



# Lake Darling State Park 5K & 10K

Washington County, Iowa



# Lake Darling State Park 5K & 10K

41.190135, -91.899538

111 Lake Darling Road; Brighton, IA 52540

Directions from the park office to the walk start:  
Turn right onto the park road, drive to the campground boat ramp parking lot. The walk starts and finishes there.

## 5K & 10K WALK DIRECTIONS

1. From the parking lot, head left (as you look at the lake) toward the bridge. Cross the bridge and head toward the paved road
2. Go right onto the road, follow the road to the next bridge, cross it and follow the trail/road to the right uphill
3. Just past camp site 80 on your right, take the multiuse trail
4. At the T-intersection, turn left, and follow the trail around the prairie. There will be trees on your right and prairie on your left. You will walk along the prairie edge for a ways. You will come to a sign post on your right
5. At the sign post, turn right into the woods. (If you come to a road, you've gone too far and missed this turn)
6. At the next sign turn right Camp Ground Prairie Border Trail (PBT) (bridge into campground is too far)
7. Right at next sign. Cross Pond 16 on the earth dam. Continue straight to the road
8. **5K walkers:** turn left on the road into the gravel parking lot. On the lake side of the lot, follow the trail down the hill toward the lake. Turn left onto the paved trail (not towards bridge) Continue to #25. **10K walkers:** Cross the road and continue straight ahead on the trail.
9. Just down the hill you will come to a cross pond 15 on the earthen dam
10. At the next sign, go left toward the group camp area/cemetery/dam. You are crossing Pond 14
11. When you come to the road, turn left and cross the bridge. Right after crossing the bridge, you will turn left onto the multiuse trail
12. Continue on the trail, cross the bridge and turn left at the T
13. The trail will emerge into the prairie, keep left
14. At the next intersection, stay left into the trees, with the stream on your left. You will cross dam 12.
15. Take a sharp left at the road, staying on the trail. Note the history sign. Also, there are restrooms.
16. Staying on the trail, go down the hill and take a left across the bridge and another left at the Y intersection. The lake will be on your left
17. At the lake Y-intersection, go right. Keep the lake on your left.
18. You will come to a T-intersection, turn left and cross the land bridge. Continue straight on the trail. The Old Farmstead will be on your left after you climb the hill at a sharp left bend
19. At the "Lakeshore Loop" go left (do not cross Pond 8 on your right). Stay straight on the trail, aim for the lake
20. Follow along the lake shore keeping the lake on your right

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- 21.** When you come back to the land bridge you passed in step #18 turn right and cross back over the land bridge.
- 22.** Turn right once you are on the other side keeping the lake on your right.
- 23.** Continue straight toward the bridge then cross over it. You've got a great view here!!
- 24.** Turn right at the other shoreline following the shoreline trail
- 25.** Follow the paved trail keeping the lake on your right.
- 26.** You will come to the boat rental building. At the boat house, go straight up the hill, away from the lake. Follow the paved trail, you will pass the lodge on your right. Once uphill continue to follow the paved trail (the lake will be on your right). Continue on the trail back to the parking lot where you started.