

Concord MA Walking Tour

The top sights in Concord include:

—**Old North Bridge**, site of the first American victory in the Revolutionary War, and neighboring **Old Manse**.

—**Authors' Ridge** in **Sleepy Hollow Cemetery**, with the graves of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Louisa May Alcott, Daniel Chester French and other renowned Concordians.

—**Ralph Waldo Emerson house** and **Concord Museum**

—**Orchard House** and **The Wayside**, homes of the Alcott and Hawthorne families.

—**Walden Pond**, where Thoreau lived alone for over two years.

This walk takes you from Monument Square 5.2 miles (8.4 km) through Concord and back to Monument Square, about two hours' leisurely walking, not counting time spent at sites. The walk to and from Walden Pond is an additional 3 to 3-1/2 miles (4.8 to 5.6 km, 1 to 1-1/2 hours). Many people choose to walk in Concord center, but drive to Walden Pond.

Arrival by Train

If you come from Boston by MBTA Commuter Rail train, get out at the Concord station (not West Concord). It's 6/10ths-mile (1-km, 10-minute) walk east from the Concord station (known as "the Depot") to Monument Square, or a 1.7-mile (2.74 -km, 30-minute) walk southeast from the station to Walden Pond.

Monument Square to North Bridge

Start your tour in **Monument Square**, the heart of Concord center. Concord's Colonial Inn is at the north end of the square, the red brick **Town House** (municipal building) on the east side along with the **Holy Family Roman Catholic church** and the **Old Hill Burying Ground**.

With the **Colonial Inn** on your left, walk north along Monument Street 7/10ths of a mile (just over 1 km, 12 to 15 minutes) to **Old North Bridge**. The **North Bridge Visitor Center** is a further 3/10ths mile (500 meters) uphill from the bridge.

Two possible routes from North Bridge to Authors' Ridge:

Forest Route to Authors' Ridge

Walk back toward Monument Square along Monument Street. Four minutes along, just before Bartlett Street (on the left), notice the straight woodland path on the left (east). This is a section of the Bay Circuit Trail. Follow this trail for six to eight minutes until you

see a tall granite marker stone on the right which reads "Across these fields passed the colonial militia North Bridge to Meriam's Corner April 19 1775." Turn right at this marker and follow an unmarked path through the forest for four or five minutes to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. You'll pass between two granite posts and step onto a macadam circle. To the left of the circle, a rough path leads steeply uphill to Authors' Ridge; or you can stay on the macadam road and walk uphill, passing the famous Melvin Memorial on the left, then turning left to reach Authors' Ridge.

Monument Street Route to Authors' Ridge

Return from North Bridge along Monument Street, but turn left on Court Lane just before Monument Square to reach Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Walk through the cemetery to Authors' Ridge to see the graves of Concord's famous writers.

Emerson House, Concord Museum, Orchard House & The Wayside

Return to Monument Square by Bedford Street, turn left and walk along Lexington Road, keeping the red Wright Tavern and tall First Parish in Concord meetinghouse (church) on your right.

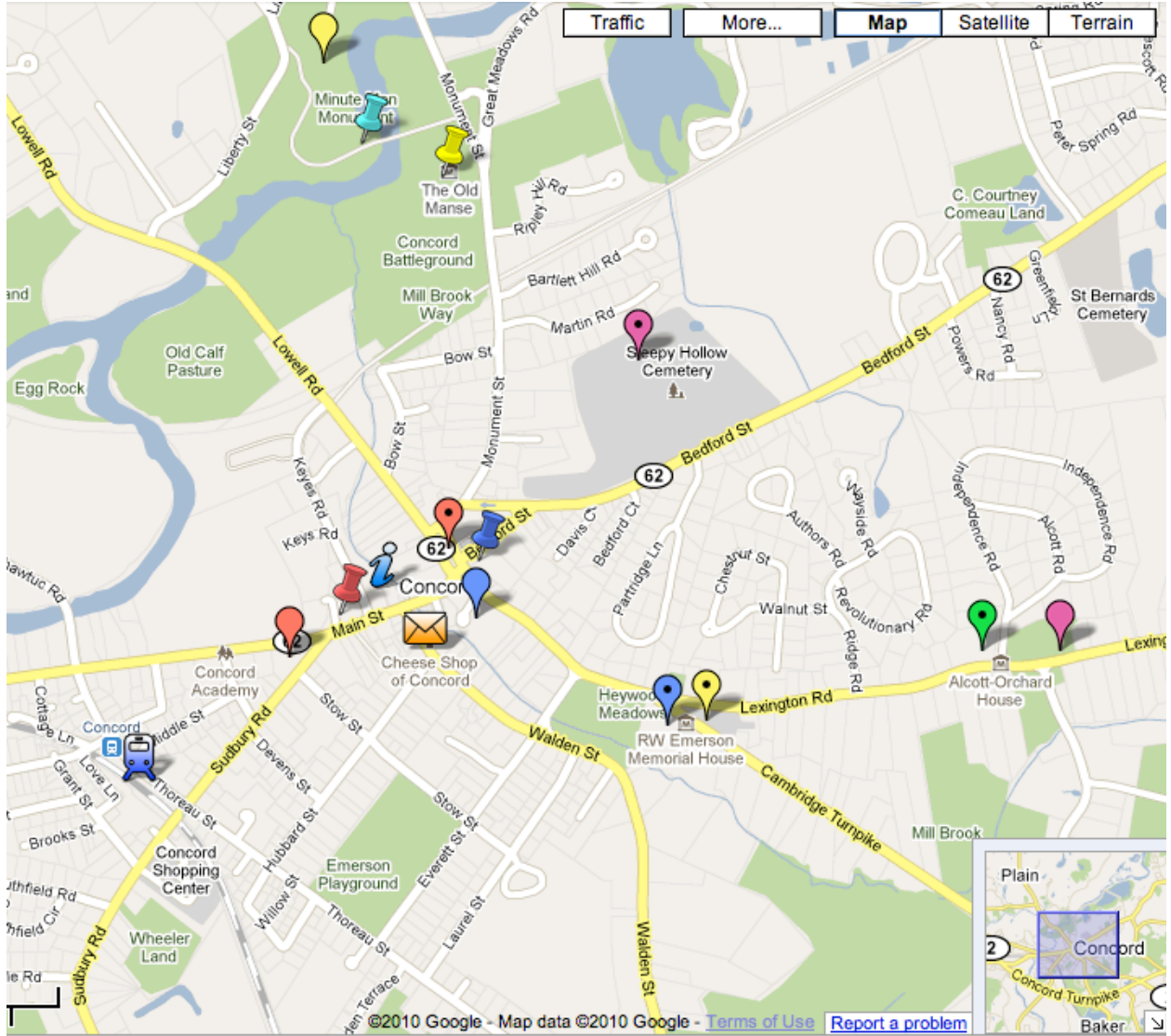
It's a half mile (800 meters, 8 to 10 minutes) from Monument Square to the **Ralph Waldo Emerson House** and **Concord Museum**. Another 4/10ths mile (650 meters, 5 to 7 minutes) along Lexington Road brings you to **Orchard House**, and only a minute more to **The Wayside**.
















The walk from The Wayside back to Monument Square is 8/10ths mile (1.3 km, 10 to 15 minutes).

Walden Pond

Just west of the Emerson House and Concord Museum, turn left on Heywood Street, then left on Walden Street, to walk to **Walden Pond** (1.3 miles, 2.1 km, 20 to 25 minutes).

From Monument Square, walk along Lexington Road for one long block to Heywood Street, turn right, walk one block then turn left on Walden Street and follow it across MA Route 2 to Walden Pond (1.8 miles/2.9 km, 30 to 40 minutes).



-  [Monument Square](#)
Concord's main square, with Concord's Colonial Inn,
 -  [Old Hill Burying Ground](#)
Concord's first and oldest cemetery
 -  [First Parish in Concord](#)
Gathered in 1636, the oldest congregation in Concord
 -  [Concord Visitor Center](#)
Visitor information, maps, brochures, toilets, water
 -  [US Post Office 01742](#)
US Post Office, Concord MA 01742
 -  [Concord Depot train station](#)
MBTA Commuter Rail to Boston & Fitchburg
 -  [South Burying Ground](#)
Concord's second-oldest colonial cemetery
 -  [Authors Ridge, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery](#)
Graves of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David
 -  [Emerson House](#)
Home of Ralph Waldo & Lidian Emerson & family
 -  [Concord Museum](#)
Concord memorabilia, including Emerson's study
 -  [Orchard House](#)
Sometime home of Bronson Alcott and family,
 -  [The Wayside](#)
Home of the Alcotts for awhile, and Nathaniel and
 -  [Concord Free Public Library](#)
Books, magazines, free public Internet access
 -  [Old North Bridge](#)
First American victory of the Revolutionary War was
 -  [The Old Manse](#)
Built by Rev. William Emerson (grandfather of Ralph
-



[Buttrick Mansion](#)

Visitor Center, exhibits, shop, toilets, water fountain



[Barrett's Farm](#)

Historic farmhouse under restoration, this was the



[South Bridge Boat House](#)

Rent canoes here!



[Walden Pond Beach](#)

Lifeguards, children's beach, toilets



[Walden Pond Parking Lot](#)

Per-auto fee all year; closed at sunset



[Thoreau House Replica](#)

Authentic full-size replica of Thoreau's house



[Thoreau House Site](#)

Walden Pond site of Thoreau's little house



[Emerson's Ridge Trail](#)

"High road" trail around Walden Pond

This information is an expansion of the information on NewEnglandTravelPlanner.com:

http://www.newenglandtravelplanner.com/go/ma/boston_west/concord/sights/walking_tour.html

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