

JANUARY 2026



# Wandering News

Wiesbaden International Wandering Club

## WELCOME MESSAGE FROM OUR RESIDENT

Welcome to a new year with the Wiesbaden International Wandering Club! We are so excited to see you here and for you to be a part of our community.

Personally I feel that the word "hiking" may scare some people away because it sounds much more intense. It did for me too. I made it known from day one that I am not an experienced and knowledgeable hiker. What I came to the club with was memories of my father and I doing Volksmarching through the woods in Germany, then sharing food and drink with him. It wasn't the actual physical activity but the breathtaking views and conversations we had along the way. That is what I want for everyone else in this community.

As I start this year as president, I go in knowing that I have a lot to learn and the council, as a team, has to accomplish. I can't wait to take it one step at a time as we continue to grow this amazing community. I want us to share, help, communicate and make memories during this time in an amazing country surrounded by scenes most may only get to see online and in movies.

If you have hesitated to start a trail, reconsidered wandering out, or have just been unsure on where to go, we hope to alleviate all of that with new orientations and events this year. If you have something to offer, join the council! We are all volunteers just giving what we can to ensure this stays an enlightening activity or option during your time here.

Here is to a new wandering year! I cannot wait to see what it brings.

Your new WIWC President,

Frances Salas



## THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

A New Year, A New Path..... 2

Information Abroad..... 3

Weekend highlight & Future Events..... 4

Upcoming Walks & reminders..... 5-7

Permanent Trail information..... 8

WIWC Information.... 9

## Monthly Member meeting Reminder

January 26, 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.**

# A New Year, A New Path

---

## A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers

On behalf of the club leadership, we extend our deepest thanks to each and every volunteer who gives their time, energy and help to the club this past year. Your dedication is the foundation of everything we do. Whether you lead the front support or quietly behind the scenes, your efforts make a lasting difference.

Because of you, our mission drives forward and our community continues to grow stronger. Your willingness to serve reflects the true spirit of this club, and we are incredibly grateful for your commitment.

Thank you for all that you do, in big ways and small, we are truly grateful.

If you would like to help the club and join as one of our volunteers, please be on the lookout for upcoming events and opportunities to lend a hand. Our members are our greatest asset, keeping the club thriving.

## Innovating Together as a Club



We believe our club grows stronger when we hear from our members. Fresh ideas and new perspectives help us, evolve, improve and better serve the community.

We encourage everyone to share their thoughts, suggestions and creative ideas as we look ahead together.

Your voice matters! Please email the club at [wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com](mailto:wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com).

One new idea our leadership is exploring is a “Dine and Dash” event. The plan is to organize a meetup at a local or permanent trail for a walk or hike, followed by a nearby restaurant. Participation in either one or both will be optional, so you can join whichever part fits your schedule.

Keep an eye out for this exciting new feature coming soon!

## Information Abroad

This year marks the 250th Anniversary of the United States, but more importantly, the 50th anniversary of the American Volksmarching Association (AVA). Just like in Europe, the AVA has walks in every state, and similar to the DVV, you will receive credit for kilometers walked and traditional events to participate in. These also lead into some awesome swag, such pins, patches and certificates.

As a part of the 50th Anniversary, the AVA is hosting 17 events throughout the country. They also developed a special 50th anniversary commemorative passport book for those who attend eight or more.

You can find the walks at [https://cb.ava.org/50th\\_Anniversary/List\\_of\\_50th\\_Anniversary\\_Events\\_11\\_16\\_25.pdf](https://cb.ava.org/50th_Anniversary/List_of_50th_Anniversary_Events_11_16_25.pdf).

## Feature walk of the month

If you have a walk that you'd like to share, email us at [wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com](mailto:wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com). In the subject line, write "Newsletter submission."

## Mark Your Calendars

### January 26

Join us in Frankfurt through a guided walk with WIWC's permanent trail. Lunch after depending on participation

### February 28- March 1

Hiking Day experience in the historic town of Rothenburg

The next Olympiad will be held in **2027**. Official dates have not been published so stay tuned.

# Upcoming Walks

## 1 January

Guided day hike "New Year's Hike" , 6, 12 km

### Ramstein-Miesenbach

**Start:** Thu. 12:30 pm (6 km) and 11:30 am (12 km)

**Address:** Restaurant Licht & Luft, Entersweilerstr. 51, 67657 Kaiserslautern , Train station: Kaiserslautern

## 3 January

Guided day hike "We welcome the new year with sparkling wine and mineral water" , 6, 12 km

### Bad Dürkheim

**Start:** Sat. 11:30 a.m. (6 km) and 11:00 a.m. (12 km) in front of the giant barrel on the Wurstmarkt square

**Address:** St. Michael Allee 1, 67098 Bad Dürkheim , Train station: Bad Dürkheim

## 4 January

Hiking day "Winter hike in the Nahe Valley" , 5, 10, 15 km

### Bretzenheim

FSV 1917 Bretzenheim (Rhineland-Palatinate)

**Start:** Sun. 07:30 - 13:00 (5, 10 km) and 07:30 - 12:30 (15 km)

**Address:** Kronenberghalle, Winzenheimer Str. 29, 55559 Bretzenheim, railway station: Bretzenheim/Nahe

## 3-4 January

Hiking day "New Year's Hike" , 6, 10 km

### Karlstadt-Stetten

SpVgg Stetten 1946 e.V., Dept. of Hiking (Lower Franconia)

Reinhard Kimmel, Buchenhöllstr. 1, 97753 Karlstadt-Stetten

**Start:** Sat. 09:00 - 14:00, Sun. 09:00 - 13:00

**Address:** Multi-purpose hall Stetten, Sennrainstr.1, 97753 Karlstadt-Stetten, railway station: Karlstadt

## 10 January

Guided day hike "Backpacking - Speyer Cathedral City" , 6, 22 km

### Speyer

**Start:** Sat. 11:00 a.m. (6 km) and 9:00 a.m. (22 km)

**Address:** Parking lot opposite Bademaxx/Youth Hostel, Flosshafenstr./Entrance via Neuen Rheinhafen 4, 67346 Speyer

**11 January**

Guided day hike "Winter hike in the Lüdertal valley" , 6.11 km

**Großenlüder**

**Start:** Sun. 10:00 a.m.

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

**24 January**

Guided day hike "Backpack hike - Herrnsheim Castle and Klausenberg Chapel" , 6.21 km,

**Osthofen**

**Start:** Saturday 11:00 AM (6 km) and 9:00 AM (21 km). Parking lot Wonnegauhalle, access

**Address:** via Herrnsheimerstr./Wonnegastr., 67574 Osthofen.

**31 January**

Guided day hike "Backpack hike - Schweigen (Germany) and Wissembourg (France)" , 6, 20 km

**Schweigen-Rechtenbach**

**Start:** Sat. 11:00 a.m. (6 km) and 9:00 a.m. (20 km)

**Address:** Parking lot on the B 38, access via roundabout, Weinstr., 76889 Schweigen-Rechtenbach

### 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

Organizer: Wiesbaden International Wandering Club Wiesbaden, Hessen  
Goethehaus, Großer Hirschgraben 21, **60311 Frankfurt am Main, Hessen**  
23 mi East of Wiesbaden, about 30 minutes driving from Wiesbaden

### 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"](https://dvv-wandern.de) ([dvv-wandern.de](https://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"](https://dvv-wandern.de) ([dvv-wandern.de](https://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"](https://dvv-wandern.de) ([dvv-wandern.de](https://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“](https://dvv-wandern.de) ([dvv-wandern.de](https://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"](https://dvv-wandern.de) ([dvv-wandern.de](https://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.

# 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](http://www.wiwcvolksmarching.org)

Email: [wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com](mailto:wiwcvolksmarching@gmail.com)

## Membership Info

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](http://www.dvv-wandern.de)
- Volksmarches in USA: [www.ava.org](http://www.ava.org)
- Volksmarches International: [www.ivv-online.org](http://www.ivv-online.org)

## **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 Director:** Christina Spence

**Boutique Manager:** James Meredith

**Event Planning and Fundraising:** Yonnie Cochran