

mrk.'s Seattle Walking tours

You can do a fun, all-day round trip of all three walks (with the bike trail connecting #1 & #2) is 25 km/15 mi -- start with walk #1, then the bike trail and walks #2 and #3 backwards. Try to get to the watertower before sunset. (or at sunset!)

walk #3 The Alternative District -- Pike & Pine (2.75 km/1.5 mi)

An evening, or daytime walk; 1 hour of moderate walking interesting neighborhoods with many shops, pubs and coffee shops!

>> **DO NOT** use the SEATTLE TOURMAP of downtown. It is **INCORRECT** beyond 7th Ave!! <<

Walk out of the hostel and up the alley into the Pike Place Market, and of course spend some time there.

From **Pike Place Market** walk up Pike Street through the banking district and the upscale shopping district. Right after you go underneath the enormous new Convention Center, turn left at 9th Ave and go one block, past the Paramount Theater to Pike Street, turn right and continue up the hill. After you cross the freeway, you will enter the alternative district. Take your time and enjoy the neighborhood. Check out *Bimbos Bitchen Burrito Kitchen*, *Rudy's Barber shop*, *Coffee Messiah* and other trendy Seattle spots! (POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES: explore the South Capitol Hill neighborhood beyond Broadway (club district) or walk south on Broadway to the Seattle University Campus or you can catch the #10 bus back to the hostel.)

Turn left (north) on **Broadway** and walk through Seattle Central Community College up to the Broadway shopping district. Spend some time there. Check out *TWICE SOLD TALES* on John St, get something to eat and just hang out & people watch. (POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES: The *PARKS* walk (#1) starts on Broadway or you can catch the #7 or #43 bus from Broadway back to the hostel.) When done on Broadway, double back down to the intersection with Olive (& John) and walk down Olive St towards Downtown. Check out *Coffee Messiah* and *Bauhaus!* Walk down Olive St to Melrose Ave where you can cross 2 blocks over to Pine Street, and return through **Westlake Park** (walk through the waterfall!) to the market via Pine Street.

walk #2 Seattle Neighborhoods (8 km/5 mi)

A daytime or evening walk; about 1.5 to 2 hours of moderate walking through city neighborhoods, with great views, hills, water and public art.

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Walk out of the hostel and up the alley into the **Pike Place Market**, and of course spend some time there. (Check out **Chief Seattle's** speech on the wall outside of Raven's Nest, near the fish market!) Out of the market walk one block up to 2nd Ave and walk north on 2nd Ave through the district where **Grunge Music** made its name (after it was born in Olympia, Washington). You will find shops and cafes in the slowly gentrifying neighborhood. Watch for the world famous **Crocodile Cafe**. At Blanchard St turn right, walk two blocks to 4th Ave, and continue up 4th Ave through the more current trendy neighborhood. Notice the non-descript brick building which is a recording studio owned by **Ann & Nancy Wilson** of the 70s rock band **HEART** (they grew up on Queen Anne Hill)-- this is where all the modern Seattle bands record. There are a number of coffee shops in the high rise condos that have been built in the last few years.

Continue to Wall St and then walk up to 5th Ave. At 5th and Wall is a store called **City Foods**. In the building lobby behind that store are **photographs** of this part of Seattle from 80 years ago when they were removing the huge hill that used to be there. It is fascinating (and FREE!). At 5th and Cedar, 2 blocks north, is a statue of **Chief Seattle**, the Native American, (Lushootseed) Chief who some say granted the land for the state of Washington.

Continue into **Seattle Center**, site of the 1962 *CENTURY 21* Worlds Fair, where you can see museums and fountains and grassy lawns and all kinds of things. Check out the architecture of the new **Experience Music Project** building designed by **Frank Geary** (free to look at, but \$20 to go in!). You can look at the world famous **Space Needle** (free to look at, but \$12 to go up!). After exploring the Center go out the back side by the opera house, and explore the crescent shaped neighborhood of **Lower Queen Anne**. Good bookstores and lots of restaurants (good place for a snack!). Check out **Uptown Espresso**, one of the most famous (and nice) Seattle coffee shops.

From Lower Queen Anne, walk UPPPP the hill on Queen Anne Ave N. You cannot miss it! The hill is called the '**Counterbalance**' by locals because they ran very heavy rail cars *under the street* to pull up the old street cars! Walk up the hill about 5 blocks to Highland Drive, turn left and walk 2 blocks to **Kerry Park**. This is where all the famous photos of the downtown Skyline are taken. This is where Fraiser's living room appears to be.

Admire the view and then return to Queen Anne Ave and continue walking up to the **top of the hill**. There is a neighborhood on the top of the hill with coffee shops, grocery stores, cafes and stuff. (From the top of the hill, the #1, #2, #3 and #4 busses will return you to 3rd Ave & Union, 2 blocks from the hostel).

Continue through the neighborhood to the back side of the hill. Turn right N Smith St on and then left on the confusingly named Queen Anne Dr N!! You now should be walking east (Space Needle to your right). Walk through the woods and houses to 4th Ave N which goes almost straight down!!! (Or explore the neighborhood and see if you can find the 2 long staircases) Carefully descend 4th Ave N and cross the **Fremont Bridge** (check out the welcome to Fremont sign!) into **Downtown Fremont** (Fremont Ave N & N 34th St). Immediately upon arriving in Fremont walk up to N 36th St underneath the Highway bridge to see the **coolest, most famous, public art in Seattle**. Then return to Downtown Fremont and explore the shops pubs, restaurants and public art work. To return to the hostel take the #26 bus (back over the bridge) or walk 20 minutes east along the lake to **Gas Works Park** and the **University** to connect with the **PARKS WALK** (backwards) Or you can walk west along the lake to **Ballard** or walk north up to 45th St N, turn right and walk through the **Wallingford** neighborhood to Green Lake (north) or the **University District** (east).

A daytime walk; **about 2 to 3 hours** of moderate walking through woods, gardens, forest, marsh, houses and the University!

>> **DO NOT** use the **SEATTLE TOURMAP** of downtown. It is **INCORRECT** in this area!! <<

This walk starts on Broadway. Take the #7 or #43 bus from Pike St at 4th Ave, near the hostel or use walk #3 **PIKE & PINE** to get there.

After spending some time in the **Broadway** district (*good, very cheap lunch at Than Bros. Pho!*) walk uphill on any cross street in the area (Thomas, Harrison, Republican, Mercer or Roy) about 4 blocks to 14th Ave E. Turn left and walk through the old mansion district to **Volunteer Park**.

As you enter Volunteer Park on 14th Ave E you will see a large, brick **Water Tower** almost hidden in the trees around its base. This water tower, due to being so high on the hill is exactly the same height as the *Space Needle* -- however the *Space Needle* costs \$12 and this is **FREE!** There are 100 stairs and at the top you get a wonderful 360 degree view. You will see Lake Washington, Bellevue and the Cascade mountains to the East, Mt. Rainier and Central Seattle to the South, Downtown and Elliot Bay to the Southwest, Lake Union, Queen Anne, Fremont, Ballard and the Olympic Mountains to the West, and The University and North Seattle to the north. (*Rumors that the Water Tower is closed are incorrect!*)

Walk north past The **Seattle Asian Art Museum** and the **Conservatory** (which is also **FREE**) and turn right to leave the park. Once on 15th Ave E turn left and walk about 2 blocks. On your left is **Lakeview Cemetery** where **Bruce and Brandon Lee** are buried (as well as all the founders of Seattle) which you might want to check out (**FREE**). On your right is **Louisa Boren Overlook & Interlaken Park**, with a magnificent lookout over Lake Washington, Union Bay and the University of Washington. (*You can catch the #10 bus back to the hostel here.*)

In this park is a short, but very steep trail down through beautiful forest to **Interlaken Blvd**. (*If it is too muddy, or you would rather avoid the trail, walk back to the exit from the park and walk down E Galer St to the turnaround at 19th Ave E where you can enter the park or walk around it.*) At the bottom of the hill, on the pavement of Interlaken Blvd turn right and follow the winding road, when you get to the fork, take the left fork and go to the section of the road that is blocked off from cars. Continue into the deep forest. This section was the first paved road in Seattle -- it was a bicycle trail to connect the lakes.

At the end of the blocked off section of Interlaken Blvd take the small trail to the left down to Boyer Ave E and then right to 24th Ave E. Cross 24th Ave E (*You can catch the #43 bus (uphill) back to the hostel here.*) and walk to 26th Ave E. Turn left and walk to Lynn St. Enter the small park on your right and walk over the footbridge into the **Washington Park Arboretum**. There is a map at the end of the bridge. (*POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES: This is a very large park which you can walk in for hours. The **Japanese Garden** is at the southern end -- 30 minutes to your right, the #11 bus runs on E Madison St from near it*)

Walk generally straight then turn left on the road at the park headquarters, walk towards the water. Walk along the water to the little foot bridge which takes you onto **Foster Island** -- wander through the woods (and under the freeway) until you get to tip of the island, looking out over Union Bay, the University of Washington Football Stadium and Luralhurst (the neighborhood for millionaires that Bill Gates grew up in!)

Take the westbound trail near the end of the island into the marshland trails. Here you will see many common Northwest plants and habitats, 12 or 15 kinds of water birds and possibly even beaver and otter! There are many side trails in here that are fun to explore, but eventually the trail will end in a large field by the **Museum of History and Industry**. (Free on Tuesdays).

Stay along the water and pick up the canal trail which will take you to the **Montlake Bridge** (*you can continue under the bridge to a small park and yacht club*) walk up the stairs and across the bridge next to **Husky Stadium**. (*You can walk down along the water by the stadium, to a boathouse that rents canoes and eventually to a wildlife refuge!*) Cross the large street at the first light and walk up the wide grass strip called Rainier Vista. On a clear day there is a wonderful view of **Tahoma**, also know as Mount Rainier, from here.

Continue up this pathway to Drumheller Fountain and into the campus of the **University of Washington**. This was the site of the 1909 Worlds Fair, the **Alaska-Yukon Exposition**. The building on the right has recently been renamed **Mary Gates Hall**, because the billionaire William Henry Gates, Jr., (the father of W. H. Gates, III, who founded Microsoft) funded the remodeling and wanted it named after his wife. Continue up the path to the heart of the UW campus, **Red Square**. There is a webcam on top of Kane Hall, directly across from you, which gives a great view of Mt. Rainier and which you can tell your friends to look for you on! The visitor's center at Campus Parkway & University Wy NE had maps and walking tours of campus.

You can spend time exploring the campus, go to **By George** (a cafeteria on your left near the statue of George Washington) or the **HUB**, (the student center, around the gothic library building to the right) or just head out across Red Square, towards **Denny Hall**, the original building on this, the second campus of the University. Denny Hall, the building with the bell tower, will be on your right as you ascend the hill. From there turn left (west) and walk off campus. In the alley 1/2 block away is the best academic coffee shop in Seattle, **Allegro**, an excellent place to relax after your walk.

One half block from there is **University Way**, commonly called The Ave -- a student oriented shopping district with excellent bookstores, coffee shops and news stands. The Ave has 87 cheap restaurants in 9 blocks, so it is a great place for dinner, or lunch. To return to the hostel from The Ave, catch the #71, 72, 73 southbound to University St downtown, 2 blocks from the hostel. Or you could walk south down The Ave towards the water, turn right and follow the bike trail along the water 30 minutes (4.25 km) past **Gas Works Park** to **Fremont** and pick up walk #2 Seattle Neighborhoods (backwards) to get back home! Don't forget to explore anything that looks interesting!!!