

## Corporate Sponsors

The following have generously donated their resources to help make the **NatickWALKS** program possible

### Safety Tips

- Check the "Rating" and "Length" to be sure that you are capable of walking this.
- If possible, walk with someone you know.
- Always know where you are.
- Let someone know where you are walking.
- Use the crosswalks and obey traffic lights.
- Carry a whistle or loud horn and cell phone
- Take water and a snack.
- Don't walk in the dark, trails are for daylight only

### Parking

If there is no parking available; find a legal parking spot elsewhere and walk to the start.

Note: Parking is not allowed on private property.

### Dog Owners

Keep dogs on leash. Pick up after your dog. It's the law.

### Health Tips

- Consult your physician before strenuous exercise.
- Wear comfortable shoes that provide support.
- Eat and drink an hour before walking; bring water.
- Use the restroom before walking (most trails do not have access to bathroom facilities).
- Rest when you are tired.

### NOTE

All public parks & trails in Natick are drug and alcohol free. No motorized vehicles. No weapons. No fireworks. No glass containers. No littering. No smoking. No fires.

\* Available in alternative formats upon request.

For more information contact  
[natickwalks@mail.com](mailto:natickwalks@mail.com)



## MetroWest Medical Center

Framingham Union Hospital • Leonard Morse Hospital



## Town of Natick Sidewalk Tour Guide

### From Downtown

S2 Walnut Hill / Town Forest

S3 Wellesley College

## From Downtown

### S2 Walnut Hill / Town Forest

### S3 Wellesley College

#### Rating:

Accessible

#### Basic Distance:

2.25 miles to Wellesley College along RT135

1.0 miles to Town Forest (Bacon St. entrance)

1.0 miles through Walnut Hill area.

#### Start & End Points:

Start on the Natick Common facing Town Hall.

End when you get to Wellesley College.

#### Conditions/Traffic:

Mostly sidewalks; There is a set of traffic lights (intersection of 135/Union); stay on the sidewalks on the South side of RT 135.

#### Facilities:

No public restrooms outside downtown, although there are at Wellesley College.

Pay phones at several locations along Route 135, including Central Street Grill and Town Line Liquors, also on the campus.

#### S2 To Town Forest:

- Head down Washington St. (across from Town Hall). From Washington to South Ave. there is the Morse Institute and several businesses. Part of the building on the corner of Washington and South Ave. is the old Natick Theater built in the late 1800's; it later became Kemp's Bowlway, a part of downtown for 40 years.
- Right onto South Ave. mostly businesses, see Casey's Diner and at the end are several houses dating from the mid- to late-19th Century, some listed with the Natick Historical Commission.
- Right onto Dewey, which connects to RT 135.

- Left on Marion St. across the "Tilly" Ciccarelli Bridge (one of the oldest bridges of its type in Massachusetts) straight to Bacon St. This is one of the highest points in town, Pheasant Hill, and a house dating back to 1748.
- At the end of Marion, you can cross the street and enter the Town Forest.

Or take a left onto Walnut and walk past

Walnut Hill School.

- Or take a right onto Bacon and walk past Tilly and Salvy's Farm Stand as well as the Jehovah Witness Hall, and proceed to Oak Street.
- At the corner of Bacon and Oak is the Lilja School, one of several schools in town built shortly after World War II. Most of the surrounding neighborhoods were built up around that time, and reflect that era – Eisenhower Dr., MacArthur Rd., Nimitz Circle; well-established, quiet neighborhoods.
- Go left on Oak for 0.5 mi (toward RT 9) and you'll encounter one end of the Town Forest trail as well as Jennings Pond and Little Jennings Pond.

#### S2 Through Walnut Hill Area:

- Another route that begins just over the bridge on Marion St. continues with a left at North Ave; while hilly, it is sidewalked, and the route features many fine houses from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It also has several side streets, including Rice, which leads onto Harvard St. Extension; Tibbetts and Franklin, which lead onto Harvard Street; Washington Street, which goes from Route 135 to Shattuck Street; and on to Route 27 past the Outdoor Store and the former Harwood Baseball Factory as well as the commuter rail station.
- Down North Avenue, take a right onto Walnut Street. As you approach Walnut Hill School, note the many residences from the late 19th and early 20th century.
- If you take a left onto Grove Street and head toward Route 27, or left onto Winnemay and onto Willow, there are more of these elegant houses, many of them restored. This is a hilly area, with sidewalks on one side of the street. As you walk down Grove toward Charles, you'll come across a set of wonderful late 19th century Victorian houses, some of these renovated just within the past few years.

- Another area to explore; take a right from Walnut onto Highland St. With the school on your left and nice old houses on the right, this is a nice walk in the autumn. From the top of the hill, look to the south and see the church steeples of St. Pat's and First Congregational.
- Continue onto Highland Ave and see one of the town's last greenhouses; head down Florence to (#39) where Horatio Alger died in 1899.
- Go left on Harvard and you'll be at the foot of Blueberry Hill.
- Take a right on Vale St, a left on North Ave, and a right on Marion St. to get back to RT135.

#### S3 To Wellesley College:

Head East on RT135. You will pass the following:

- Morse Institute Library, original building erected in 1873 and one of the few buildings to survive the Natick Fire of 1874;
- Police/Fire building and Town Hall, both built in late 1990s;
- St. Patrick's Parish, built in 1892;
- Natick Armory, built in 1912 for the local companies of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia;
- Lincoln Square, which divides Route 135 from Marion Street;
- Kathleen Kennedy Senior Center/Natick District Court, originally the Lincoln Elementary School, which was built in 1949;
- Railroad tracks currently used for Amtrak, MBTA commuter rail service and Conrail originally built in 1830s, with a depression of the track performed in the 1890s.
- There are several side streets, most of these short, but making for a pleasant side trip.
- Just after the Wellesley town line is Pond Road, which links 135 to Route 16 and is a favorite with walkers and cyclists.

## Content by

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