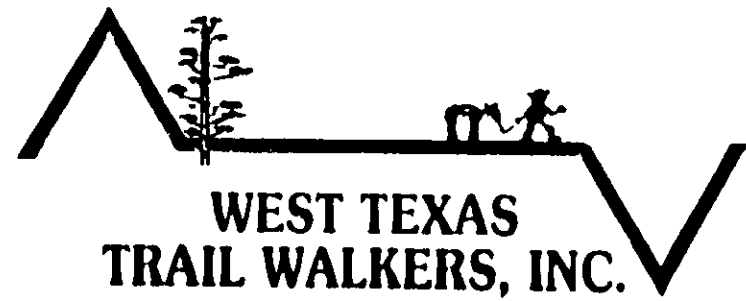




WEST TEXAS TRAIL WALKERS, INC.
% Leslie Forester
13822 Menasco Ct.
Houston, TX 77077



WEST TEXAS TRAIL WALKERS, INC.

17th Club Event
10, 15, 20 and 25 km Walks

October 6, 7, 8 1995
**Big Bend Ranch State Nature Area &
Big Bend National Park Ranch
Headquarters - Lajitas, Texas**



3 Sanctioned Events
SW 95 -136, SW 95 -137, SW 95 -138

Note: Restricted Start Times

Postage



Sponsor: West Texas Trail Walkers, Inc., a nonprofit sports organization with the aim of promoting outdoor recreation and good health in West Texas.

Sanctioned: By the American Volkssport Association (AVA), a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV). Participation counts for credit toward IVV achievement awards.

Location and Start: Lajitas, Texas, between Big Bend National Park and Big Bend State Nature Area. Start points vary; see headquarters, Lajitas on the Rio Grande Motel.

Finish: Same as start point.

Events: There will be three separate events all sanctioned and all with a different IVV stamp.

Start Times: Restricted start times are in effect due to safety requirements and potential trail support problems and/or special requirements of Park officials. There will be no exceptions!

Event #1 SW 95-136	10 km walk	Friday, Oct. 6	1600-1615 hrs
Event #2 SW 95-137	10-15-20-25 km walk	Saturday, Oct. 7	0800-0900 hrs
Event #3 SW 95-138	10-15 km walk	Sunday, Oct. 8	0800-1000 hrs

Finish Times:

Event #1	Friday, Oct. 6	1915 hrs	SW 95 -136
Event #2	Saturday, Oct. 7	1600 hrs	SW 95 -137
Event #3	Sunday, Oct. 8	1500 hrs	SW 95 -138

Eligibility: All persons and ages are welcome. Children under legal age must be accompanied by an adult. NO PETS allowed on trails.

No refunds: The events will be held regardless of weather and there will be no refunds for no shows and no transferring of fees between events. There will also be no refunds for those refused a start stamp due to noncompliance with minimum water requirements.

Requirements: Walk, or hike at your own pace. The trails are not suited for strollers, wheelchairs, etc., or for running or jogging. The trails are in some instances cross-country (no trail). Trails include uphill, gravel and rocky terrain and some sandy river beds.

Water: You are required to carry your own water. You must have a minimum of one quart per person on short routes (10 km) and two quarts per person on medium routes (15-25 km) to receive a start stamp. Water will be available at start points.

Park Fees: All must pay entrance use fee to state and national park in addition to event fees. State park fee is \$6 per person (\$3 with Conservation Passport). National Park fee is \$3 per person.

Event fees: See registration blank. All events are free of charge to those who do not desire IVV credit or an award except for park entrance as noted above. The club has contracted to collect the park fees and will do so at the start stamp table. Bring your Conservation Passport, National Park entrance receipt or Golden Age or Eagle pass with you.

Preregistration Dates: All preregistrations must be received postmarked on or before 15 September 1995. We order only a limited amount of awards. Awards will be reserved in the order preregistrations are received until the supply is depleted. Due to problems in reordering small quantities, it has become financially difficult to do so. We ask all who want awards to preregister. Any surcharge imposed by the manufacturer on small reorders will be passed on to participants if not preregistered. This surcharge is in addition to the \$1 late registration fee.

Facilities: Campgrounds available at Lajitas (both tent and RV). Small store/cafe.

All facilities cited except Lajitas on the Rio Grande are east of the start point.

Motels and RV sites:

Big Bend Motor Inn
915/371-2218

Easter Egg Valley Motel
915/371-2430

Terlingua Ranch Motel
915/371-2416

Lajitas on the Rio Grande
915/424-3471

Restaurants:

Terlingua Cafe, Terlingua

Lajitas on the Rio Grande Restaurant, Lajitas

Big Bend Motor Inn Restaurant, Study Butte

Special park/club rules: Public consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the park. No smoking on trails—No pets on the trails—Do not disturb anything (plants, animals, rocks, etc.) in the park—Take nothing—Leave only footprints—Pack out your own and any trash found on the trail.

Awards: See sketches. All patches are 100% embroidered. Actual sizes shown.

Event #1 a few "B" awards and IVV certification and credit

Event #2 Patch #1 and IVV credit

Event #3 Patch #3 and IVV credit

Special Award Patch #2 - plain, 3 day 30 km and 3 day 50 km

Clothing/gear: The elevation is approximately 2,300 to 3,300 feet. Weather is Texas weather and your guess is as good as anyone's, so plan accordingly. We recommend hiking boots with a good treaded sole and long pants. Hats should be worn; be prepared for changing temperatures. Note: You must carry your own water and food. No food will be available on the route; carry a lunch and take your time to enjoy the canyon. Carry a camera

Saturday evening social, meal and club meeting: The club will hold its annual membership meeting at the evening social and dinner on Saturday the 7th of October at the Lajitas on the Rio Grande Banquet Room. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance from the club's secretary/treasurer through preregistration. Awards will be presented after the meal and special recognition given to various club members.

Menu: Mexican Fiesta Buffet.

Local attractions: Warnock Center Museum, horseback riding, river float trips on the Rio Grande, golf, Lajitas Trading Post (home of the beer drinking goat), exploring ghost town, Big Bend National Park Basin area hiking trails.

Park Fees: WTTW has made arrangements to collect the park fees and, in the case of the Big Bend Ranch State Nature Area, has prepaid a deposit to have exclusive use of the trails due to the trail use restrictions. These fees will be collected at the start stamp table on Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday: \$3 per person. Free if you possess a valid Golden Age Pass or Annual Golden Eagle Pass or current Big Bend National Park use permit (obtain at Big Bend). Bring your pass/permit to the start table.

Sunday: \$3 per person with current Texas Conservation Passport or \$6 without current Texas Conservation Passport. Bring your passport to the start table.

Contacts: For more information call

Leslie Forrestier Jay Spradling
713/497-0764 or 210/658-8576

or write WTTW at 13822 Menasco Ct., Houston, TX 77077

Trails

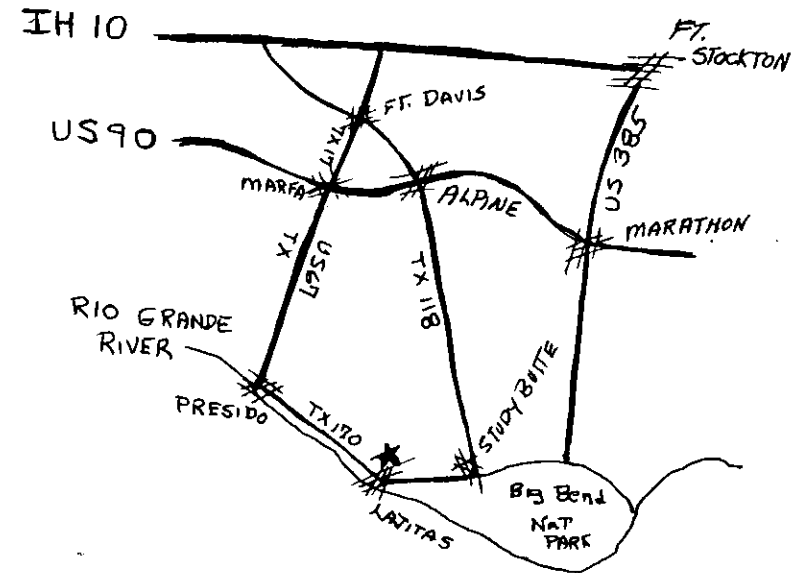
Event #1: 10 km (Friday). Rated 2. This is an afternoon/evening walk around Lajitas (elevation 2,342) and the surrounding area. Flat along dirt roads and trails. Not suited for strollers or wheelchairs. This is a quiet walk around the town, visiting the “beer drinking” goat, the old trading post and along the golf course. There are views of the bluffs, the Rio Grande River, etc., and the sunset over the Mexican mountains will make this a nice warm-up walk for the weekend. After the walk, stop by the cafe or bar (your choice) for continued fellowship. Maximum elevation gain is 58 feet, which is gained and lost twice.

Event #2: 10, 15, 20, 25 km (Saturday). Rated 4-5. Elevation changes; dirt trail and rocky terrain is spots. Starting in Lajitas (elevation 2,342), the trail takes you out of town across the flats of the Comanche Creek Valley. Upon entering Big Bend National Park, the route picks up an old pack trail and heads up one of the draws and begins to climb to the top of Mesa De Anguila. There is a steep section of the trail, approximately 1 km in length where an elevation gain of approximately 600 feet is experienced. Thereafter, the trail levels off and continues south-eastwardly down the south side of the mesa, gradually gaining another 300 feet of elevation prior to reaching the 20 km turn. During the initial climb, take time to stop and turn around and enjoy the views to the north of Lajitas mountains and the Rio Grande. Upon reaching the Mesa, wonderful views can be had off to the south of the Rio Grande River and the mountains of Mexico while closer in the near distance behold the False Sentinel Mountain. A little further down the mesa, the entrance to Santa Elena Canyon comes into view. The views in all directions are fabulous. Sheer cliffs, pour-offs and other features abound. The trail turns north, cuts over a saddle^(A) at its high point (3,580 feet), stays on the north portion of the mesa before beginning a descent off the north slope, losing 380 feet in elevation. The trail then turns west-northwest, following along the 3,000 foot contour along the north base of the mesa and gradually drops to 2,400 feet in elevation, then retraces back to Lajitas. The 10, 15 and 20 km trails are out and back and make a turn around, at the appropriate distances at a checkpoint, prior to the north turn over the saddle at (A) above. This is an old pack trail—rocky surface at times, along the edge of draws and sandy at points.

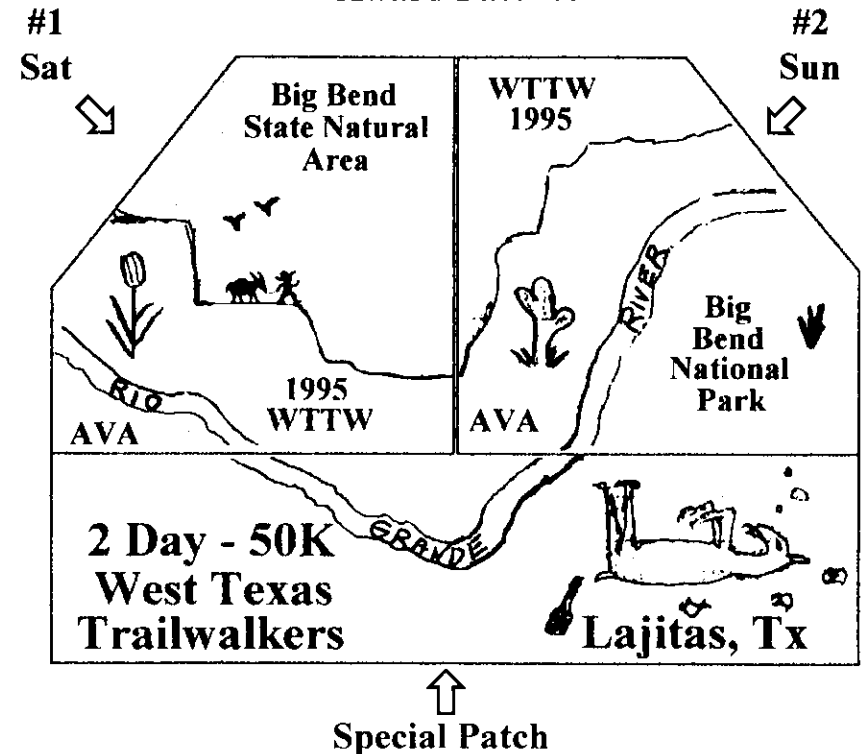
Note for those who desire a less strenuous 10 km. You may opt for the alternative route (rated 2½-3) which is the last 5 km of the 25 km route. This trail stays in the valley along the north base of Mesa de Anguila and gains a maximum elevation of 2,600 feet, or a 258 foot gain—200 foot gain being in the last 1½ km prior to the turn around at the 5 km point. While this trail provides some great views along the trail and to the north, it lacks the magnificent views to the south, east and west that are available to those who climb the other 10 km trail.

Event #3: 10, 15 km (Sunday). Rated 3-4. This is a great adventure into the Big Bend State Nature Area. As you probably know, the area is under development and our visit will be one of the first for a hiking club into the area. Our hope is that by showing a strong interest in the trails, we can encourage the opening of other BBSNA trails. For this event we will be using two of the Rancherias trails, the Rancherias Canyon (west) trail and the Acebuches Canyon (east) trail. Half of the walkers will be assigned to each trail. The west trail is somewhat easier than the east trail. Both are in the 3-4 category.

Map to Lajitas, Texas



Award Patches



Event #3 continued:

The club will make every effort to accommodate walkers as to their preference, but reserves the right to assign walkers to the trail the officers feel most appropriate. We are required by the park officials to balance our impact on the two trails. Both trails are out and back. The east trail begins at an elevation of 2,685 feet and the 10 km reaches a maximum of 3,280 feet—dropping back to 3,000 feet before reversing itself. The 15 km gains a maximum elevation of 3,500 feet. The west trail begins at an elevation of 2,500 feet and gains elevation on the 10 k portion to 3,000 feet. The 15 km gains a little less than an additional 200 feet of elevation. Both trails spend the majority of the distance in the canyons.

The east trail is a traditional horse trail and was a major corridor for moving livestock from the Rio Grande to higher elevations. While the streambed is seldom seen with water, the large cottonwoods and willows hint that water is not far below the surface. Old rock fences and other evidence of early cattle ranching can be observed. The canyon represents a fault zone between two geological events. The flora and fauna are typical of the Chihuahuan Desert region. The trail does cross one ridge line prior to entering the canyon, which offers some excellent views, while also offering the climb which makes this slightly more difficult than the west trail.

The west trail is more predominately in the canyon floor after a short 1 km hike from the trailhead. The canyon contains several seasonal wet spots with associated riparian vegetation. The canyon walls are dominated by ancient lava flows from both the Bofecillos and Sierra Rica volcanoes. Other volcanic activity can also be observed. This trail ultimately ends in a box canyon with a 70-80 foot pour-off, whereas the east trail continues out the other canyon (although we do not). Again, the flora and fauna of the two trails are similar.

Both trails offer the varied beauty of the desert in these canyons where the canyon walls exhibit vegetation much more drought tolerant while that on the canyon floor is of a nature requiring more water. Both canyons are pretty and will offer you the opportunity to experience a hike into a new area.



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Society...**

**To explore, enjoy and
preserve America's trails**

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- Life \$500 Sustaining \$50
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Dues & Contributions are Tax-Deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Total amount enclosed \$ _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____



REGISTRATION FORM
(one person per registration form please)

Disclaimer and Acknowledgment: I have read the trail descriptions and the requirements and certify that I am in sufficiently good health to undertake the walk(s) of the nature described. I understand the sponsors, The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the National Parks Service cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen articles, accident or injury of any kind at any time. Every reasonable effort will be made to make the event safe and enjoyable. I also understand I am responsible for carrying the required amounts of water and any snack/refreshments I may need on the trail.

- A. Event #1 - 10 km walk - B Award (incl. IVV credit) \$3.00 _____
- B. Event #1 - 10 km walk - IVV Credit only \$2.00 _____
- C. Event #2 - 10/25 km walk - Patch (Incl. IVV credit) \$5.00 _____
- D. Event #2 - 10/25 km walk - IVV Credit only \$2.00 _____
- E. Event #3 - 10/15 km walk - Patch (Incl. IVV credit) \$5.00 _____
- F. Event #3 - 10/15 km walk - IVV Credit only \$2.00 _____
- G. Special Event Patch - Plain \$5.00 _____
3-Day 30 km \$5.00 _____
3-Day 50 km \$5.00 _____
- I. Saturday Evening meal \$13.00 _____

Note: Park fees will be collected at the start stamp table Saturday and Sunday.

For those not registering by 15 September 1995, add \$1.00 to items C, E and G. Make checks payable to West Texas Trail Walkers. Send to Leslie Forestier at address on reverse.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Signature _____

Note Club Members: Please sign up for work.
Fri. Walk _____ Sat. Walk _____ Sun. Walk _____
Worker's Social, Fri. Evening _____