



1 Ponce de Leon Statue



2 The Historic Sandlin Home



3 Banyan Tree on Retta Esplanade



4 The A. C. Freeman House



5 "Calostimucu" Indian Carving

**Pets**  
Laishley Park is a dog friendly park. Dogs must be on a leash. Please pick up after your dog. Waste bags and receptacles are available throughout the park. Gilchrist Park and the Trabue Harborwalk do not allow pets.

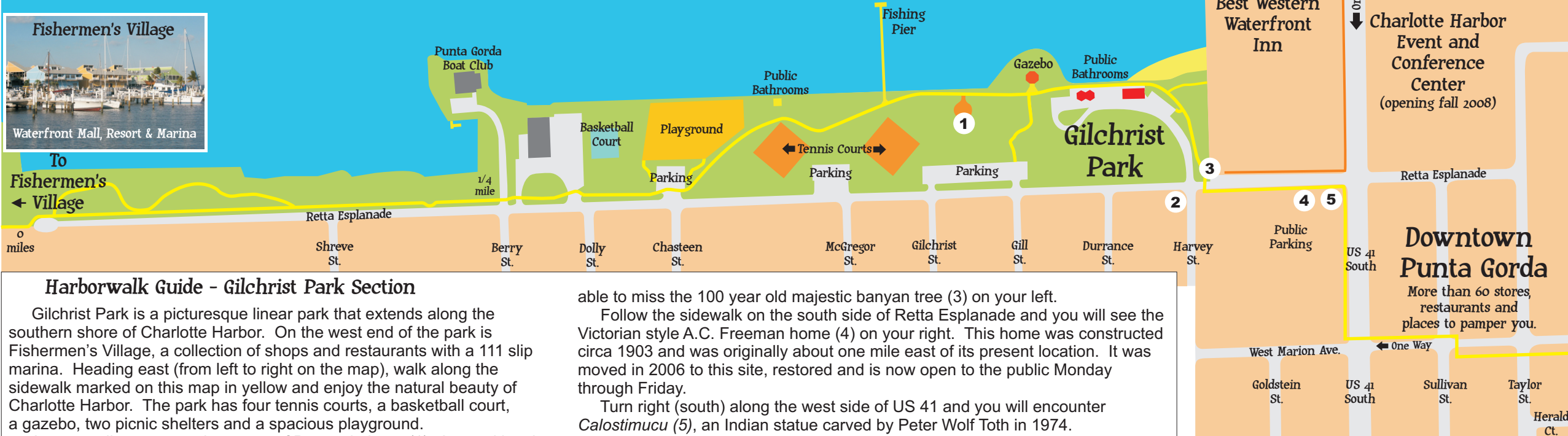
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**Healthy Walks**  
Bridge walk from the south end to the north end of the Barron Collier Bridge - 2.4 miles round trip  
Gilchrist Park gazebo to the north end of the Barron Collier Bridge - 3.0 miles round trip  
Gilchrist Park gazebo through downtown to Laishley Park gazebo - 2.9 miles round trip  
A.C. Freeman House across Bridge to Charlotte County Historical Center via Bayshore Live Oak Park - 4.5 miles round trip  
(Caution: Currently there is no sidewalk from north end of bridge to the beginning of Bayshore Road, approximately .2 miles)  
**Punta Gorda Harborwalk:** From the west end of Gilchrist Park (next to Fishermen's Village) to the east end of the Trabue Harborwalk is 4.5 miles round trip.

# Charlotte Harbor



To Fishermen's Village



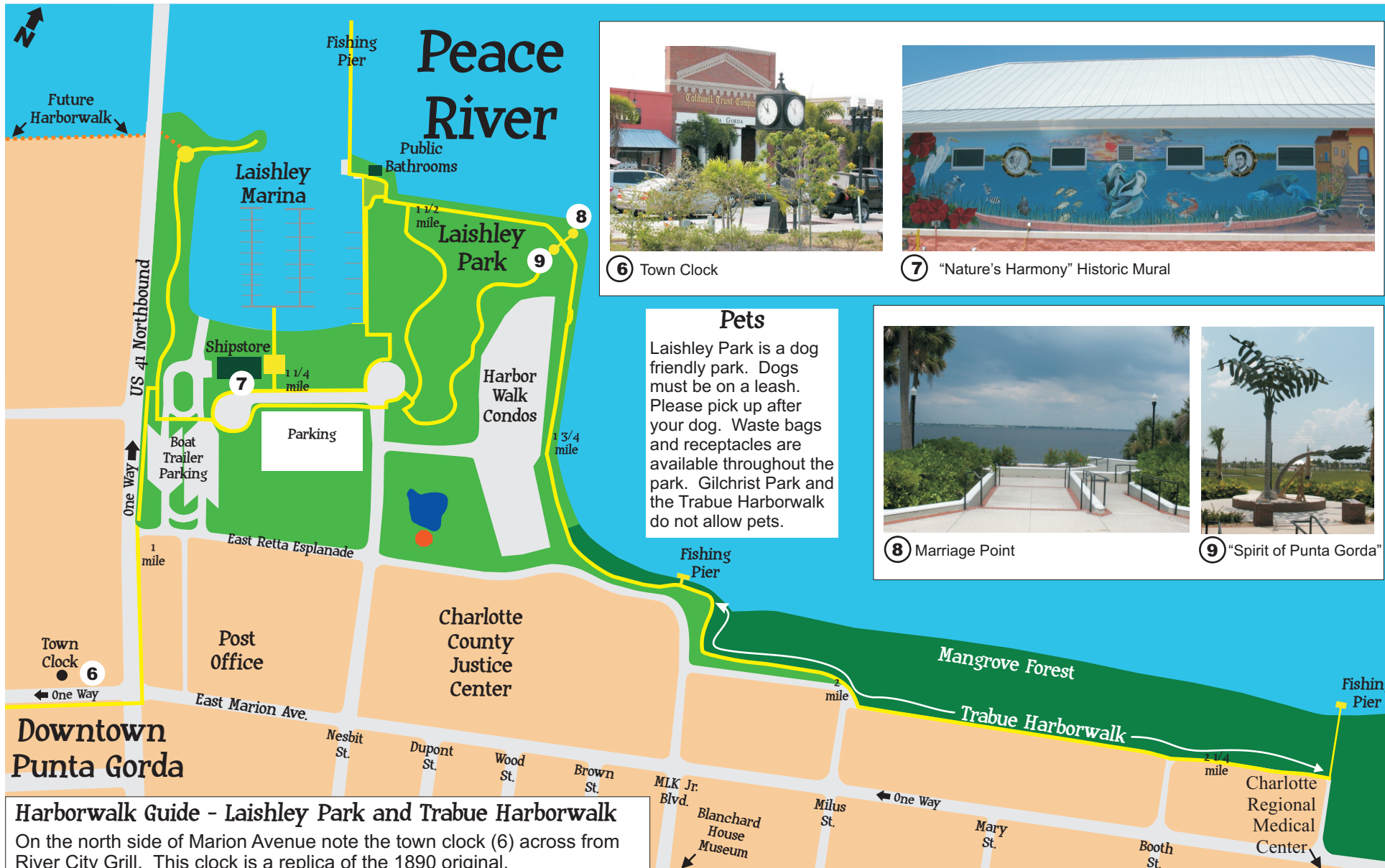
**Harborwalk Guide - Gilchrist Park Section**  
Gilchrist Park is a picturesque linear park that extends along the southern shore of Charlotte Harbor. On the west end of the park is Fishermen's Village, a collection of shops and restaurants with a 111 slip marina. Heading east (from left to right on the map), walk along the sidewalk marked on this map in yellow and enjoy the natural beauty of Charlotte Harbor. The park has four tennis courts, a basketball court, a gazebo, two picnic shelters and a spacious playground.  
As you walk east, note the statue of Ponce de Leon (1). Legend has it that he and his explorers made landfall in Charlotte Harbor in 1513. As the sidewalk leaves the park you will note a stately home on the corner of Retta Esplanade and Harvey Street. The Sandlin home (2) was built in 1893. Cross the street here on Retta and turn toward the east and you won't be

able to miss the 100 year old majestic banyan tree (3) on your left.  
Follow the sidewalk on the south side of Retta Esplanade and you will see the Victorian style A.C. Freeman home (4) on your right. This home was constructed circa 1903 and was originally about one mile east of its present location. It was moved in 2006 to this site, restored and is now open to the public Monday through Friday.  
Turn right (south) along the west side of US 41 and you will encounter *Calostimucu* (5), an Indian statue carved by Peter Wolf Toth in 1974.  
At the intersection of US 41 and Marion Ave., cross US 41 at the pedestrian crosswalk and head east to link up to the eastern half of the waterfront walk.

Please turn this Harborwalk Guide over to explore Laishley Park and the Trabue Harborwalk.

Punta Gorda Pocket Guides are courtesy of Enterprise Punta Gorda, Inc. For more information or comments on the Pocket Guides, email [enterprisepuntagorda@yahoo.com](mailto:enterprisepuntagorda@yahoo.com) or go to [www.enterprisepuntagorda.org](http://www.enterprisepuntagorda.org).





6 Town Clock



7 "Nature's Harmony" Historic Mural

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8 Marriage Point



9 "Spirit of Punta Gorda"

**Harborwalk Guide - Laishley Park and Trabue Harborwalk**

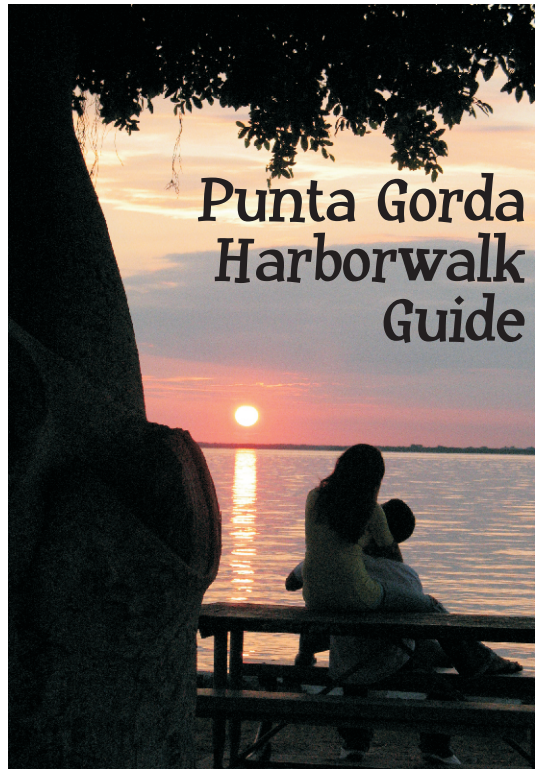
On the north side of Marion Avenue note the town clock (6) across from River City Grill. This clock is a replica of the 1890 original.

Cross US 41 at the pedestrian crosswalk and then cross Marion Avenue at the pedestrian crosswalk heading north. Follow the sidewalk on the east side of US 41 past the boat parking area and turn into the park along the sidewalk.

On the south side of the marina building you will find a mural aptly entitled "Nature's Harmony" (7). Continue east on the sidewalk and head north. The marina basin will be on your left. Ahead is a long fishing pier. It's a great place to see the headwater of the Peace River to the east as it meets Charlotte Harbor.

After visiting the pier follow the sidewalk east along the river. It is not uncommon to see a bottlenose dolphin fishing along the seawall. At the point of land ahead you will be at "Marriage Point" (8). At the base of Marriage Point is a metal sculpture entitled "Spirit of Punta Gorda" (9). It was created by artist Peggy McTeague and is a representation of our community's perseverance in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley which made landfall in Punta Gorda in 2004.

Continue along this sidewalk south and east and you will enter the Trabue Harborwalk area. This quiet walk takes you through a mangrove forest. At the end of this section, take the sidewalk back to downtown along Marion Avenue.



**Punta Gorda Harborwalk Guide**

Welcome to Punta Gorda's picturesque and historic waterfront. We hope you enjoy the points of interest showcased in this guide. On this side, the guide illustrates Laishley Park and the Trabue Harborwalk. The other side of this guide depicts the west side of downtown Punta Gorda and highlights Gilchrist Park.

**Instructions for Safety**

The yellow line denotes public sidewalks. Always use the sidewalks provided. Use caution when crossing any road and always use the pedestrian crosswalks when available.

**The user of this guide accepts all risks.**

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