East Queen Anne climb to the TV towers

Slippery when muddy
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to the TV towers

This 3 mile loop climbs up the longest overall stairway in Seattle - South Lake Union to the TV towers - then back up and down several more stairways, through Bye Kracke Park and the Greenbelt, and ends with a stroll along Lake Union. Total of 885 steps up and 302 down. There aren't any coffee shops right on the route, but several on Queen Anne Ave at the top of the hill or further south on Westlake Ave, and a small grocery store near the end of the walk.

Start at Galer and Westlake, and just keep climbing up the Galer street stairs until the top, two blocks from the TV towers. You will take the Hillclimb which is an overpass over Westlake, cross Dexter and get to another overpass over Aurora, and cross several streets including the beautiful Olmsted-designed Bigelow Ave N.

Up 504 steps

When you get to 3rd Ave N, turn left, walk past the TV tower and left again on Lee St, which splits. Stay on the lower part until the stairway down.

Down 25 steps

Across the street is Comstock Place, which lead to Bhy Krack Park, which has gorgeous views and a small wooden set of stairs.

Down 25 steps

Follow the path down a trail with switchbacks, past a playset to 5th Ave N, which splits.

Down 11 steps

Stay high. In one block go
Behind you is a long-abandoned stair, now just a field of thorns. Continue down Lee Street until it seems to end at the next stair.

The first 16 steps are still listed as public stairs.

Down and up 16 steps

Go back up to the corner and turn left on 6th Ave N.

Go straight, you will cross Galer Street and go down a driveway. The next stairs start right against a building.

Down 30 log steps

The path will take you about half way down the hill through the greenbelt, and then back up again.

Here is the view as the path is going back up to MacLean Park.

Cross Taylor Ave N and continue up the Garfield stairway, which has an alley in the middle.

Up 105 steps

At the top turn right and go down 5th Ave N. Cross Taylor Ave again at Trolley Hill Park.

Optional:

Up 80 steps

Explore this park, then you can continue along 5th Ave until Howe street. The walk goes through the greenbelt but right now it is trashy so you may want to skip it (take the shortcut)

Turn left at the top at walk past this view point. At Howe street Turn right.
At Howe Street carefully cross Taylor Ave.

Up 60 steps

**NOTE:** If it has been rainy, turn left at Bigelow and walk back to Galer street. There isn’t any other way to get across Aurora.

**OTHERWISE,**
Turn right at the top, onto Bigelow Ave N, walk two blocks and turn right onto Crockett Street. Go down two blocks past beautiful homes, and look for the trail that begins at the intersection with Taylor Ave.

This is a long ramp which goes down to Aurora. It can get muddy but the rail is newly repaired so hang on.

Near the bottom go to the bus stop on Aurora Ave.

Go down the Stairs, past newly painted murals.

Down 33 steps

Continue down Dexter Way N until the intersection with Dexter Ave N, and cross at the crosswalk. You should be on Crockett Street again, go down two blocks to the stairway.

Down 82 steps

You are back at Westlake, and if you are tired of stairs just cross the street at the light and stroll back along the Ceshiahud loop to the starting point.

Otherwise turn right, staying on the west side of the street for a long block to the next stair on Newton St.

Up and down 53 steps

Carefully cross Westlake and walk back along the lake.

But if you still have excess energy, keep going up the hill until Dexter Ave, turn left and follow it to Galer street and take the secondary stair adjacent to the south side of the buildings (instead of the hill climb) back down to Westlake and the start of the walk.