



Wandering News

Wiesbaden International Wandering Club

May 2026

Who We Are

The Wiesbaden International Wandering Club is a social and fitness focused group centered around volksmarching, which is a German style of walking outdoor activity. People walk at their own pace with walking routes ranging from 5km to 20 km. It is a family and pet friendly atmosphere focusing on fun, fitness and friendship. The walks explore local towns, scenic routes and local landmarks with a cultural immersion in a natural way.

Come explore the real Germany in a fun and active way.

Monthly Member meeting Reminder

May 18 , 2026

Schnitzel Queen in Nordstadt ([Borsigstraße 1A, 65205 Wiesbaden](#)).

6:00 pm for dinner and socializing; 7:00 pm for the meeting.

***Unless it's a holiday, meetings held every third Monday of the month.**

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President's May Message

Dear Members and Friends,

May has arrived, and with it comes one of the most vibrant and rewarding times to be on the trail. Who doesn't want to be outside with this beautiful weather! It's the kind of month that reminds us why we lace up our boots and set out together.

This season always brings excitement within our club because from May to October different events are going to be fighting for our time. So many things are available, you're going to start splitting your weekends and free time between all of them just to be able to see everything that you want.

For WIWC, May is more than just a beautiful season—but time to really dive into what Volksmarching really is about. Local festivals begin to appear in towns and villages and every hike offers not just scenic views, but shared experiences that strengthen our community. Whether you're joining a challenging trek or a relaxed social walk, there's something special about being out together this time of year.

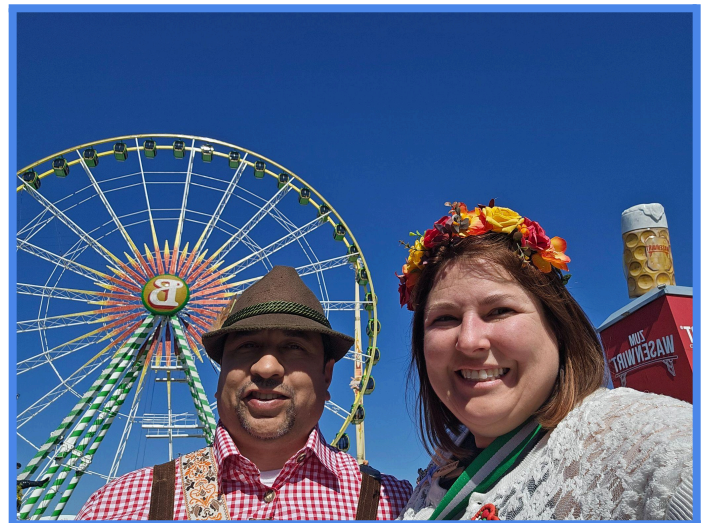
As always, a bit of preparation goes a long way. Warmer temperatures mean staying hydrated, wearing appropriate sun protection, and keeping an eye on changing weather conditions. But with a little planning, May offers some of the most enjoyable hiking conditions we'll see all year.

Thank you to everyone who continues to make this club such a welcoming and dynamic group. Your enthusiasm, leadership, and camaraderie are what turn simple walks into lasting memories. I encourage you to take full advantage of this beautiful month—try a new trail, bring a friend, and join us as we continue exploring together.

Wishing you sunny skies and happy trails,

Warm regards,
Frances Salas

WIWC President



Finding Purpose Through Service

Small acts of service with a lasting impact

April was Volunteer Appreciation Month and it is something to be celebrated and admired from every mountain top. Through my years growing up in the military, I have never seen a community that relies so heavily on volunteers than a military community in Europe.



Throughout my years here, I have always been drawn to volunteer in driven organizations. Giving back always felt natural. In each community, I began as a volunteer. I went from working outreach events with ACS in Heidelberg, to planning conferences that advocated for awareness, to writing for stars and stripes in Kaiserslautern, and later joining the American Red Cross in Wiesbaden. Each experience introduced me to new people, taught me something new, and reminded me that the joy of serving is its own reward.

I never logged my hours, because I felt like just the opportunity was good enough for me. And yes, I did get in trouble to the tune of a stern lecture and then an informational insight as to the impact that my contributions not being accounted for can do to the community I love to serve.

People volunteer for many reasons and I feel like I've seen them all. No matter the reason, you are making a difference by being there at that time and place.

All of our council members are volunteers. They coordinate, advocate, input data, balance bank accounts and fees, design and maintain websites and social media, call and email businesses, all so the front side of the end result is fun and enjoyable. Without volunteers we wouldn't be a club. Because of all the time they give outside of their families, work, school, and everything in between, this organization has a heart beat.

Volunteering can look like telling someone about our organization at a community event to leading a girl scout troop on our permanent trail to teach them about how we maintain it for others to enjoy. It comes in so many shades of different colors, but the best part is when we start blending to be something more beautiful together.

If you are interested in contributing any of your spare time to the club, just let us know. No amount of time is too small.

Walking Together Wherever We Are

Going to volksmarching events is what I love about wandering the most. There seems to be no judgement among attendees, because you're all there for the same reason: to explore the trails, get that stamp, and enjoy the hall at the end of a successful time. It is actually what my dad used to get me to do these when I was a teenager. Food and refreshments at the end? Just point me in the right direction that leads to the finish line.

As an adult, I've gained a new perspective THat feeling has grown stronger as I guide our German American wandering club within our community.

I especially value connecting and collaborating with our sibling clubs in Ramstein and Stuttgart. The councils and members of each club are built up of the same people with the same passion: to show and enjoy the love and tradition of volksmarching with each other and future participants. We're just doing that dream in different locations. In one way we are the same, but we also face our own unique challenges. Together, we support one another, celebrate successes, and learn from setbacks as one team.

Last year, I mentioned that I was a member of the Ramstein Roadrunners (sorry Stuttgart I need to get registered with you. I promise I'm going to do it!). They were surprised it was ok for you to hold multiple memberships in other hiking clubs. Absolutely it is possible! Subscribing to more opportunities and being exposed to locations and experiences outside of your area is a win on so many levels. With our community atmosphere, it is more than likely that you will find yourself in Ramstein, Stuttgart or Bavaria for work or leisure. Why not meet up with community members for a bus trip, Stammtisch or walk while there? It's like going to visit your favorite family members or friends that just pick up where you last left off.

Going to the Ramstein Roadrunners event in April felt like a reunion.I reconnected with members from previous events and met new faces who welcomed us warmly. These experiences allow us to exchange ideas, improve locally and continue growing. It's all driven by our shared love for this traditional sport.

When you're going to be in their area, check out their calendar! They're just a distant family that can't wait to hang out.



From left to right: Joe Kelly, president of Stuttgart GAWC, Frances Salas, WIWC, and Patrick Massey, Ramstein Roadrunners President.

Upcoming Engagements

International March in Luxembourg

May 30-31

This is a two day event that is organized by the Luxembourg Army and town of Diekirch. This tradition started in 1968 originally as a way to maintain military tradition and commemorate Luxembourg's liberation in past wars. Participants can choose distances like 12 km, 20 km or 40 km per day walking through the countryside. This is a large international hiking event that brings global camaraderie and tradition through shared challenges and cultural connection.

This walk has a mandatory registration and fee that must be completed beforehand in order to participate. You can find more information available [here](#).

Culinary Beer Hike in Ilbeshausen

July 18

Lace up your shoes and bring an appetite as the annual beer hike is coming! Along the trail, you'll be able to enjoy local delicious bites paired with refreshing brews (non-alcoholic options available as well). Come join the live music, great company and scenic views . The WIWC has made arrangements for transportation to this event so you don't have to worry about the stress of getting there. To sign up on this event or read more information click on [Culinary hike sign up](#) .

Upcoming Walks

May 1

Guided day hike "Guided May Hike in Winningen"

7.14 km **Winnigen**

Start: Fri. 10:00 a.m.,

Address: Weingut Weyh, Röttgenweg 4, 56333 Winnigen

Parking available at Winnigen train station.

Worth seeing: Winnigen's history, vineyards and the Moselle River

May 1-3 and 5

Hiking Day , barrier-free, with children's and youth hiking day "Hike through the old town of Limburg an der Lahn"

5, 12, 18 km

Limburg an der Lahn

Start: Fri. 08:00 - 11:00, Sat. 07:00 - 13:00, Sun. 07:00 - 12:00

Address: Market Hall Limburg, Ste.-Foy-Str. 34, 65549 Limburg an der Lahn

Worth seeing: St. Lubentius Church in Dietkirchen, Limburg Cathedral, Limburg Old Town

May 9-10

Hiking Day "Rhine Heights Hike"

6, 11, 20 km

Weiler near Bingen

Start: Sat., Sun. 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (6, 11 km) and 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (20 km),

Address: Clubhouse of TV 1886 Weiler eV, An der Wassergall 2, 55413 Weiler near Bingen

Worth seeing: Niederwald Monument, Rhine castles, Rhine Valley

May 10

Guided day hike "IVV World Hiking Day"

6, 11 km

Großenlüder

Start: Sun. 10:00 a.m.

Address: Gasthaus "Zum Hirsch", Lauterbacher Str. 16, 36137 Großenlüder

Worth seeing: Langenberg Chapel

May 17

Hiking Day , including a children's and youth hiking day "Spring Hike through the Volcanic Region"

6, 10, 21 km

Feldatal

Start: Sun. 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Address: Feldahalle, Schulstr. 2, 36325 Feldatal Groß-Felda.

Worth seeing: viewpoints, forest and meadow paths

May 20

Guided day hike "Weilach"

6, 12 km

Bad Dürkheim.

Start: Wednesday, 1:30 pm (6 km) and 1:00 pm (12 km).

Address: In front of the giant barrel on the Wurstmarkt (sausage market) square, St. Michael Allee 11, 67098 Bad Dürkheim

May 23

Hiking Day "50 Years of DVV Hiking"

5, 10 km

Ilbeshausen

Start: Sat. 10:00 - 14:00

Address: Hochwaldhausen Sports Field, Waldstraße 35, 36355 Grebenhain-Ilbeshausen

Worth seeing: Routes in the Vogelsberg Volcanic Region Geopark

May 25

Guided day hike "Philippshruhe Castle Hanau am Main"

6, 17, 21, 30, 42 km

Hanau-Steinheim am Main. Organized

Start: Monday, 10:30 a.m. (6 km) and 8:00 a.m. (17, 21, 30, 42 km).

Address: Parking lot at the South Cemetery, Schönbornstr., 63456 Hanau-Steinheim am Main.

Worth seeing: Dietesheim quarries, idyllic Main river and lake landscape, Hanau's monument

May 30

Guided day hike "Kranichstein Hunting Lodge Darmstadt"

6, 11, 22 km

Darmstadt

Start: Saturday, 11:00 AM (6 km) and 9:00 AM (11, 22 km).

Address: Parking lot at Oberwaldhaus, Dieburger Str. 257, 64287 Darmstadt

Start 6 km: Katharinenfalltorweg at Hofgut Oberfeld, near Erbacher Straße 125, 64287 Darmstadt

Worth seeing: Oberwaldhaus, Kranichstein Hunting Lodge, Mathildenhöhe World Heritage Site, Rosenhöhe Park

May 31

Hiking Day, Spring Hike

6, 11, 20 km

Otterberg

Start: Sun. 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (6 km), 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (11 km) and 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (20 km),

Address: Drehenthalerhof Community Center, Im Rabental 20, 67697 Otterberg

Worth seeing: Abbey church in Otterberg

May 31

Hiking Day "6th Holzfeld Rheingold Hiking Day"

5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 km

Boppard-Holzfeld

Start: Sun. 8:00 - 14:00 (5, 10, 15 km), 8:00 - 13:00 (20 km), 8:00 - 11:30 (25 km) and 8:00 - 10:00 (30 km)

Address: Holzfeld Sports Field, Rheingold Strasse / L213, 56154 Boppard-Holzfeld

Worth seeing: Upper Middle Rhine Valley

Friendly Reminder for Traditional Events

Cups: Organizers (clubs) are not required to provide cups for participants to receive free beverages such as iced tea, broth, or water. While most organizers do provide cups, it's a good idea to bring your own to ensure you can enjoy the offered beverages.

Additional Drinks and Food: At the start hall and some control points, other drinks, sandwiches, etc., including beer and wine, are available for purchase.

Permanent Trails

IVV Permanent Trail Goetheweg

5 km, 11 km, 20 km (The 20 km walk is not marked at the moment, so you will have to use the komoot app)

Start: 10:00

Address: Goethe Haus, Grosser Hirschgraben 21, 60311 Frankfurt/Main

36 km or 40 minutes east of Wiesbaden.

[DVV Wandern - „Auf Goethes Spuren" \(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://dvv-wandern.de)

IVV Permanent Trail "Auf den Spuren der Aartalbahn" (on the traces of the (out of service) Aar River Valley Railroad)

5 km, 13 km & 21 km trails, GPS data for those 3 trails at [DVV Wandern - "Auf den Spuren der Aartalbahn im Taunus" \(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://dvv-wandern.de)

Address: Sportplatz Kleinfeldchen "Imbiss bei Kosta", Hollerbornstraße 13, 65197

Wiesbaden-Dotzheim, Hessen

2 mi Southwest of downtown Wiesbaden, about 5 minutes driving time from there.

IVV Permanent Trail "Schwalben Wanderweg" (Swallow hiking trail, the town's name is Swallow Creek)

6 km, 12 km & 20 km trails, GPS data for those 3 trails at [DVV Wandern - "Schwalben Wanderweg" \(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://dvv-wandern.de)

Address: Cafe "Kirch 1", Kirchstrasse 1 , 65307 Bad Schwalbach, Hessen

10 mi Northwest of downtown Wiesbaden, about 25 minutes driving time from there.

IVV Permanent Trail "Auf den Spuren der Roemer in Mainz-Kastel" (on the traces of the Romans in Mainz-Kastel)

There is a brewery & restaurant at the Starting Point that also offers brewery tours (the restaurant also offers alcohol free drinks aside from food)

7 km & 15 km trails, GPS data for those 2 trails at [DVV Wandern - "Auf den Spuren der Römer in Kastel" \(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://dvv-wandern.de)

Address: Brauhaus Castel, Otto-Suhr-Ring 27, 55252 (Wiesbaden-) Mainz-Kastel, Hessen

5 mi Southeast of downtown Wiesbaden, about 10 minutes driving time from there.

IVV Permanent Trail "Taunus Rundwanderweg" (Taunus Mountains Loop Trail)

13 km trail only, GPS data for this trail at [DVV Wandern - „Taunus-Rundwanderweg“](http://www.dvv-wandern.de)
[\(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://www.dvv-wandern.de)

Address: Wiesbaden Tourist Information, Marktplatz 1, 65183 Wiesbaden, Hessen
in downtown Wiesbaden

IVV Permanent Trail "Rheinhessen Blick" (view of the Rheinhessen Region)

6 km, 10 km & 20 km trails, GPS data for those 3 trails at [DVV Wandern - "Rheinhessenblick"](http://www.dvv-wandern.de)
[\(dvv-wandern.de\)](http://www.dvv-wandern.de)

Address: "Schlemmer House" Restaurant (good food there), **Marie-Curie-Strasse 9, 55453**
Gau-Algesheim, Rheinland-Pfalz

15 mi Northwest of downtown Wiesbaden, about 25 minutes driving time from there.

Traveling beyond Germany

Traditional volksmarches expand beyond the borders in Germany in many parts of Europe and even in the US. For more information on volksmarches overseas and abroad, check out the following:

- Volksmarches in Germany: www.dvv-wandern.de
- Volksmarches International: www.ivv-online.org
- Volksmarches in USA: www.ava.org

European Walks

<p>2-3 MAY Saturday, May 2 Komárom, Hungary 6 km, 10 km, 20 km Rüdiger tó, 2903 Komárom</p>	<p>Sunday, May 3 Blankenberge, Belgium 7 km, 15 km, 24 km, 32 km Maerlant Atheneum, Vanmaerlantstraat, 1, 8370 Blankenberge</p>
<p>9-10 MAY Saturday, May 9 Battice, Belgium 4 km, 6 km, 12 km, 20 km, 25 km Salle Saint Vincent, Rue du Centre, 4651 Battice</p>	<p>Sunday, May 10 Mandrevillars, France 5 km, 10 km, 20 km Rue des Chenevières, 70400 Mandrevillars</p>
<p>Sunday, May 17 Wien, Austria 5 km Siebenhirten (U6), 1230 Wien</p>	<p>Sunday, May 17 Hannur, Belgium 4 km, 8 km, 13 km, 21 km Foyer Saint Christophe asbl, Rue Lambert Mottard 21, 4280 Hannut</p>
<p>16 MAY 16 May Puylobier, France 5 km, 13 km 63 avenue d'Aix, 13114 Puylobier</p>	<p>23-24 MAY Saturday, May 23 Dannemarie, France 5 km, 10 km du Stade 68210 DANNEMARIE</p>
<p>Saturday, May 23 Dilbeek, Belgium 5 km, 7 km, 14 km, 21 km Salle Collegium, Brusselstraat 259, 1702 Grand Bigard</p>	

WIWC Information

Social media

You can get updated walks through email, Facebook, and our website: Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/293708457976771>

Website: www.wiwcvolksmarching.org (Currently under maintenance)

Email: wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com

Membership Information

Family: 30€/Single: 15€. Members are entitled to monthly newsletters, member trip prices, boutique discounts, and weekly notices of upcoming walks.

If you are a member and not in our WhatsApp group chat and want to be included, let us know and we'll add you.

Volksmarching Websites

For more information on volksmarches overseas and abroad, check out the following;

- Volksmarches in Germany: www.dvv-wandern.de

Elected WIWC council for 2026

President: Frances Salas

Vice President:

Treasurer: Gregory Fields

Secretary: Nicole Rand

Registration Director: Adam Marchbanks

Membership Director: Nicole Rand

Trail master: Adam Marchbanks

Social Media Directors: Christina Spence and Karen Landreth

Boutique Manager: James Meredith

Event Planning and Fundraising: Yonnie Cochran

- Volksmarches in USA: www.ava.org
- Volksmarches International: www.ivv-online.org