

WalkArlington

# WALKABOUT MAPS



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Updated 2023

WalkArlington is an Arlington County program that was created to encourage people to walk and use other forms of active and public transportation in Arlington, Virginia, and beyond.

Arlington is one of the most walk-friendly communities in the country, with a vast trail network, bustling urban villages, convenient commuter connections, and beautiful parks and public spaces. Arlington County is a pedestrian's paradise.

WalkArlington is proud to present these Walkabout maps, which cover most parts of Arlington and are a valuable resource for commuters, residents, and visitors seeking to understand and access walkable and bus-based connections between places that are not tied to transportation infrastructure, such as Metro.

Use the neighborhood maps in this brochure as inspiration to help you establish or grow your walking routine. If you're a commuter, use these maps to figure out the best walking route to the Metro, bus stop, or Bikeshare station nearest you. If you're new to Arlington County, use these maps to discover a new neighborhood or understand how different parts of the County connect to each other, while learning what transportation options are available.

Are there ways you can walk to run your errands? Maybe there's a good, walkable route to a favorite local destination that you didn't know about? These maps will help you get there on foot.

Enjoy, share, and use these Walkabout maps to make walking a part of your daily commute and healthy lifestyle, one step at a time.

For printable, full-page versions of each neighborhood map, visit [www.walkarlington.com/walkabout](http://www.walkarlington.com/walkabout).



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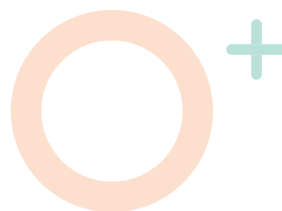
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# Arlington Forest

**Terrain** — Moderately challenging, slight uphills

Arlington Forest was designated a National Historic District by the National Park Service in 2005, more than 100 years after Henderson House, the first Arlington Forest residence, was built as a summer estate here in 1894. Today, the neighborhood retains a canopy of mature trees framing homes, shops, indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, and a network of parks, trails, and bus routes that connect north and south Arlington.

Visit Car-Free Near Me™ ([www.carfreenearme.com](http://www.carfreenearme.com)) for all your transportation options.



# Arlington Ridge/Aurora Highlands

**Terrain** — Mostly level trails, sidewalks, and streetscapes with a variety of street crossings, including crosswalks, bridges, and a tunnel

Home to local treasures like the Arlington Historical Society and national symbols like the Pentagon, Arlington Ridge and Aurora Highlands span two distinct neighborhoods and four centuries of Arlington history. Over the years, Revolutionary War-era roadways, urban renewal-era highways, modern-day Metro rail and bus routes, and timeless [sustainable] active transportation options have ensured that this well-connected community would thrive.

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# Ballston/Virginia Square

**Terrain** — Fairly flat with sidewalks, accessible walkways, and plentiful pedestrian amenities

Once a rural crossroads, present-day Ballston is Arlington's western-most "downtown" — a multimodal transportation hub, densely populated neighborhood, and lively destination for shopping, dining, and entertainment. Just one Metro stop east of bustling Ballston is Virginia Square, anchored by Metro, George Mason University's Mason Square campus, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington. Taken together, these two urban villages offer live-work-play attractions and commuting options for every walk of life.

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# Barcroft

**Terrain** — Mostly easy, with some hills

The Washington Post described Barcroft as a “photo album snapshot of an idyllic neighborhood from earlier times.” Dating back to the late 1800s, this community grew up around the Barcroft Mill and train station. Bounded by three major thoroughfares, dedicated bike lanes, and multi-use trails, it remains well-connected today.

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# Bluemont/Bon Air

**Terrain** — Mostly easy, with some hills

Unified by long-standing civic pride and a central geographic location, the Bluemont/Bon Air neighborhood boasts an unrivaled network of trails, no fewer than six parks, a thriving retail core, and myriad transportation options. From the days of Ball's Crossroads to the heyday of the W&OD Railroad to the arrival of Capital Bikeshare, this multi-faceted neighborhood has kept Arlington connected, in space and time, by rail, bus, bike, and foot.

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# Cherrydale

**Terrain**—Hilly, residential sidestreets and parkland, divided by a busy commercial corridor

Named after the cherry orchards planted here by early settlers in the 1800s, Cherrydale soon grew into a commuter railroad hub and convenient stop along nearby thoroughfares, complete with a quaint downtown and charming early 20th century homes. Today's Cherrydale has a reputation for neighborhood pride and civic activism and remains a crossroads of major roadways, trail networks, and transit routes.

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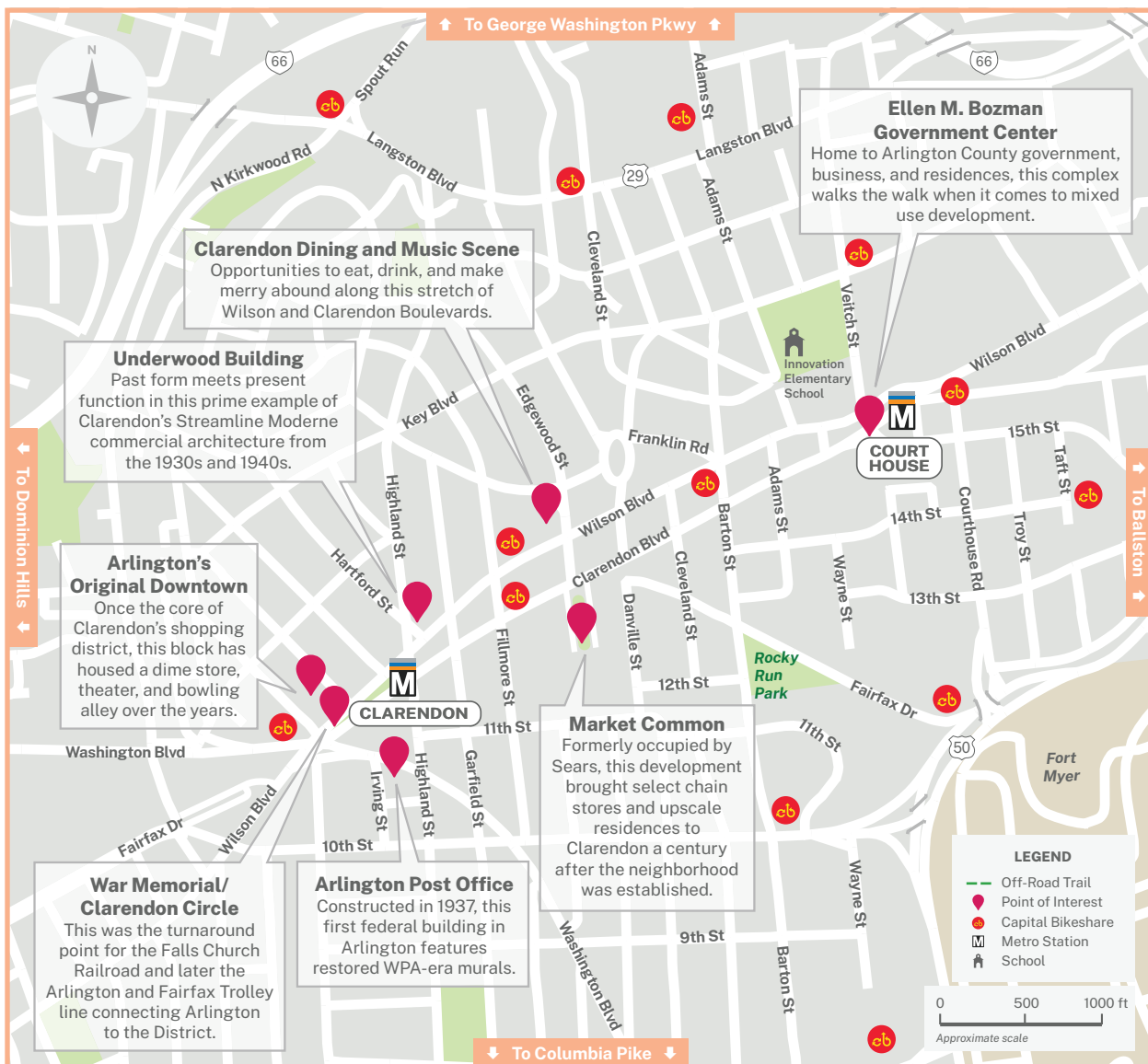


# Clarendon/Courthouse

**Terrain** — Mostly level, with sidewalks and one-way main streets divided by a central median and surrounded by residential sidestreets

Trolley service brought rapid growth to this area in the early 1900s, and Clarendon became the economic center of the County through the 1950s. Immigrants from Vietnam and elsewhere opened shops and restaurants in the 1970s and 1980s, earning Clarendon the nickname “Little Saigon.” Today, this neighborhood is a dynamic and diverse urban village, featuring shops, restaurants, residences, and two Metro stops, surrounded by tree-lined blocks of charming early 20th century homes.

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# Columbia Pike

**Terrain** — Flat with slightly hilly terrain; busy main thoroughfare flanked by parkland and residential neighborhoods

First travelled in 1801 when it was known as the Columbia Turnpike, this thoroughfare has become a cultural crossroads, linking nations and traditions from around the globe. Thriving international shops, businesses, and restaurants plus access to Metrobus, ART Bus, Capital Bikeshare, and pedestrian amenities make this corridor multi-cultural as well as multimodal.

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# Crystal City

**Terrain** — Flat urban streetscapes and interior/underground walkways, offset by parkland and riverfront trails

Crystal City’s industrial waterfront was transformed into a modern city through development in the 1960s, played host to federal government offices through the 1990s, and welcomed Amazon HQ2 in the 2020s. One of three thriving neighborhoods that make up National Landing, ever-evolving Crystal City is known for its world-class hotels and restaurants, businesses large and small, array of living options, access to green space, and a commuter’s dream of transportation modes, from trains to planes, biking to walking.

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# Dominion Hills

**Terrain**—Hilly, with winding streets, wide boulevards, and paved trails

First settled by Native Americans, then English colonists in the 1600s, this area remained largely rural from the Civil War to the early 1900s. Then Merwin “John” Mace bought land here in 1945, named it Dominion Hills, and built more than 400 homes by 1951. Today this arrowhead-shaped west Arlington neighborhood remains mostly residential with plenty of multimodal connections to commercial areas and transit options.

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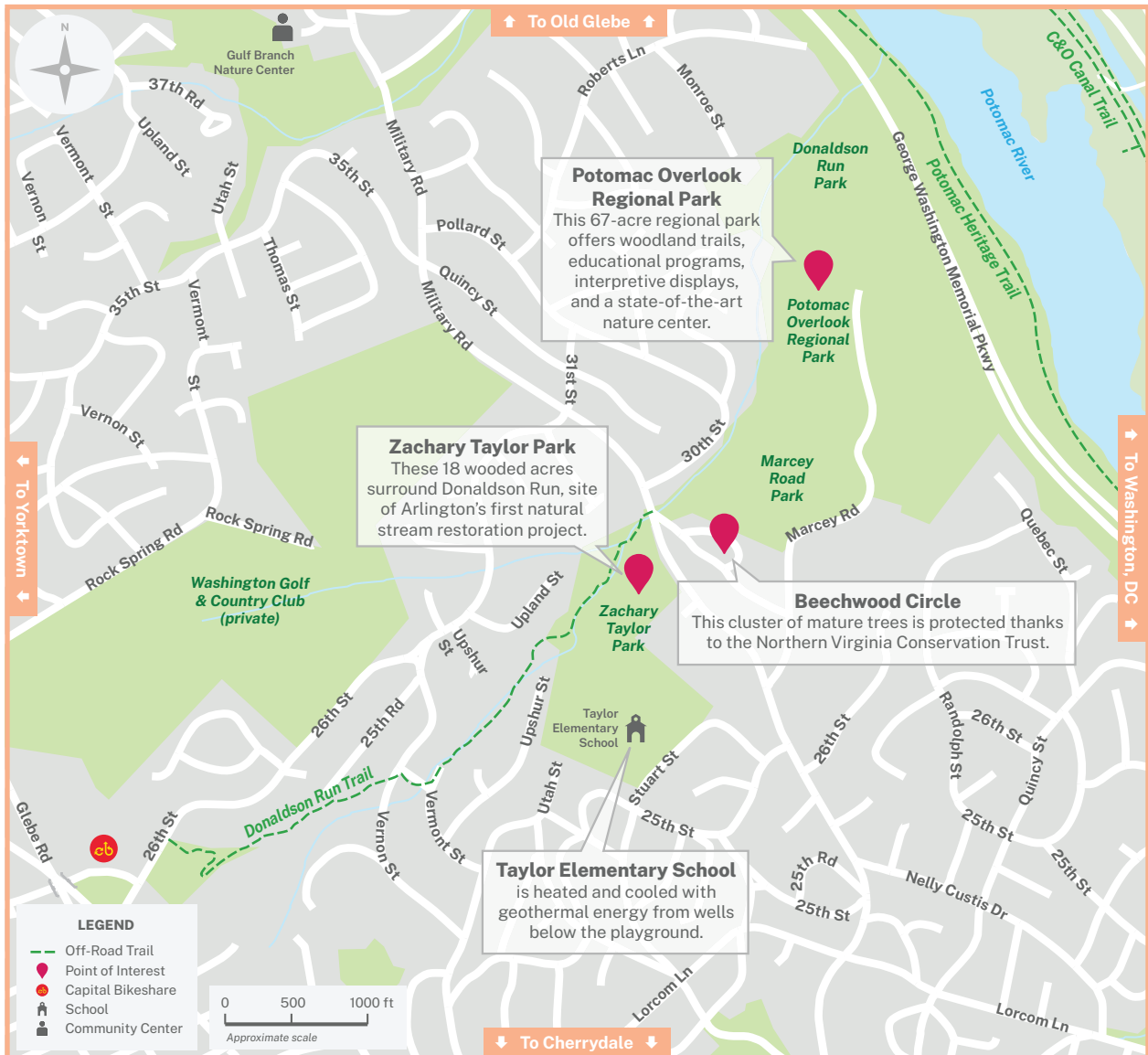


# Donaldson Run/Potomac Overlook

**Terrain**—Some hills, with sidewalks on residential streets and groomed pathways in parks

From bike lanes and bus routes along historic Military Road to nature trails and paved paths in the wooded oasis of Zachary Taylor Park, this northeast Arlington neighborhood offers visitors a choice of options for active transportation and outdoor exploration.

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# Fairlington/Shirlington

**Terrain** — Flat urban and neighborhood streetscapes, paved multi-use trails, and connecting sidewalks throughout

Completion of the Pentagon in 1943 created a tremendous need for local housing, marking the beginning of Shirlington's boom times. Today, this lively urban village invites walking, with theaters, shops, and restaurants along a traditional main street that's connected by bus lines, bike lanes, sidewalks, and trails. Just to the south, constructed toward the end of World War II and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Fairlington is a nationally significant example of publicly financed housing and inspired community planning.

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# George Washington's Forest

**Terrain** — Slightly hilly, traversing streets as well as streambeds and paved woodland trails

George Washington purchased this 1,200-acre tract of land in 1775. Spanning multiple Arlington neighborhoods (Glencarlyn, Forest Glen, Arlington Mill, Barcroft, Douglas Park, Columbia Forest, and Clarendon), a small portion of the original property has been preserved as parkland, with plentiful connections to trails, roadways, and bus routes.

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# Green Valley

**Terrain**—Rolling terrain with one continuous steep hill on Walter Reed Drive

Tucked between the W&OD Trailhead and Columbia Pike, this historically African-American neighborhood is home to three of Arlington's oldest churches, two community gathering places named for hometown heroes, and a lunchtime favorite with an unusual name. From Superman Hill to Four Mile Run, Green Valley (formerly known as Nauck) is steeped in history and well-served by bus lines, trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

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# High View Park/Waverly Hills

**Terrain** — Busy main streets and hilly residential side streets, accented by trails and parkland

These two neighborhoods traverse Glebe Road and four centuries of Arlington history. Founded by formerly enslaved people as Hall's Hill, High View Park remains a tight-knit, predominantly African-American community with a proud history and treasured traditions. Today's Waverly Hills and its Glebe House were part of Fairfax Parish in the 1700s. Bordered by Langston Boulevard on the north and 16th Street on the south with Glebe Road down the middle, these neighborhoods provide commuter access to transit and trails alike.

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# Old Glebe

**Terrain** — Hilly and winding residential streets with sidewalks and nature trails

From the time-worn earthworks of Fort Ethan Allen to the historic crossroads of Chain Bridge and Military Road to the log cabin at Gulf Branch Nature Center, Old Glebe offers an escape from the present day. Tucked into the northern tip of Arlington County, the neighborhood may seem far removed, but bus routes and trails keep it well-connected to the rest of Arlington and the DMV.

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# Rosslyn

**Terrain** — Hilly with a few easy walking spots and rolling terrain

Rosslyn has served as a gateway to Arlington from the colonial era to the arrival of Metrorail in the late 1970s. A vibrant cityscape that is just steps from national landmarks like Arlington National Cemetery and the US Marine Corps War Memorial and just across the Potomac River from the nation's capital, this diverse, transit-rich neighborhood is connected to American history by foot, bike, bus, and rail.

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# Westover

**Terrain**—Rolling residential streetscapes, parkland, and busy commercial center

Westover was mostly farmland until 1940, when plots were subdivided for housing, Westover Shopping Center was built, and Swanson Junior High (now Middle) School opened. Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006, today's Westover offers a mix of affordable and market-rate housing, from garden apartments to townhouses to single-family homes. Residents and visitors alike enjoy access to public transit, trails, shops, restaurants, and services, all within a supremely walkable, self-sufficient neighborhood.

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# Yorktown

**Terrain** — *Slightly hilly with level sidewalks and pathways*

Once home to an indigenous village and burial ground, farmland, and a wagon road to the Potomac River, present-day Yorktown is mostly residential, with easy access to Yorktown High School, Marymount University, and local amenities like Greenbrier Park and Lee-Harrison Shopping Center, by foot, bike, or bus.

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# Arlington Cherry Blossoms on Foot

**Terrain**— Mostly flat, paved trails with marked crossings at streets, bridges, and access points

When cherry blossom season comes around each spring, throngs descend on the Tidal Basin, yet there are beautiful blooms to behold right here in Arlington. Why not avoid the crowds and stay west of the Potomac to get your puffy pink fix by exploring Arlington's blossoms on foot?

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# Arlington's Black Heritage

**Terrain** — Flat urban streetscapes and interior walkways, offset by parkland and riverfront trails

Created in partnership with the Black Heritage Museum of Arlington, this walk celebrates the continuing journey of African-American residents of Arlington, whose lived experience intersects with County history at every turn. From enslavement to freedom, separate but equal to integration, discrimination to courageous resistance, the legacy of Arlington's Black Heritage lives in the churches, schools, monuments, public spaces, and historic sites seen along this walk — and throughout the County. To explore additional Black Heritage sites in Arlington, visit [StayArlington.com](http://StayArlington.com).

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# Rosslyn Public Art

**Terrain** — Busy streetscapes and some interior spaces connected by sidewalks and walkways, with some hills

Arlington is home to more than 70 permanent public art projects. This short, self-guided walking tour features the Rosslyn neighborhood's public art works and robust network of spectacular public spaces. To explore the public art projects in other Arlington neighborhoods, visit

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Public-Art/Public-Art-Collection/Permanent-Collection>.

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# Street Smart Tips for Walking

Whether walking, biking, scooting, rolling, or driving, we all need to do our part to keep our streets safe. For more tips on getting around safely on all modes, visit [www.beststreetsmart.net](http://www.beststreetsmart.net).



Look both ways before crossing streets or trails.



Wait for the walk signal to cross the street. Use pushbuttons when available.



Cross the street at the corner and use marked crosswalks when they are available.



Watch for blind spots around trucks and buses.



Avoid using devices that distract you, such as cell phones, while crossing the street.



Remain visible, especially after dark and in bad weather, by wearing light-colored or reflective clothing.

Credit: [www.beststreetsmart.net/walk](http://www.beststreetsmart.net/walk)





In 2022, Arlington was named a Platinum-Level Walk Friendly Community by the University of North Carolina's Walk Friendly Communities Program. This national recognition honors Arlington's commitment to walkability and pedestrian safety through comprehensive programs, plans, and policies.

[www.walkfriendly.org](http://www.walkfriendly.org)

