DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Quality Inn Bradenton-Sarasota N
6727 14th St W (US-41), Bradenton

From I-75N: From I-75N: Take exit 213 onto University Pkwy. Left on Pkwy 5.2 mi to County Line Rd/W University Pkwy. Right .6 mile to 15th St./US 301. Bear right .9 mi to Tallevast Rd. Left 1.5 mi to US 41. Right 1.1 mi to hotel on right.

From I-275S: Take exit 5 for US-19S to Palmetto/ Bradenton. Keep left on US 19S to go onto US-41 S/S Tamiami Tr. Follow US 41 6 mi to 14th St. W. US41 goes left After left, hotel is 3 mi on left.

From Oscar Scherer SP: Exit park and right, following US-41/Tamiami Trail signs through Sarasota to Bradenton and hotel on right.

Oscar Scherer State Park
1843 S Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Shelter 3

From I-75N: take exit 195 to Laurel Rd E. Left and go 3 mi to US-4/ Tamiami Tr. Right and go 2.5 mi to park entrance on right. Enter park and follow park road to parking and shelter 3.

From I-75S: take exit 200 for FL-681 S toward Venice/Osprey. Right 3 mi to US-41/Tamiami Tr. Right about 2 mi to park on right. Enter; follow park road to parking/shelter 3.

From hotel: Exit parking lot to 14th St. W (US-41). Left; go 20 mi, following US-41/Tamiami Trail signs through Sarasota to Osprey and park on left.

Robinson Preserve
1704 99th St NW, Bradenton, Pavilion 1

From hotel: Exit parking lot and right onto 14th St. W. Go .1 mi to Florida Blvd. Left 1.3 mi to 34th St. W. Right .3 mi to Conquistador Pkwy. Right on Pkwy 11 mi to 2nd circle. Take 2nd exit onto 75th St. W. Drive about 5 mi to 17th Ave. (You'll pass SOUTH entrance to preserve on 9th Ave.). Left 1.5 mi to 99th St NW and NORTH park entrance. Parking & pavilion are on left.

From I-75N: Take exit 220 onto FL 64W (becomes Manatee Ave) to Bradenton. Go 10 mi to 75th St. W. Right to 17th Ave. Left 1.5 mi to 99th St. NW and park entrance. Parking & pavilion are on left.

From I-275S: Take exit 5/US 19S to Palmetto/Bradenton. Keep left on U-S 19S to go onto US-41 S/S Tamiami Tr. After crossing bridge, get in right lane to turn right onto Manatee Ave. Go 4.5 mi to 75th St. W. Right to 17th Ave. Left 1.5 mile to 99th St. NW and park entrance. Parking & pavilion are on left.

Anna Maria Oyster Bar Landside
6906 14th St. W, Bradenton

The restaurant is .2 mi south and .1 mi west of the hotel. See driving directions to hotel for general location.

Rossi Park (Riverwalk)
452 3rd Ave. W. Bradenton, FL

From hotel: Exit parking lot and right onto 14th St. W. Go 5 mi to 8th Ave. Right to 9th St. W. Left to 3rd Ave. Right .2 mi to parking lot/ park on left (Just after Performing Arts Center).
All others: See driving instructions on Walking Directions.

WALK AROUND FLORIDA 35
A PARK ODYSSEY
Bradenton
NOV 6-8 2026

4 Walks & a Swim in Manatee and Sarasota Counties

Host Club

Suncoast Sandpipers
Alice Lawrence
(727) 542-9742
pipers@tampabay.rr.com
Tampa Bay Region

50th Anniversary AMERICA'S WALKING CLUB

Sponsoring Clubs

Mid-Florida Milers
Cathy Metherell
(407) 375-2387
mcbmetherell@aol.com
Midfloridamilers.org
Central Florida

Happy Wanderers
John McClellan
(781) 686-0660
john.mcclellan1@outlook.com
Happywanderersfl.org
Daytona Beach Region

American Volkssport Association (AVA)
50th Anniversary Event

These events are sanctioned by the AVA, a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV), and count towards acquisition of IVV Achievement Awards

About WAF35

The Happy Wanderers, Mid-Florida Milers and Suncoast Sandpipers invite all to the 35th Walk Around Florida, a weekend of volkssports, friendship, and fun. This year we're hosting "A Park Odyssey," with epic challenges in city, county, state and national parks.

Volkssports. Sponsors are volkssport clubs that offer members events to earn credit towards distance and event accomplishments as they walk, bike and swim. Achievements are recorded with stamps in books which are sent to AVA headquarters for recording and recognition. If interested, new walker packets and IVV books will be on sale at events.

General Policies. Participants must sign an AVA Athletic Waiver for each event. A parent or guardian must sign for children under 18 (children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult). Water is at starts and checkpoints but Florida in fall can be warm; please carry water. Events are held rain or shine. We cannot make refunds for no shows. For the latest info, check websites listed on the cover or the AVA Sanction Info links for each event. Pets are permitted on all walks.

Fees & Award. Participation fee for each event is $4. Children are free if not stamping books. To celebrate the AVA's 50th Anniversary, a stainless steel mug marked for the occasion is offered for $12. There are only 25 mugs with no planned re-orders.

NEW PROCEDURE! On Fri, it is not necessary to check in at the lobby prior to walking at Oscar Scherer SP. You may proceed directly to the park, walk, and then go to the hotel to pick up activity card and name tag.

Registration. Preregistration is recommended for Sat lunch, required for dinner, and encouraged for walk/swim events (see enclosed registration form and waiver). At official check-in in the hotel dining area on Fri afternoon, participants receive name tags and activity cards annotated with preregistered events. Please present card at activities and checkpoints. If not preregistered, you may sign up for events and receive activity card on Fri. On Sat, Nov 7, unregistered participants sign up at walk start. Sunday's walk is the Bradenton Year Round Event (YRE). Registration forms and directions will be at the hotel on Fri, at Robinson Preserve on Sat and at the hotel from 8-9 a.m. on Sun.

The AVA or its subsidiary clubs are not responsible for theft or loss of personal belongings or property.

Accommodations. **Hotel HQ for WAF35 is Quality Inn Bradenton-Sarasota N. Rooms are $88 a day, plus 13% tax, for a king or two double bed rooms from Nov 5-8 (check-out Nov 9). Offer ends Oct 8. Make reservations online at Hotel link or call (941) 216-6382. If you call, provide group name, Walk Around Florida; group account, 5274124, & check-in/check-out dates.**

Social Fun. **At 6 p.m., Fri night, the Trojan Horse Taverna will open in the hotel, offering complimentary mocktails. After a sober sip, check the list of nearby restaurants to visit with friends. On Sat, pause between walks for a ham and cheese sub with pickles, chips and drink for $10. Bring a chair and find a shady spot on shady preserve grounds.**

Anna Maria Oyster Bar Landside (we're more than just oysters!). **Take an easy stroll from the hotel to a lively restaurant for an evening of food, fun and friendship on a deck reserved for WAF35. Offered will be soup or salad and a selection of seafood, chicken and pasta dishes (see registration form for more details.) Dinner is $40, tip included. There will be a no host bar.**

Event Description

Nov 6 Oscar Scherer State Park 5/10K Walk Sanction Number (SN) 131946

With 1400 acres of natural habitat, the park is home to a vast variety of plants and animals (including the Florida scrub jay). For years, it was a Florida Volkssport Association Year Round Event (YRE) and drew many international walkers. Walk is rated 1B, difficult for strollers and wheelchairs. Wear hat and use sunscreen. Park fees: $5 per car (up to 8 people); $4 single-occupant car. Link to AVA sanction info.

Nov 6-8 Hotel 300M Swim SN 131973

Complete 300M swim at the hotel pool or the G. T. Bray Aquatic Center for IVV event credit. Link to AVA Sanction Info.

Nov 7 Robinson Preserve 5/10K Walk SN 131846

Walkers will hike along trails that wind through lush landscapes with views of Tampa Bay and Anna Maria Island. Highlights are an observation tower and a canopy walkway that lets guests (the brave) walk among treetops. Walk is unshaded wear hat/use sunscreen. Walk is rated 1B, okay for wheelchairs and strollers. Link to AVA Sanction Info.

Nov 7 De Soto Memorial Park 6/ 7/10K Walk SN 131856

From Robinson Preserve, walkers tour neighboring Palma Sola Botanical Park, filled with flowering bushes and fragrant fruit trees. Route then moves on to Riverview Pointe Preserve with its magnificent Memorial Cross. Next is De Soto National Memorial, a park detailing the 1539 expedition of Conquistador Hernando de Soto and its impact on the area's indigenous people. Walk is rated 1B (sandy, uneven trails, not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers). Link to AVA Sanction Info.

Nov 8 Bradenton Year Round Event (YRE) 5/10K Walk SN 131856

Enjoy a hosted walk of the Suncoast Sandpipers YRE featuring the Riverwalk, a 5-acre park with a skatepark, 400-seat amphitheater, and a splash pad. Route highlights are the unique "Village of the Arts" neighborhood and a look at LECOM field, spring training home of the Pittsburg Pirates. Walk is rated 1A, easy! Link to AVA sanction info.

Special Programs

Oscar Scherer, Nov 6
Anniversaries Hurrah
Rails to Trails
Walk USA A-Z (O)

Robinson Pres., Nov 7
Anniversaries Hurrah
Par for the Course
Walk USA A-Z (B)

HAPPY Anniversary

De Soto Mem., Nov 7
Anniversaries Hurrah
Par for the Course
Walk USA A-Z (B)

Bradenton RW, Nov 8
Anniversaries Hurrah
Par for the Course
Step to the Beat
Walking with Veterans
Walk USA A-Z (B)

WAF35 Schedule of Events

Nov 6

Oscar Scherer SP 5/10K Walk	Start 10 a.m-1 p.m. Finish by 4 p.m.
Official Registration (Hotel)	Noon-6 p.m.
Hotel 300M Swim Hotel Pool*	Pool hours
The Trojan Horse Taverna	6-7 p.m.

Nov 7

Hotel 300M Swim Hotel Pool*	Pool hours
Robinson Pres. 5/10K Walk	Start 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Finish by 5 p.m.
De Soto Mem. 6/7/10K Walk	Start 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Finish by 5 p.m.
Ham Sub Lunch	11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Anna Maria Oyster House	Cocktails 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m.

Nov 8

Bradenton RW 5/10K Walk	Daylight hours Dining Area Registration 8-9 a.m.

*See swim instructions for information on Bray Aquatics Center option.