

Wilkommen VOLKSMARCH



Stroll the beautiful
historic districts of
Decatur, Alabama

What is a Volksmarch?

A Volksmarch (from German Volksmarsch meaning "peoples' march") is a form of non-competitive fitness walking that developed in Germany and other parts of Europe. A Volksmarch trail usually goes through woods or near historic or scenic areas. It is designed to appeal to everyone and it is not a contest of speed or endurance. Volksmarching (walking) is good exercise and encourages outdoor physical activity for people of all ages and physical condition. It is a great family activity, it is lots of fun and provides an opportunity to make new friends from all over.

The Decatur Volksmarch offers both a 5K (approximately 3.1 miles) and a 10K (approximately 6.2 mile) route through our Historic Districts featuring Victorian era craftsman and bungalow homes. Routes start at Country Inn & Suites, adjacent to the Old State Bank Museum.



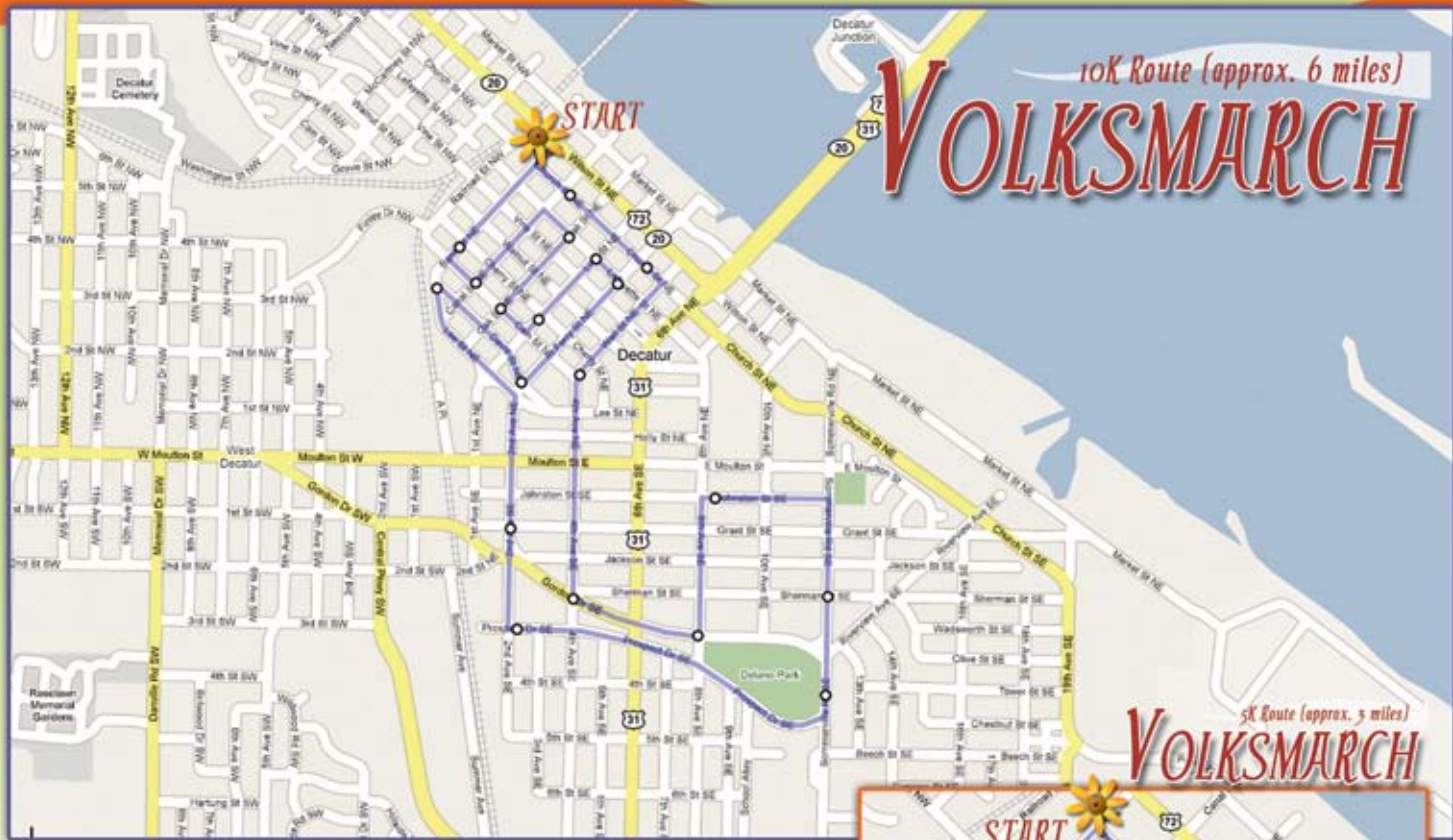
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www.decaturcvb.org

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10K Route (approx. 6 miles) VOLKSMARCH

5K Route (approx. 3 miles) VOLKSMARCH



Decatur prides itself on having the largest concentration of Victorian era craftsman and bungalow homes in the state of Alabama, affectionately called "The Painted Ladies." Old Decatur and New Albany are the two historic districts of Decatur. These homes date back, in some instances, to the early 1800s, while others were constructed around the turn of the 20th century. Slight differences are expressed in architectural styles, but both districts display a host of well-kept Victorian homes. The homes are private residences and can only be viewed from the outside.

The Old Decatur Historic District dates from the town settlement in 1820 when land taken by the federal government from the Cherokee Indians was sold at auction. Market and Bank Streets were primarily business streets while the oak-lined residential area was slowly developed for homes prior to the War Between the States.

The 5K Fit-trip (approximately 3 miles), takes participants past the Old State Bank, built in 1833; the McEntire House, built in 1836; the Carnegie Library, built in 1904; and St. John's Episcopal Church, which burned in 1889, rebuilt and updated in 1893, and physically turned around in 1948.

