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Follow Our News

Your Support Keeps our Paths Open and Safe

Great thanks to everyone who recently joined, renewed a membership in, or donated to BPWA! You are helping us maintain and extend Berkeley's incredible paths. We so appreciate your generosity and support.

If you haven't had a chance to join or donate, it's not too late to do so for 2018.

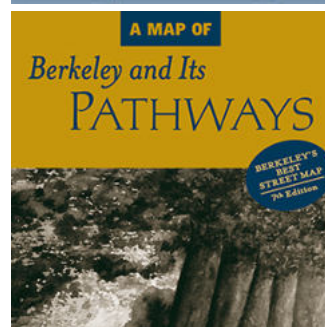
[Donate](#) or [Join](#) today!

Join or Renew



Did you forget to pay your \$5 dues for 2018? We do not want to lose you. [Please renew today.](#)

Buy Our Map



The New York Times calls it ... " a terrific map of all the secret routes and corridors in Berkeley." It's also the best street map of the city you can buy! [Get your copy.](#)

Support BPWA



Long-time path builder Charlie Bowen and former BPWA president Keith Skinner descend Whitaker Path.

Resolved: Walk More Paths in 2018

If your New Year's resolutions include getting more exercise, we have some great suggestions for starting 2018 on the right foot:

- Take one of the great self-guided [walk routes](#) archived on our website.
- Come on our free bi-monthly [guided walks](#).
- Visit some of our [favorite paths](#), which we wrote about last year. Please [email us](#) to share which paths you especially enjoy and why.
- Better yet, vow to walk every path in Berkeley this year. Track your progress by checking off the boxes in the pathways index at the bottom of the [Berkeley and Its Pathways map](#).

If you have any doubts of the benefits of exercise, particularly walking, check out just some of the [research](#) that confirms what we've been saying all along.

Walk With Us

Join us on our terrific guided walks, which are free and open to all. Unless otherwise noted, they last 2-3 hours and proceed at a moderate, conversational pace. We're



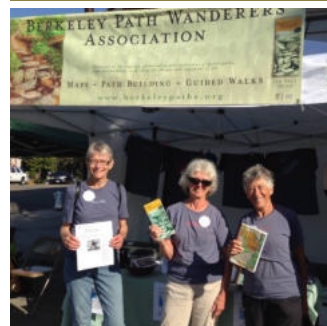
Your generosity enables us to build more paths and continue to offer our path-oriented events. [Donate now.](#)

Shop Online



We sell Path Wanderer shirts, hats, and tote bags as well as guidebooks, posters, and note cards. [Visit our store.](#)

Get to Know Us



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a grassroots organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. [Read more.](#)

Meet Our Friends

You'll find links to many other organizations that promote walking, pedestrian safety, protecting the environment, and more on our [website](#).

sorry, but we can't accommodate your dogs except on walks specified as dog friendly. Please check our [home page](#) for last-minute weather cancellations. Questions about a walk? Write walks@berkeleypaths.org



Photo: Ira Serkes

During a King Tide, the water reaches almost to the deck of the Berkeley Pier.

A New Year's Day King Tide Tour

January 1 @ 10 a.m.

Start: [Sea Breeze Deli](#) (University Ave. just west of I-80)

Leaders: Susan Schwartz and John Kenny

This walk will go rain or shine!

The start of 2018 brings a King Tide, one of the highest daytime tides of the year. It's a perfect opportunity to focus on the effects of rising sea levels and how we can minimize and adapt to them. Susan, the founder of [Friends of Five Creeks](#), and John, an environmental activist and dedicated BPWA path builder, will lead this leisurely, two-mile walk in Eastshore State Park. They will discuss the history of Berkeley's waterfront and point out ongoing restoration efforts. Among the highlights of this route are the marsh at the mouth of Schoolhouse Creek, where a pipe once dumped Berkeley's sewage straight into the Bay, and native plantings that volunteers are adding along the shoreline to the north of the creek, once a pre-World-War-II garbage landfill. Bring binoculars to spot wintering waterfowl and a camera to snap photos for the [California King Tides Project](#). Some trails may be

slippery, muddy, or flooded. Dress for changing weather, including water-resistant footwear. Join us for optional warm drinks, snacks, or lunch at Sea Breeze Deli after the walk.



This whimsical gate by Mark Bullwinkle graces Kensington Path #4.

Berkeley Hills and Kensington Paths Ramble
Sunday, January 21 @ 3 to 5:30 pm.

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: [Kensington Circle, by the Circus Pub](#)
(389 Colusa Ave)

On this four-mile, many-a-path hike, Alina will guide us through the hills of North Berkeley and into neighboring Kensington. Although less traveled than their Berkeley counterparts, the [Kensington paths](#) are just as fun and interesting. Let's explore them together! Bring your wandering spirit and come prepared for climbs, sunset views, good company, and a great finish to your weekend.



This panorama will be the reward for the final climb of this challenging hike.

Claremont Canyon to Sibley: North Oakland's Hidden Trails

Sunday, February 4 @10 a.m.

Start: [Signpost 29 on Claremont Ave.](#) (1½ miles past Claremont and Ashby; .6 mile below Grizzly Peak)

Leaders: Jacob Lehmann Duke and Zeke Gerwein

Although this 7.6-mile hike begins on busy Claremont Ave., we immediately leave it for the tranquility of Claremont Canyon. We'll start up leaf-padded Willow Trail, climbing through a small redwood grove to Grizzly Peak. After we crest the ridge, we'll descend on the Skyline Trail into Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve and then climb to Skyline Blvd, crossing bridges and a creek and passing an old wrecked car and a variety of trees. [Read more.](#)



Views are better with your four-footed friend by your side.

Pooches on the Paths: What's Not to Love?

Saturday, February 10 @ 10 a.m.

Start: [NE Corner of Solano and Peralta Avenues](#)

Leaders: Figgy & Wally

Love is in the air in February, so join the Pooches on the Paths crew as we explore what we “puppy love” most in Berkeley: its parks and paths! Starting on Solano Avenue, Figgy and Wally will lead you on a leisurely stroll to visit six paths and six parks. They are hoping to take you to a few places you might not know about but will quickly fall in love with. This easy route will be mostly on sidewalks with a few gentle hills. You'll get just enough exercise to whet your appetite for a biscuit-and-cookie break in lovely Live Oak Park. This walk is part of our All-the-Parks-in-Berkeley series, and everyone is welcome, with or without a four-footed friend.



Touchdown Plaza, in front of the Berkeley Animal Shelter, offers a perfect view of Aquatic Park.

Coffee Constitutional: A Walk on the West Side Friday, February 16 @ 10:30 a.m.

Leader: Jacque Ensign

Start: [Peet's Coffee](#) on Fourth Street

On this two-mile flat stroll, Jacque will highlight some of West Berkeley's past and the dramatic changes the neighborhood has undergone in recent decades. After a brief introduction, she'll highlight some of the new buildings on Fourth Street, including the Apple Store, and then move on to one of the oldest, [Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto](#), founded in 1890. She will discuss the concerns over the plans to develop the restaurant's parking lot, among them whether the site was Ohlone burial ground. From there, we'll head to the AmTrak Station, pausing along the way to see the murals commemorating the Ohlone's history in the area and local wildlife. Before returning to Peet's, we'll visit the new [Dona Spring Municipal Animal Shelter](#) at the south end of Aquatic Park, a LEED certified building completed in 2012.

Join Our Work Parties

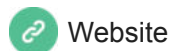


Turnbridge Lane had nearly disappeared until our hard-working volunteers weeded and cleared it.

Lend a Hand to Keep our Paths Clear for Emergencies

Monday, January 8 @ 11:30 a.m.

Help us transform another weed-obscured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email [Mary Lynch](mailto:Mary.Lynch@...) if you can come, and she will send you the location of the next Path Maintenance Work Party. We'll supply gloves and tools, but feel free to bring your own. Refreshments will be served.



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