due to arrive. The song is sung from the perspective of someone seeing the bodies being unloaded in downtown Knoxville.
8. As you **reach** West Depot Ave, to your left is the location of the original studios of WIVK, one of the most popular and successful country radio stations, which opened in 1953. A seven year old girl from Sevier County, Dolly Parton, had her broadcast debut here on the *Cas Walker Farm and Home Hour*.
9. **Turn right** on West Depot Ave. As you walk along West Depot Ave. you will get a better look at the old **Southern** Depot that has gained a new repurposed life.
10. **Turn right** on North Central Street to walk across the railroad tracks into Old Town with numerous night clubs, restaurants, and bars.
11. **Turn right** when you reach Summit Hill Drive.
12. **Cross Gay St.**
13. Walk along W. Summit Hill Drive. To your left in the area now occupied by the TVA Towers was the site of Tennessee's first radio station, and according to some, one of the first ten stations in the nation. The station began broadcasting from a site on this hill in 1921. Known later as WNOX, it was noted for live music and became one of country music's most influential stations.
14. **Turn left** onto Walnut Street, cross Wall Ave, and then **turn left** onto Wall Ave. To your left are the TVA Towers. Built in the 1970s as headquarters of the Tennessee Valley Authority, these were among Knoxville's first modern high-rise buildings. The Tennessee Valley Authority was created by the federal government in 1933 to control flooding and improve the economy in the Tennessee Valley. On the positive side, TVA brought flood control, jobs, and electricity to the area. On the negative, many lost land that had been in their families for generations. **Note the restrooms in the parking garage on your right.**
15. At the Ruby Sunshine, **turn right** to enter Market Square. One of the most famous musicians got a boost from here in Market Square. A local record merchant, Sam Morrison, promoted Elvis Presley's *That's All*

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Right, Mama, by playing it on loudspeakers. He sold hundreds of copies including two to an RCA talent scout who sent a copy to his boss in New York. Some months later, RCA bought Elvis' contract from Sun Studios in Memphis, and the rest is history.

16. **Walk through** Market Square, and pick out a good place to eat and keep that in mind to motivate you as you walk. It will be easy to return here at the end of your walk to do some shopping, stop for a bite to eat, or just listen to the music that will likely be playing. Market Square was established in the 1850s and, considering its storied history, is considered by some to be the birth place of country music.
17. Note the Tennessee Women's Suffrage Memorial and the Liberty Bell replica.
18. **Cross** the Union Ave at the end of Market Square, **enter Krutch Park** through the two pillars. There are over a dozen art pieces to enjoy as you walk through the park with Market Street to your right. In addition to the sculptures, note the murals seen through the trees. Painted by local high school students, they represent Knoxville's musical history and culture.
19. When you reach the end of the park at Clinch Ave, the building across the street which is now the East Tennessee History Center and Knox County Public Library was the Old Custom House, Knoxville's first federal building, built in 1874. This was a popular place for entertainers, and one such entertainer was a clerk by the name of Bob Taylor. 'Fiddlin' Bob went on to become Governor and later Senator Taylor. While serving as governor, he mentored the early career of 'Fiddlin' John Carson, who became the first country music recording star.
20. **Turn left** on Clinch Ave
21. **Turn left** at the alley; then **turn right** to walk through the park between the buildings.
22. **Turn right** at Gay Street.
23. The building to your right, the Capitol Building, hosted the WROL studios in the 1940s and 50s, and became the center of a new country music movement, bluegrass. Numerous bluegrass pioneers, like Flatt and Scruggs, performed regularly here. On December 7, 1941, a young disc jockey, "Tennessee" Ernie Ford, was among the first to announce the bombing of Pearl Harbor to the people of East Tennessee.
24. As you **cross** Clinch Ave, the Museum of East Tennessee will be on your right. Well worth the \$5 admission, and a real value on Sunday when admission is free. (M-F 9-4, Sat 10-4, Sun 1-5)
25. Also, as you cross Clinch Ave., on your left across Gay Street you will see The Tennessee Theater, built in 1927 as a "motion picture palace." However, from its beginnings, it offered live music and weekend talent shows. Roy Acuff's first public performance was here. He is quoted as saying that he never won first prize in the talent competition due to the quality of the Knoxville musicians in those days.
26. When you get to W. Church Ave., look to your right for the iconic Rowing Man Statue.
27. Just after W. Church on the left, the Mechanics Bank & Trust Co. building hosted the studios of WROL-AM. The Everly Brothers performed here until leaving after a dispute. A former Knoxvilleian, Chet Atkins, invited them to come to Nashville where their harmonies became world famous.
28. In the 1940s where the First Tennessee building is now, Staub's Opera House, operating under the name of The Lyric Theater, hosted WNOX's legendary live weekend show, *The Tennessee Barn Dance*.
29. At Cumberland Ave., to your right is the Bijou Theater, built in 1909 as an addition to the Lamar House Hotel. The hotel, built in 1817, was a gathering place for Knoxville's wealthy. Five presidents would lodge there over time. The Union Army used the hotel as a hospital for its war wounded. The Bijou replaced the rear wing of the hotel building and over 40 years hosted such notables as the Marx Brothers, Dizzy Gillespie, John Philip Sousa, and Ethel Barrymore. After a decline in the 60s and 70s, the building was purchased by local preservationists who have renovated the theater to its former glory.
30. **Cross** and **turn right** on Main St. and note the sign commemorating The Early Days—The Banjo and The Knoxville Girl.
31. The building on your left is the old Knox County Courthouse. Gov. John Sevier and

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his wife are buried on the grounds. Knoxville was the Capital of Tennessee from 1796 to 1812 with the exception of one day in 1807 when the legislature met in Kingston. The building on your right is the new Federal Court House. The building next to the Old Knox County Courthouse is the Knox County Jail in the City/County Building.

32. **Cross** Walnut Street and **continue** along Main to **turn right** on Locust St. at the Bank of America Building.
33. **Cross** Cumberland Ave. and West Church to **turn left** onto Clinch Ave. Take the **Skybridge** to ease crossing Henley St. [**If the Skybridge is closed**, cross Clinch Ave at the light, turn left, and walk along Clinch to cross Henley St. at the light. Then turn left to cross back over Clinch putting you at the Skybridge exit.]
34. As you exit the Skybridge and walk along Clinch Ave., toward the SunSphere (266-foot tower topped by a 5-story gold globe) in the 70-acre World's Fair Park, which was the site of the 1982 World's Fair, officially known as the Knoxville International Energy Exposition. You will be coming back by the SunSphere; so plan to take the elevator to the observation floor (free). The view and historic photos of the World's Fair are well worth the time.
35. **Continue** on Clinch Ave.
36. **5 k Walkers: Turn right** on World's Fair Park Drive and **SKIP to Step 50**
10 k Walkers: Continue on Clinch Ave. to cross World's Fair Park Dr and 11th St.
37. **Turn left** onto 12th St
38. **Walk** along 12th, **crossing** White Ave. to the Skybridge
39. Use the **Skybridge (5 km)** to cross over Cumberland Ave. onto the main campus of the University of Tennessee. Looking across the road and to the right you can see Ayres Hall at the top of the hill and to its right the Austin Peay Administration Building.
40. The road that you are crossing (Cumberland Ave) is an extension of Kingston Pike, and both are also known as Lee Highway. In its day, this highway was noted as a route for local moonshiners in their souped up hot-rods transporting their product made out in the mountains to their customers. The cult classic movie (*Thunder Road*) was based loosely on an incident in which a driver transporting moonshine was said to have crashed to his death on Kingston Pike between Bearden Hill and Morrell Road. Per Metro Pulse writer Jack Renfro, the incident occurred in 1952 and may have been witnessed by local author James Agee, who passed the story on to Robert Mitchum, who co-wrote the screenplay, produced the film, and is rumored to have done much of the directing.
41. **Exit** the Skybridge to your **right** and **go right** on Middle Drive to merge with Circle Drive [The area to your left is known as "The Hill" for obvious reasons], and then walk out to your right to Cumberland Ave.
42. Once at Cumberland Ave., **turn left** to walk along Cumberland, crossing Phillip Fulmer Way/James Agee St. and Volunteer Blvd/16th St.
43. **Just after 16th St.**, take the sidewalk to your left to go up hill and then over the pedestrian overpass crossing Cumberland Ave.
44. Once across Cumberland Ave., **turn left** to walk along Cumberland Ave. You will arrive at an area known as "The Strip." Lots of places to eat and drink along here.
45. **Continue to 17th and turn right**
46. **Turn right** onto Clinch Ave.
47. At **16th St and Clinch Ave**, note the Civil War Monument to the 79th NY Infantry who aided in the defense of Knoxville. This is the location of the Battle of Fort Sanders where the Highlanders helped inflict a massive defeat on Longstreet's troops. This position was a bastioned earthwork on top of the hill which formed a salient at the northeast corner of Knoxville's defenses. The Confederates attacked with 3,000 men on the morning of November 29, 1863, and following vicious close quarter fighting were forced to retreat having lost 813 men, killed, wounded, and missing. The 79th only had nine casualties out of a total Federal loss of 20 killed and 80 wounded.
48. Walking along Clinch Ave, **cross** James Agee St. [Named for American author, journalist, poet, screenwriter, and film critic born in Knoxville on this street in 1909], 14th, 13th, 12th, and 11th Streets, and World's Fair Park Drive.

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49. **Turn left** onto World's Fair Park Drive.
50. Note the Knoxville Museum of Art on your right. KMA is a contemporary art museum committed to developing exhibitions by emerging artists of national and international reputation. Stop in to see the free exhibits (Open Tues-Sat 10-5 and Sun. 1-5) **[Water and Restrooms may be available]**
51. As you pass the Knoxville Museum of Art, look to your right to see the historic L&N Station across the park. This was a former rail passenger station built in 1905 by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The L&N Railroad planned this elegant Knoxville station to rival the Southern Terminal which you saw at Step 8 as you crossed the Gay Street Viaduct. Considered by some to be the "finest" station along the L&N's entire Cincinnati-Atlanta line, it served as a passenger station until the L&N ceased passenger train service to Knoxville in 1968. It housed L&N offices until 1975, and was renovated for use in the 1982 World's Fair. It is currently home to the Knox County STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics) Academy.
52. **Turn right** into the KMA parking lot and then continue to your left along the public parking lot as it curves right and downhill.
53. At the end of the parking lot, **turn right** onto Grand Ave. and then right to **enter World's Fair Park**.
54. As you walk into World's Fair Park along World's Fair Park Dr., the Tennessee Veterans' Memorial will be on your left. **Walk into this memorial** to honor the memories of those of East Tennessee who gave their all for our freedom.
55. **Walk back out** of the Veterans' Memorial, **turn left**, and **walk through the metal fence and right** around the fountain (The fountain may not be active off season.).
56. Continue along the sidewalk, curving right with the green space on your left.
57. As you approach the Clinch Ave. Viaduct, there are restrooms on your right, and a **Little Free Library** on your left.
58. **Pass under** the left side of the Clinch Ave. At the base of the SunSphere is your opportunity to take the elevator up to the Observation Floor (free).
59. With the SunSphere on your left, take one set of steps up, turn right, and walk toward Cumberland Ave. (World's Fair Park will be to your right and the Knoxville Convention Center on your left)
60. As you approach the end of the Convention Center, **walk next to the guard rail** on your right. Look over the guard rail to see the city's representation of a mountain cascade (may not be operating off season)
61. At Cumberland Ave. (unmarked), **turn left**, walk up Cumberland Ave. and carefully **cross** Henley St.
62. **Continue** on Cumberland Ave, **crossing** Locust.
63. As you **cross** Walnut, to your right is the James Park House. The house's foundation was built by Governor John Sevier in 1790s and the house itself was built by Knoxville merchant and mayor, James Park in 1812, making it the second-oldest building in downtown Knoxville.
64. **10 k Walkers: SKIP to Step 67**
5 k Walkers: Turn left on Market St. and continue through Market Square.
65. **Turn right on Wall Ave**
66. **Turn left on Gay St. SKIP to Step 76**
67. With the Bijou on your right, **turn left** on Gay St. and walk to W. Church Ave.
68. **Turn right** to cross Gay St and walk along W. Church.
69. At Hall of Fame Drive, **curve right**.
70. As you walk along Hall of Fame Drive, look to your left to see the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame which opened in June 1999. The Hall is dedicated to all levels of women's basketball as they "Honor the Past, Celebrate the Present, Promote the Future." It is certainly worthy of a visit.(\$)
71. At the intersection of Hill and Hall of Fame Drive, **turn right** onto Hill Ave. To your right is James White Fort (\$) which was built (1786) by James White, the Founder of Knoxville. The Fort was restored in 1970. The town he founded was named for Henry Knox, president Washington's Secretary of War. Among other land donations was land for establishment of Blount College, which would become the University of Tennessee.
72. **Continue** along Hill Ave, **crossing** State St. to Gay St. To your left is Blount Mansion,

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known to the Cherokee Indians as the House with Many Eyes due to its many windows. This was home to William Blount, a signer of the United States Constitution and Governor of the Territory United States South of the River Ohio. He moved his capital to Knoxville before the city yet existed, and construction on his home began in 1792. The house is notable in part because was built of sawn lumber unlike the rough logs or hand-hewn timbers of other construction of the day.

73. Turn right on Gay Street.

74. The building on your right was the Andrew Johnson Hotel. Its top floor was the original site of WNOX's *Midday Merry-Go-Round*. An early star of this live country music variety show was a little known fiddler, Roy Acuff. In a sad historical note, Hank Williams spent the last night of his life in this hotel. It is thought that he most likely died in the hotel, but was transported to West Virginia where he was pronounced dead.

75. Follow Gay St. back to the Visitor Center

76. On your right (across the street for 5 k Walkers) is the "youngest" store in the Mast General Store family. The building was constructed around 1898, and its furnishings span the decades from early 1900s to today. If you have never been in a Mast General Store, you owe it to yourself to stop in for a visit. Shopping in a Mast General Store is an adventure. **[Water and Restrooms]**

77. As you approach W. Summit Hill Dr., notice the mural on the side of the Knoxville Visitor Center.

Thanks to the Knoxville Visitor Center for hosting our Walk Box and to the East Tennessee Historical Society for much of the information provided with these directions.

We encourage you to listen to WDVX, a listener supported radio station with studios in the Knoxville Visitor Center.

POC: Dan Lewis (865) 441-2429

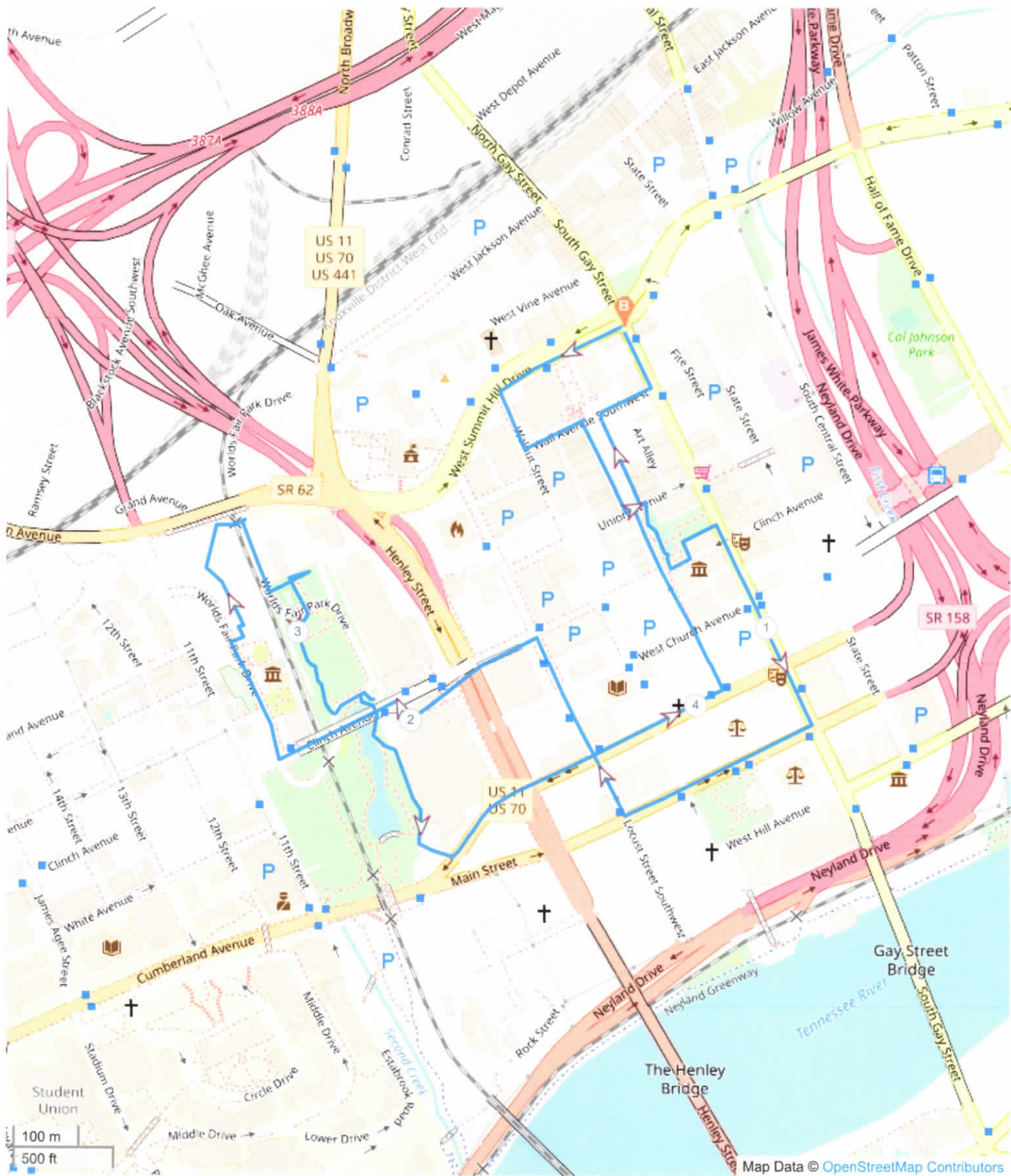
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CONGRATULATIONS on completing your walk.

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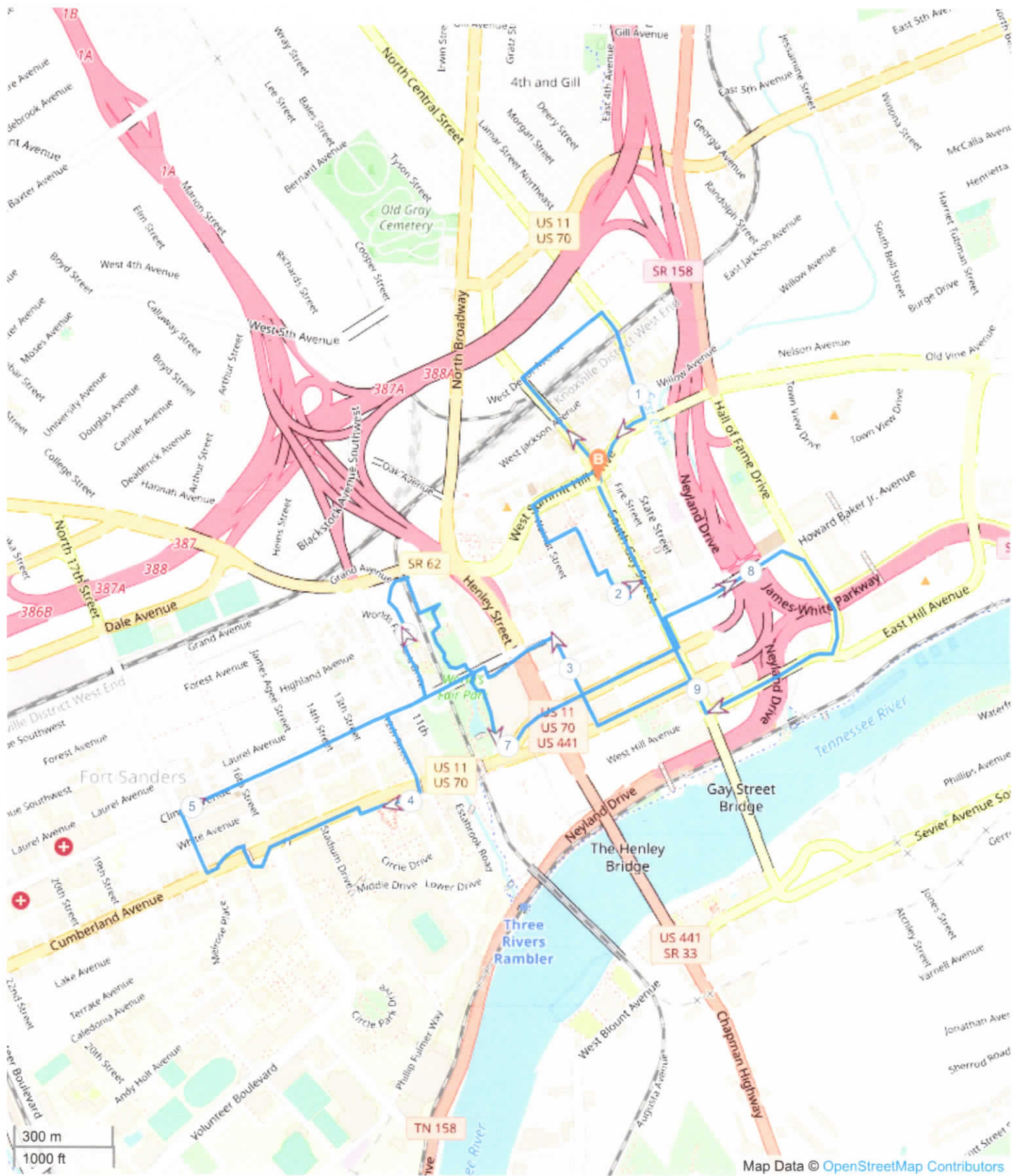
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KNOXVILLE MUSIC, MOONSHINE, AND ART 5K WALK©



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KNOXVILLE MUSIC, MOONSHINE, AND ART 10K WALK



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