

Choctaw Country Weekend

The Southeastern corner of Oklahoma is known as Choctaw Country, and the weekend of May 18-19, will be your opportunity to explore! Our events, sponsored by 4 clubs, will look into the past of these communities, along with nearby sites to explore. The first walk will be held in Antlers, the county seat of Pushmataha County. During the 1880's, the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway, built a north-south line through the Choctaw Nation, connecting Fort Smith, Arkansas with Paris, Texas. The railroad established train stations every few miles as water stops. The site of Antlers was selected for a station due to a local freshwater spring. A hunter was encamped at the spring at present-day Antlers early one autumn and killed a "magnificent buck." He nailed its antlers to a tree close to the spring as a challenge to other hunters, who followed suit. Railroad officials later designated the new station stop as "Antlers" in recognition of this prominent local landmark tree bristling with points.

Idabel will be the second walk on Saturday. Idabel went through several name changes, finally settling on the postmaster's daughters, Ida & Bell. Initially, timber was the basis for the local economy, but this was supplanted by cotton production. Six cotton gin operated in Idabel in the 1930's. However, the Great Depression, depleted soil & destructive pests essentially wiped out this industry. Landowners have now converted their properties to pastures with beef production, poultry production, and pine plantations.

The final walk of this weekend, will be in Hugo, county seat of Choctaw County. The city was founded in 1901 and named for the French novelist Victor Hugo. The city serves as winter quarters for some circus performers. There are several buildings in Hugo listed on the NRHP. Check out the local cemetery, where interesting and elaborate headstones marked the graves of circus performers.

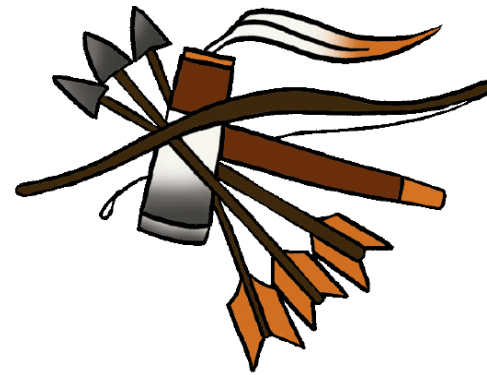
WHAT IS A VOLKSWALK?

A volkswalk is a leisurely walk through a scenic and/or historic area over a pre-marked route. The walk is non-competitive and the participants can travel at their own pace, thus making this an excellent recreational activity for the entire family. Anyone who completes the course is eligible to receive an award for his or her efforts. A volkswalk is a great way to meet new friends and a fun way for individuals to receive exercise who otherwise get very little.

WHAT IS A VOLKSSWIM?

Volksswims are organized swims covering distances between 300-1000 meters. Participants go at their own pace and can use any combination of swimming strokes. For those who are not proficient swimmers, walking is permitted. Participants can rest during the event but must remain in the water.

Come enjoy a Choctaw Country Weekend of Volkssporting



10/5km
Trails

3-300m
Swims

May 18 & 19, 2019

3 Southeast Counties of Oklahoma



Sunflower Sod Stompers
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More information: Terri Tyler 785-233-4385 tttyler70@gmail.com
or Teresa Arnold 918-630-3206 arnoldtca@hotmail.com

AVA: America's Walking Club

EVENT INFORMATION

Antlers, Oklahoma
Saturday, May 18, 2019

Pushmataha County, Ok.
SC-113745

Map Guided Walk

Distance: 5km/10km

Location: Wildlife Heritage Center Museum - 610 SW D Street
From the Indian Nations Turnpike, take exit 16. Go east onto OK-3
E for 2 miles, turn Right onto US 271, turn Right on SW 7th St and
go to SW D St. Turn right to go to the museum. GPS coordinates:
N 34'13.342' W 09'37.384'

Start/Finish: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM; off the trails by 2:00 PM

Course: Trail will be on roads and sidewalks of Antlers. 1-A

POC: Joe Fountain (405) 664-8751 jfountain6139@gmail.com
Wandergruppe Walking Club

Idabel, Oklahoma
Saturday, May 18, 2019

McCurtain County, Ok.
SC-113650

Map Guided Walk

Distance: 5km/10km

Location: McCurtain County Courthouse - 108 N. Central Avenue
From Antlers (1st walk on Saturday) proceed to Indian Nations
Turnpike (tolls apply), and go South for approximately 16 miles. Exit
on US 70 and follow for 39 miles to Idabel. Exit Hwy onto NW Texas
St. going Right/South. At Hwy 37 (E Martin Luther King Dr.) turn
Left/East for 1 block, then left on N Central Ave. Courthouse is
across the street from the old State Theatre (now the Legal Arts
Building.) **NO restrooms at start area; plan accordingly**

Start/Finish: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm; off the trails by 4:00 pm

Course: Trails will be in residential areas of Idabel along with the
central business area.

POC: Linda/Woody Woodward 918-245-2935 Tulsa Walking Club

Join us Saturday evening at –

JAKE'S Brickhouse Grill
14 West Main Street
Downtown Idabel
Approximately 5:30p.m.



Idabel, Oklahoma
Saturday, May 18

SC-113808, 809, 810

3 Outdoor Night Swims

Distance: 300 meters @

Location: The swim events will take place in the **outdoor** pool of the
Comfort Inn & Suites – 400 SE Lincoln Road (2.6 miles from courthouse).
From the McCurtain County Courthouse, travel southeast on Central
Avenue 0.2 mile, then turn left (3rd cross street) onto SE Washington Street
for 2.2 mile, passing many of Idabel's businesses. Right on US 259
South/SE Lincoln Road (at Shell service station) 0.3 mile. Comfort Inn will
be on left side.

Start/Finish: Start between 8:00-9:30p.m. & finish by 10:30p.m.

Course: Participants will swim or water walk and may rest at the ends of
the pool but cannot leave the pool area during the swim events. Come
ready to swim & just cover-up afterwards. **Patronizing the Comfort Inn
would be appreciated by the Sunflower Sod Stompers.**

POC: Terri Tyler 785-817-6333 tityler50@gmail.com

Hugo, Oklahoma
Sunday, May 19, 2019

Choctaw County, Ok.
SC-113735

Map Guided Walk

Distance: 5km/10km

Location: Gazebo (White) at C St and Jackson St (Immediately W
of Frisco Depot) on North side of Jackson. **From Antlers** on Indian
Nation Turnpike, Exit 1 - Hugo/US70 (Bus.) Follow US271 (Bus.)E,
which becomes Jackson St. Parking available along both sides of
C St (the one-way street on east side of City Park and between it
and Frisco Depot). **From Idabel** on US70W. US70 (Bus) West
becomes Jackson St. Continue for 2 miles, cross RR tracks;
gazebo on right.

Start/Finish: 9:00 to 12:00 pm; finish by 3:00pm

Course: Route will be on streets and roads going through
residential and commercial areas of Hugo. Restroom availability
will be limited. 1-A

POC: Kenneth G. Miles (918) 706-6063 mileskg@sbcglobal.net
World Wide Walkers

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Walking Events: These walking events will be map guided. Participants will be
given directions with written descriptions and a map. These walk events will be
CANCELLED if there is severe weather and/or dangerous walking conditions. Event
credit will be given to those present.

Swims: Water walk or swim at your pace. Limited dressing facilities will be the
restroom facilities of Comfort Inn. Bring your own towels and appropriate swim attire.
The pools will be shared with the motel guests. These swim events will be
CANCELLED if there is severe weather conditions. IVV Credit will be given to those
present.

Eligibility: Anyone is welcome to take part. Family participation is encouraged. An
adult must accompany children 12 & under. Signing the AVA liability waiver is
required of all participants.

Registration: IVV Credit will be \$3.00 per event. IVV Record Books may be
purchased at the events.

Special Programs: A list of all qualifying AVA Special Programs will be available
to participants at the Start areas. Each event may qualify for several programs.

Disclaimer: The American Volkssport Association, Tulsa Walking Club, World Wide
Walkers, Wandergruppe Walking Club, and the Sunflower Sod Stompers and their
officers, members, and agents shall not be liable or responsible for, and shall be
saved and held harmless for and against any and all claims and damages of every
kind, for injury to or death of any person or persons and for damage to or loss of
property arising out of or attributable to the operators or events conducted by the
AVA.



BY CHOICE HOTELS

400 SE Lincoln Road
580-286-9393

Group rate: \$95@ night w/ tax

**Motels rooms are blocked for our group at the Comfort Inn & Suites
in Idabel, Oklahoma. Please call the hotel property direct at the above
number & make reservations with the front desk. Ask for the
“Sunflower” rate. Full breakfast is included. Block of rooms expires
April 18 but room rate will be good through event date. Your
patronage is appreciated by the Sod Stompers.**

Hope you have a good weekend in Choctaw Country!

