

powered by feet first



Feet First Walk Library

Contact us for more
information about Feet First

314 1st Avenue S
Seattle, WA 98104
www.feetfirst.org
info@feetfirst.org
206 652 2310

North Beacon Hill Viewpoints Walking Tour

Description

This short walk is most rewarding on a clear day; the location on top of Beacon Hill ridge will allow you to see both the Olympic and Cascade Mountains. The sites on this route are diverse, and include a prominent social justice organization, residential streets, businesses on Beacon Avenue South, great views of the city, and some time in one of Seattle's largest parks – Jefferson Park. After the walk, you can choose to end the outing with a stop at a restaurant on Beacon Avenue South or visit the Beacon Hill Library.

Start at: Beacon Hill Light Rail Station, 17th Avenue South & South McClellan Street

How to get there: Accessible by Sound Transit Link light rail to Beacon Hill Station, or Metro bus routes, 36, 38, and 60. Plan your trip at tripplanner.kingcounty.gov/

Length: 1.70 miles; round trip back to the light rail station is 2.27 miles

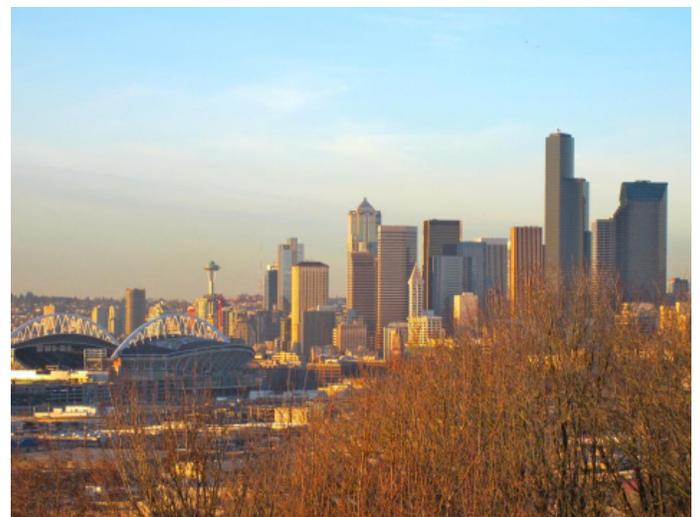
Estimated Time: 60 minutes

Difficulty: Easy, a few moderate hills, but mostly flat

Services: Restrooms at Beacon Hill Library and Jefferson Park

Restrictions: Not ADA accessible

Points of Interest: Beacon Hill Light Rail Station, El Centro de La Raza, Beacon Hill Public Library, Beacon Hill First Baptist Church, Jefferson Park, Beacon Food Forest, Jefferson Park Golf Course





Feet First Walk Library

North Beacon Hill Viewpoints Walking Tour

Directions

1. This route starts at the Beacon Hill Light Rail Station.

The station was opened in 2009 and is known for its public art; “Community Threads,” by Carl Smool is located in the plaza, and “Portals,” can be seen in the concourse.

2. Exit the Light Rail Station and briefly head right (north) on Beacon Avenue S before taking a right on S Lander Street and then an immediate left onto 16th Avenue S. Continue a bit north on 16th Avenue S until you reach the Beacon Hill Elementary School Building.

This is now the headquarters of a Latino/Chicano based, social justice organization called El Centro de La Raza. Including the services within the building, the center has Santos Rodriguez Memorial Park, which includes a playground and demonstration garden. The garden has been used to help educate community members about gardening and growing their own food. The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department recently approved funding for upgrades and the redevelopment of the play area and garden; the expected completion date is December 2013.

3. After checking out El Centro, retrace your steps back to the station by going south on 16th Avenue, right on S Lander Street, and left on Beacon Avenue S to head south. Once you reach S Forest Street, take a right. At the intersection of Beacon Avenue S and S Forest Street is the Beacon Hill Public Library.

The Beacon Avenue side of the library is lined with rocks engraved with haikus written by community members, and the front of the library is marked by a kinetic sculpture titled “The Dream Ship,” and designed by artist Miles Pepper.

4. Head west on S Forest Street. On your right you will pass a green church, Beacon Hill First Baptist Church.

This is the oldest church on Beacon Hill and it was built in 1910. It is a great example of the Tudor Revival style and is a historical landmark. Between 14th Avenue S and 13th Avenue S, notice the two eclectic gardens that border the street.



feet first
promoting walkable communities



Feet First Walk Library

North Beacon Hill Viewpoints Walking Tour

- 5. As you descend the hill after 14th Avenue, you will start to see the gorgeous view of downtown Seattle and the Olympic mountains. A few blocks further down you will reach the 12th Avenue S Viewpoint.**

Take a moment to sit down and look out over downtown, SODO (South of Downtown), the Port of Seattle, and the Olympics.

- 6. When you are finished, take a left and head south on 12th Avenue South. Walk down to the end of the street, and take a left on S Hanford Street then a right on 13th Avenue S, and another left on S Horton Street.**

These few blocks are along the western edge of Beacon Hill, which is a steep, forested drop-off.

- 7. Cross 14th Avenue South and walk to the right briefly, before heading North and then Northeast on S Hinds Street.**

Be careful on these streets, for although they are small, residential streets they do not have sidewalks.

- 8. Take a right on 15th Avenue S and then a left up S Spokane Street. Walk up S Spokane Street for about half a block before taking the gravel walking path to the right up the side of the hill leading into Jefferson Park.**

Jefferson Park has recently gone through numerous renovations. To your left is the new Jefferson Skate Park, a climbing, play structure called "Beacon Mountain," solar-power picnic shelters, as well as a new turf playfield that hosts numerous field sport practices throughout the week.

- 9. If you continue south along the walking path and look out over 15th Avenue South, you can see the start of the Beacon Food Forest.**

This new project is in the process of being developed and when completed, it will be one of the largest food forests in the United States. The forest will provide free food to those who visit as well as education about urban farming.



feet first
promoting walkable communities



Feet First Walk Library

North Beacon Hill Viewpoints Walking Tour

10. When you are finished exploring, head to the left (east) towards the skatepark, then left again (north) towards the playground.

When you are facing north, and walking towards the playground, be sure to look up and see the view of downtown Seattle.

11. Then walk right to the walking path adjacent to Beacon Avenue S, near the tennis courts. Continue north to Beacon Avenue S and S Spokane Street.

At this intersection is Fire Station 13, a historic landmark built in 1928. On the opposite side of Beacon Ave S is the Jefferson Park Golf Course, which was designed by the Olmsted Brothers and opened in 1915.

12. The walk ends here, but to return to the beginning of the walk, head north on Beacon Avenue S, away from Jefferson Park. The light rail station is just a half mile down the street.

If you are hungry there are a few restaurants along the way, and if you would just like to sit somewhere for a bit, look at some books, or use a computer, stop by the Beacon Hill Library on the way back. Here are some recommended, reasonably-priced restaurants/cafes along the way:

- Victrola Coffee, 3215 Beacon Ave S, between S Hanford St and S Horton St
- El Quetzal, 3209 Beacon Ave S, between S Hanford St and S Horton St
- Kusina Filipina, 3201 Beacon Avenue S, at intersection of S Hanford St and Beacon Ave S



