

Lowell, MA

January 1 - December 31, 2018

10 and 5km Historic Waterways Walks

START/FINISH:

Lowell National Historical Park
Visitor Center
246 Market Street
Lowell, MA 01852
Tel: 978-970-5000
www.nps.gov/lowe/index.htm

TIMES: Daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Closed New Year's Day,
Thanksgiving, & Christmas.**



For GPS, use 304 Dutton Street, Lowell, MA to arrive in parking lot.

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS: The walk is comprised of two 5km loops.

The **Pawtucket Falls Loop** goes through a business district, along the western canalway, past two churches over 100 years old and through the historic Acre neighborhood. The trail leads down to the Pawtucket Falls and across the Merrimack River before ascending a slight hill towards part of the UMass-Lowell campus and back into town. Sights in town include the library, local businesses, city hall, and the Whistler Museum before returning to the Start/Finish.

The **Rivers & Canals Loop** departs the Visitor Center and heads to the Pawtucket Canal, then the Lower Gate Locks, and past Middlesex Community College. The trail winds its way through a small business district to Boott Mills and out to the Merrimack River. Walking along the river, you pass behind Tsongas Arena and LeLacheur Stadium (home of the Lowell Spinners, a Boston Red Sox minor league affiliate), through part of the UMass-Lowell campus and to the Northern Canal. Other sights on this loop include the Merrimack Canal, Lucy Larcom Park, B&M steam locomotive #410, the New England Quilt Museum, and the Streetcar Museum before returning to the Start/Finish.

RATING: Both routes are relatively flat with an AVA rating of 1A. These routes are doable for strollers but **not suitable for wheelchairs.**

AWARD: The "A" award is a fully embroidered patch featuring a bridge over the Merrimack River near the Mile of Mills, a view seen along the Pawtucket Falls loop. This patch is available for \$7.00 which includes IVV Credit.



AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Amphitheatres, Boardwalks, Bridges, National Parks Centennial, Points of Reference, Take a Walk In a City Park, US Post Offices, and USA Street by Street Event

DIRECTIONS:

From the West:

1. Take I-90 (Mass Pike) toward Boston to Exit 11A (495 North).
2. 495 North to Exit 35C (Lowell Connector).
3. **Lowell Connector to Exit 5B (Thorndike Street).
4. Follow Thorndike St. as it bends right and becomes Dutton Street. *Brown & white Lowell National Park signs along road.*
5. **RIGHT** into Lowell National Park Visitor Center parking lot.

From the North:

1. I-93 South to Exit 44B (495 South).
2. 495 South to Exit 35C (Lowell Connector).
3. Follow from ** above.

From Route 95 North or South:

1. Route 95 to Route 3 North toward Burlington.
2. Route 3 North to Exit 30B (Lowell Connector).
3. Follow from ** above.

From Providence:

1. Route 95 North to Route 495 North.
2. 495 North to Exit 35C (Lowell Connector).
3. Follow from ** above.

PARKING: in Lowell National Park lot at **304 Dutton Street**. Go through toll gate and take ticket. After parking, follow signs to Visitor Center. Rangers will validate ticket for free parking.

POC:

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

David Byers
Tel: 978-970-5028
david_byers@nps.gov

