This historical walk, designed as a loop, begins and ends at the intersection of Church and Washington Streets, the northeast corner of Tucson’s historic presidio. The complete walk (about 1½ miles in length) takes 1½ to 2 hours, but it can, of course, be done in segments, beginning and ending wherever you like.

More than 20 restaurants are within a few blocks of the walk, providing plenty of opportunities for lunch or a break. Most of the sites on the tour are marked with historical plaques that provide additional information.

Enjoy this walk through the heart of our city, which has expanded out from the adobe fort that was its beginning.

Tucson is generally warm and sunny even in winter, so it is advisable to take water and wear a shady hat.
To the west you will see a basaltic peak adorned with the letter “A.” This was once a lookout for Spanish and Native American sentinels, who watched for raiders approaching the presidio and mission. The “A” was added in 1915, in the form of a life-size sculpture of Wyatt Earp and “Doc” Holiday marks this hill, located just north of “A” Mountain, means “horned lizard” in the Tohono O’odham language. In an O’odham legend a giant horned lizard suddenly began eating people. The O’odham prayed to their god Tito to help them, Tito heard them and turned the lizard into a rocky hill. Now Tumamoc is the home of the University of Arizona’s Desert Laboratory, and the site of one of the longest continuous botanical monitoring plots in the Sonoran Desert. In addition, the hill was used by indigenous people for funerals for several thousand years and is an important archaeological site.

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Carrillo. On the walls of the school’s hallway are historical photographs of the former Carrillo Gardens and the lake. The Fish-Stevens homes, the Romero house, and the Casa Córdova, all built in the 1860s, are classic Sonoran row houses. Period rooms, as well as the Nacimiento, a Mexican Christmas display, are also on display. The Ferrin family home, the site of the original Carrillo Gardens and the lake, is a museum and store selling items made by the students at the nearby Carrillo Elementary School.

This adobe structure is a small museum and store selling items made by the students at the nearby Carrillo Elementary School. The Fish-Stevens homes, the Romero house, and the Casa Córdova, all built in the 1860s, are classic Sonoran row houses. Period rooms, as well as the Nacimiento, a Mexican Christmas display, are also on display. The Ferrin family home, the site of the original Carrillo Gardens and the lake, is a museum and store selling items made by the students at the nearby Carrillo Elementary School.

In 1900 this building has survived fire and the loss of its roof. The building features an inviting courtyard with a fountain. The building was restored in 1990 and is a popular theater venue, renowned for its excellent acoustics. The Morning Music Club, brought a flourishing musical scene to Tucson during the 1920s. The building features an inviting courtyard with a fountain. The building was restored in 1990 and is a popular theater venue, renowned for its excellent acoustics. The Morning Music Club, brought a flourishing musical scene to Tucson during the 1920s.

The Mormon Battalion in 1846. The Battle of Minden, fought on July 20, 1863, was a battle fought by the Mormon Battalion in 1846. The Battle of Minden, fought on July 20, 1863, was a battle fought by the Mormon Battalion in 1846.

This was the premiere weapon of the day. The leggings protected him from thorns. His shield helped to deflect arrows and his 10-foot-long lance could stop an arrow. The leggings protected him from thorns. His shield helped to deflect arrows and his 10-foot-long lance could stop an arrow.

To the west along Simpson St. was an artesian spring with a beautiful garden in the rear. This adobe structure is a small museum and store selling items made by the students at the nearby Carrillo Elementary School. The Fish-Stevens homes, the Romero house, and the Casa Córdova, all built in the 1860s, are classic Sonoran row houses. Period rooms, as well as the Nacimiento, a Mexican Christmas display, are also on display. The Ferrin family home, the site of the original Carrillo Gardens and the lake, is a museum and store selling items made by the students at the nearby Carrillo Elementary School.

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This adobe building named for the wife of its builder, Carmen Soto Vásquez, has an interesting and checkered history. Opened in 1915, it began as a theater devoted to staging dramatic works in Spanish, then it became a movie theater, boxing arena, garage, and Elks Lodge.

Built in 1929 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, this building features a beautiful blue-tiled dome and elegant courtyard. The east wall of the presidio (Stop No. 1) is marked with a granite step in the red sandstone inside the courtyard. An actual piece of the original presidio wall can be seen in the Assessor’s Office on the south side of the courtyard.

This house museum was once owned by the Sosa-Carrillo family; the oldest part of the structure was built as early as the 1860s. It was briefly used as the residence of General John C. Fremont, who was appointed the Territorial Governor in 1878. This Sonoran row house contains an excellent example of a zaguán, a central hall leading from the front to the rear yard. The mission fig in the courtyard was probably planted in the 1900s.

An actual piece of the original presidio wall can be seen in the Assessor’s Office on the south side of the courtyard. This bronze statue commemorates the day in 1846 when the Mormon Battalion entered Tucson on their way to California. One of the Mormon soldiers joined in the fun by playing his fiddle (note fiddle case on north side of statue).

This brass sculpture is the source of the O’odham name for the mountain, pronounced Schook-schon, meaning “at the black base.” This is the result of a football victory over Pomona College. The Ferin and his wife Therese. Therese and the Ferrin’s daughter Clara were instrumental in building the first synagogue in Arizona on south Stone Ave. A store was added to the residence in the 1880s; the structure now operates as a family-owned restaurant and bar.

This was once a lookout for Spanish and Native American sentinels, who watched for raiders approaching the presidio and mission. The “A” was added in 1915, in a burst of University of Arizona student enthusiasm, as the result of a football victory over Pomona College. The O’odham name for the mountain, pronounced Schook-schon, means “at the black base.” This is the source of the name Tucson.

With Lt. Col. Hugo O’Conor in 1775 to found the presidio in Tucson. He explored throughout the region and died in 1781 during an Indian uprising.

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