The Houston Happy Hikers exists to promote non-competitive walking in the Houston area. The Hikers are associated with the American Volkssport Association (AVA) and the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV).
Throughout the year, the Houston Happy Hikers will sponsor four other Year-Round Events. Houston hosts the following walks: Texas Medical Center, Rice University and Hermann Park. A historic walk is held in Huntsville. The start point for the Houston's Year Round Events is the Holiday Inn & Suites-Medical Center, 6800 Main St., Houston. Visit the HHH web page @ www.houstonhappyhikers.org, AVA @www.ava.org, or TVA @ www.walktexas.org for more information.

**Directions**

Located 19 miles east of downtown Houston, take Beltway 8(Sam Houston Tollway) or Loop 610 to Hwy 225 East (Texas Independence Trail). Exit Independence Parkway (Hwy 134), and turn left (north). At the Y in the road, take the right fork toward the monument. It’s the only tall obelisk in the area!

Start/Finish point is located inside the west entrance to the monument. The Walk Box is in the kiosk just to the left of the west entrance. Please make checks payable to Houston Happy Hikers.
TRAIL: The trail begins at the San Jacinto Monument, the world's tallest memorial tower, rising 520 feet above the battleground. The trail winds throughout the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, and passes the famous “Battleship Texas”, the last of the dreadnought class, commissioned in 1914. The trail continues through De Zavalla Plaza, site of many historic markers and graves of patriots that fought the battle of San Jacinto. You will pass the site where Santa Anna surrendered to the wounded Sam Houston and walk on a boardwalk that extends into the marshes along the Houston Ship Channel and the park. From the trail you will have the opportunity to see many species of waterfowl, shore and marsh birds. The route is not marked, but participants will receive a map with detailed instructions. A 5K option is available.

TRAIL RATING: The trail is rated 1 B mostly along park roads, however some of the walk will be over grassy fields. It is suitable for big-wheeled strollers, but wheelchairs would have to use alternate routes in places.

START/FINISH: See map and directions on back. Enter the monument on the west side and find the AVA Walk Box in the kiosk located to the left of the entrance. You may use the desk to complete registration. Follow the directions in the box. You must register, sign the waiver, and obtain a Start Card and route directions. Return the Walk Box to the desk before starting on the walk. Upon completion of the walk, return to the desk, obtain the box; stamp your record books if you desire IVV credit. Mail the Start Card with appropriate fees in the addressed envelopes provided.

START/FINISH TIMES:
Start any time the monument is open up to approximately 2 hours before the museum closes. Walk must be completed during daylight hours. San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site hours of operation are daily from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. The museum is open from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily. The museum is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

AWARD: “A” award is a 3.25” by 4.5 “patch as seen on the front. The patch design is used with permission of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site.

FEES:
IVV Credit $3.00
Award and IVV credit $7.00
Non-IVV Participant-Free

RECOMMEND: Insect repellent, sunscreen, hat, water, and binoculars.

PETS: Welcome on leash only. No pets in the museum or monument.

IVV CREDIT: Participation in the event is free unless awards or IVV credit are desired. You may get unlimited IVV distance and event credits. You must obtain a new Start Card and pay $3.00 each day you walk. A trail may be walked twice in the same day on one card. Books must be stamped upon completion of the event. Please put your start card and checks in the envelope provided and mail it.

ELIGIBILITY: Noncompetitive. Walk, jog or run at your own pace. It is open to all and families are encouraged to participate. Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Everyone participating MUST register.

DISCLAIMER: The Houston Happy Hikers, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and San Jacinto Museum of History will not be held responsible for accidents, injuries, or lost or stolen items. Every reasonable effort has been made to make this a safe, enjoyable event.

REFRESHMENTS: Water and restrooms are available inside the monument and at points within the park. Food and beverages are available for purchase at the snack bar beside the “Battleship Texas”.

EVENT CONDITIONS: Caution is advised when crossing Independence Parkway (Hwy 134). Please walk friendly, remember to walk on the left side of the road, and stay on shoulders as much as possible. Cars have the right of way. You may walk, jog or run at your own pace. This is a state historic park. Please be respectful of the property, wildlife, and natural habitat. This event takes place rain or shine, with no refunds.

SPONSORS: Houston Happy Hikers, P.O. Box 101, Orchard, Texas 77464. Event is sanctioned by the American Volkssporting Association (AVA) a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV).

EVENT INFORMATION:
Ken/Daralyn Schubert at (281) 324-1573 or daralynschubert@yahoo.com

TOURIST INFORMATION:
San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site-281-479-2431
San Jacinto Museum of History-281-479-2421
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/san-jacinto-battleground