

## -- How to Get Started: The Easiest Way--

### 1. Come to one of our in-person events (walks)

Anything listed on the calendar on this website!

### 2. Buy a New Walker Packet with \$10 cash or check

Includes your Distance and Event books, plus 2 coupons for free walks

We're working on accepting credit cards, but progress is slow.

Future walks will be \$4 each per person

### 3. Walk with us!

Enjoy fun, friendship, and fitness while exploring our amazing area

See next page for more detail – or just come out. We love talking about Volksmarching!

-- How to Get Started: With More Detail --

### Welcome to Volksmarching!

Our friendly, noncompetitive walks are a great way to explore, meet friends, and stay fit.

**To join**, come to any in-person walk or go to the AVA headquarters (perks of living in San Antonio, see address at bottom of this page), and **buy a New Walker Packet** (\$10 in 2025). You can also order one online here: [https://cb.ava.org/Membership\\_Documents/2025/New\\_Walkers\\_Program\\_Packet.pdf](https://cb.ava.org/Membership_Documents/2025/New_Walkers_Program_Packet.pdf) (\$11.50 if ordered using this link). Cash or check only; we are working on taking credit cards.

A New Walker Packet includes:

- Your first Event Book (tracks your first 10 walks, which we call “events”– you’ll finish this first)
- Your first Distance book (tracks your first 500 km – this takes a while to complete!)
- An informational booklet welcoming you to the AVA
- 2 coupons for free walks – each worth \$4!

For each subsequent event, bring your **Event book** (tracks the number of events (walks) in which you participate) and your **Distance book** (tracks your kilometers). I like to keep my books in a Ziplock sandwich bag along with some return address labels and a pen to make sign-in easy. **\*\*Make sure to get your books stamped the day of the event to get credit\*\***. Walks are \$4 per person.

There are 2 types of events:

- Traditional events, which take place at a specific date and time. Especially when you are getting started, these are the easiest way to get introduced to Volksmarching and the Pathfinders.
- Year Round Events, which you can do on your own schedule. There are 2 types: Physical Start Box and Online Start Box. When you’re ready, check out our tutorials on Year Round Events and Online Start Box events.

Where to find events:

- San Antonio Pathfinders calendar: [sanantoniopathfinders.org](http://sanantoniopathfinders.org)
- American Volkssport Association Event finder: <https://my.ava.org/find-an-event.php>. “Search by State,” then “Texas.” Traditional Events (in person, specific time/date) are at the top.

After 10 events, send in your event book

- By mail to 1032 S. Alamo St., San Antonio, TX 78210. **\*\*Include return address\*\***
- Stop by AVA headquarters (call ahead first to ensure someone is there)

You will receive your AVA number, plus a patch and pin! It’s a good idea to buy your next book at the start/finish table at a Traditional Event once you have 2-3 blanks left in your current book so you can seamlessly keep walking.

For example:

You participate in 3 events: a 10k traditional (in person, specific time and date) event (walk), a 5k traditional event, and a 5k year-round (on your own schedule) event with a physical start box. Your books will contain:

- Event book: 3 event stamps (each event counts as one, regardless of distance)
- Distance book: 3 stamps, marked with 10k, 5k, and 5k.

**We look forward to walking with you!**

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AVA Headquarters: 1032 S. Alamo St., San Antonio, TX 78210. Call ahead at 210.659.2112 before driving by to ensure that someone will be there.