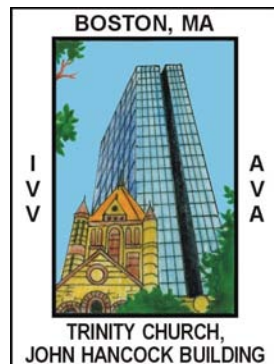


# BOSTON

## Massachusetts

### Capital City Walks

1. **Freedom Trail**  
*11 and 6km Walks*
2. **Back Bay**  
*10 and 5km Walks*
3. **Special Places**  
*10km Walk*



**January 1 - December 20, 2010**

**START/FINISH:** Boston National Historic Park Visitor Center  
15 State Street  
Boston, MA (across from the Old State House)  
Tel: 617-242-5642

**START/FINISH TIMES:** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (*Hours Visitor Center is open.*)  
*Closed New Year's Day and Thanksgiving.*

#### **AWARD:**

This year's award, available for \$7.00 including IVV Credit, is a four-inch fully embroidered patch of two magnificent structures located in Copley Square—the Hancock Tower and Trinity Church. The tallest building in New England, the John Hancock Tower is a prominent feature in the Boston skyline, and when you are close to the building, its glass skin reflects the surrounding historical buildings with subtle distortions of color and shape. Founded in 1773, the historic Trinity Church is a masterpiece of American architecture. Inside are some of the nation's greatest works of mural and stained-glass art available for you to experience. One unique "B" award from a previous year is available for \$4.00 which includes IVV Credit.

**These walks qualify as Authors and Literary Landmarks, Historic Churches, Hooray for Hollywood, Museum, Riverwalk America and State Capital Events.**

**The Freedom Trail walk is also a Cemetery Stroll, Firehouses, Law Enforcement, Liberty Bell and Railroad Heritage Event.**

**The Back Bay walk is also an Artistic Heritage, Gardens, Liberty Bell and Veteran Memorial Event.**

**The Special Places walk is also an Artistic Heritage, Firehouses and Railroad Heritage Event.**

#### **TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS:**

Boston, known as "America's Walking City," is steeped in history and tradition. The trails follow downtown city streets and walkways, exploring a plethora of historic sites, monuments, museums and landmarks.

1. The 11km **Freedom Trail** walk (**voted #1 in AVA's Top 10 YREs in 1996 and #8 in 2000**) includes Boston Common, set off for common use in 1634; Paul Revere's home, oldest in Boston (1680); King's Chapel, site of the first Anglican Church in New England (1686); the Old State House (1713); Faneuil Hall, the site of political debates for over 2 centuries; Old North Church, where lanterns warned of the British march on Concord; Bunker Hill Monument, site of the 1775 battle; the Granary Burying Ground, where Samuel Adams, John Hancock and Mother Goose are buried; the State House built in 1798; the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned ship in the US Navy (1787); Saint-Gaudens' tribute to the Civil War's first black regiment; the waterfront; and downtown shopping areas.

The 6km route concentrates on the sites and events in the central Boston area including a portion of the Rose Kennedy Greenway. Both walk routes have an AVA rating of 1.5, suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.

2. The 10km and 5km **Back Bay/Beacon Hill** walks (**voted #5 in AVA's Top 10 YREs in 2001**) focus on the charming Beacon Hill residential district; the center mall of Commonwealth Avenue, considered one of the world's greatest streets because of its architecture and statues; the sidewalk cafes of Newbury Street; Copley Square; the John Hancock Observatory; the Public Garden and its famous Swan Boats and "Make Way for Ducklings" sculpture; the reflecting pool of the Christian Science Center, and "Cheers" pub. A portion of the walk is inside elegant Copley Place and the Prudential Center, where Tiffany's, Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue set the tone.

The 10km route continues past Symphony Hall, the Museum of Fine Arts and the Muddy River. The 5km route does not qualify as a Riverwalk America event. Both walk routes have an AVA rating of 1, suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.

3. The 10km **Special Places** route explores some of Boston's lesser known gems in this visually rich and walkable city. The route includes Liberty Square; the place where Bell invented the telephone; the site of Massachusetts' ratification of the Constitution; the elegant Harrison Gray Otis House; Bay Village; the Custom House Tower; Chinatown; and the Esplanade along the Charles River. The AVA rating is 1, suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.

**POC:** Ernest and Agnes Laviolette  
5 Kent Drive  
Hudson, MA 01749-1113  
Tel: 978-562-7023  
ealavio@verizon.net

Don and Polly Meltzer  
341 Old Lancaster Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776  
Voice/TDD: 978-443-8513  
Meltzwalk@aol.com

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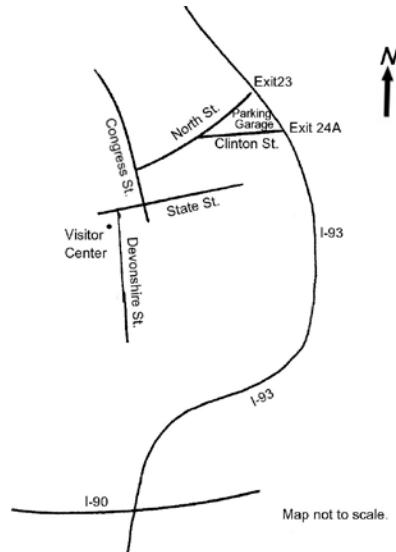
### **DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO START/FINISH:**

**From the North:** Take I-93 South to Exit 24A (Government Center). Bear **RIGHT** at the end of ramp onto Clinton St. (Government Center Parking Garage on right.) Either walking or driving, continue on Clinton Street to the end. **LEFT** onto North Street. **\*\*LEFT** on Congress Street. First **RIGHT** onto State Street, then a quick **LEFT** onto Devonshire Street. Visitor Center on the right next to the Old State House.

**From the South:** Take I-93 North to Exit 23 (Government Center). **\*\*\*LEFT** on North Street to the end. Follow from **\*\*** above.

**From the West:** Follow I-90 (Mass Pike) to I-93 North. I-93 North to Exit 23 (Government Center). Follow from **\*\*\*** above under “From the South” directions.

**PARKING** in Boston is expensive and challenging. Public transportation is recommended. If you do drive, public parking is available at the Government Center Garage at the junction of Merrimac, Congress and New Sudbury streets (2 blocks north of the Visitor Center); the Dock Square Garage (about 2 blocks east); and the Post Office Square underground garage (about 2 blocks south). Rates are lower on weekends.



### **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DIRECTIONS:**

Boston has an excellent subway system with two stations near the start (Government Center on the Green and Blue Lines, and State Street on the Orange and Blue Lines). For information: [www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com)

**From the West (95/128):** Take Exit 22 (Grove St.). Follow signs for Riverside (Green Line). All day parking is \$5.75. For fare information, see [www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com) Hotel Indigo is adjacent to the station.

**From the North:** Park at Wonderland Station (Blue Line) on Rt. 1A in Revere.

**From the South:** Park at Quincy Adams Station (Red Line) at I-93 and Rt. 3 in Quincy. Change to Orange Line at Downtown Crossing.

**From the Northwest:** Park at Alewife Station (Red Line) at the junction of Rts. 2 and 16 in Cambridge. Change to Orange Line at Downtown Crossing.

**By Commuter Rail from the Suburbs:** From North Station, take the Green Line to Government Center. From South Station, get off at Back Bay and take the Orange Line to State Street.