

Longfellow Creek Loop Stair Walk



Longfellow Creek Loop

This 5.5 mile loop is in a very hilly part of town. The walk includes a short segment along the Longfellow Creek trail, and another through a ravine and greenbelt, and up to the highest point in Seattle. Go up 924 steps and down 770 steps. There is a gas-station food marts on Delridge Way and a cafe at South Seattle Community College. You could make this into two shorter walks and do just the east or west sections, with a return along the creek. The stairs that go up from Delridge Way are nicely designed but they would be even better if the neighbors would pick up the litter.

Start at the intersection of SW Holden St. and Delridge Way, at the base of the first stair.

Up 136 steps



At the top of the stairs turn left onto 20th Ave SW and walk down the hill. This street does not have a side walk and it can be busy, so walk carefully to the next intersection with SW Webster St. Turn right, going up the hill again one more block to 19th Ave SW. Then turn left and in a block you will reach the street end, leading to the next long, winding stair.

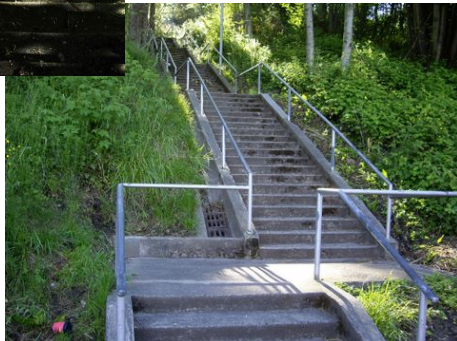


Down 153 steps

Cross Dumar Way at the crosswalk. Turn left and go down the hill back to Delridge Way, going past a gas station with a food mart. Turn right.

In one block you reach the Myrtle Street stairs.

Up 159 steps



Turn left at the top of the stairs onto 21st Ave SW and follow the road past a school. To your left is the Holly Street Stair.



Down 110 steps

Back on Delridge, turn right and go one block, then stay straight at the fork, on 22nd Ave SW, which ends at the next stair on SW Graham Street, next to a large playfield.

Up 135 steps

Keep going straight at the top, cross the street and go down a driveway that leads to more stairs that will cross the ravine.

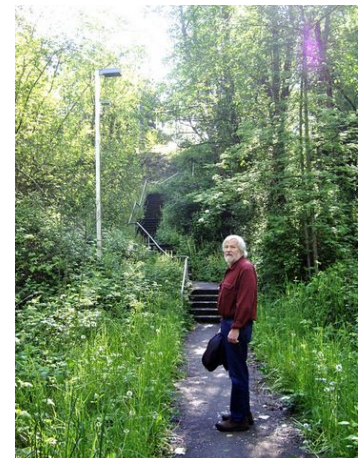


Down 72 steps

There is a short path at the bottom which crosses a creek and then you get to the next stair.

Up 99 steps

Cross the street and you will see the next stair.



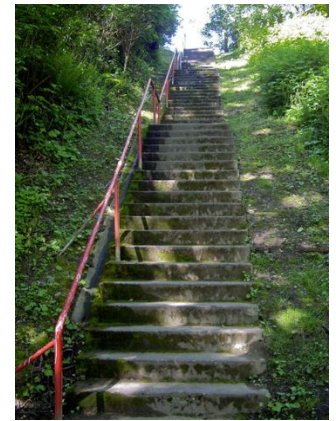


Up 50 steps



To continue on the route, climb up and up.

Up 140 steps



The stair ends at 16th Ave SW. Across the street is the South Seattle Community College (Up 34 steps). Walk around the college, then retrace your steps back through the ravine to 21st Ave SW. Down 50 steps, down 99 steps, up 72 steps.

Suddenly you will find yourself in a new housing development. Jog a little to the left then cross High Point Drive and stay on Graham Street, following signs to the community park, which you reach in a couple of blocks.

Turn right and go a long block until you see the Juneau Street stairs going down to the left.



Down 186 steps

Go straight at the bottom. Cross Delridge street at the traffic light and go one more block to the entrance to the Longfellow Creek Trail. Turn left onto the path and follow it until you get to this bridge on Graham Street.



Walk through the park past the Neighborhood house to the corner of SW Morgan St and Lanham PI SW. Cross at the traffic light, where the street name changes to 31st Ave SW. Go up a block, turn right on Holly St for one block, and look for this colorful stair to your left.



Up 23 steps

At the top of the stairs is West Seattle Elementary School. Turn right and walk past the school until

34th Ave SW. Turn left and go one block to SW Willow Street, turn right and go up one block. Cross 35th Ave SW (be careful; this is a busy street). You will be at the bottom of a new playfield and the highest stair in Seattle.

At this intersection, you can take an alternate route back to the starting point by following the trail towards Roxbury. The trail is marked with post markers and will go along Delridge way for a few blocks. The alternate route is 3.7 miles.



Up 40 steps





The monument at the top of the stairs points to the other (shorter) hills in town. From here there is a great view towards downtown and the Olympics. Follow the path towards right (West) side of the water tower, leaving the playfield onto 36th Ave SW. You are going to go around the water tower, so turn left onto SW Myrtle street to the highest spot in Seattle.

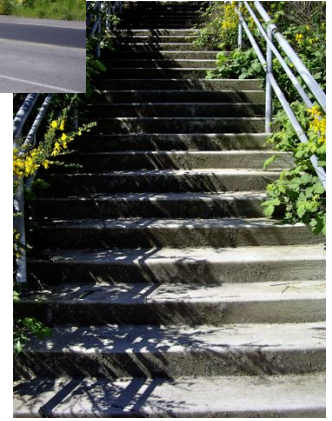


Keep going along the street, which now is heading down, and cross 35th Ave SW at the light. Go down one block to the High Point Playfield and follow the path from the corner to the edge of the ball field, turn right at the community center. This is a nice, new center that is open in the evenings and has restrooms and drinking fountains.

Follow the path towards the east past a restroom and the baseball field to 31st Ave SW. Turn left and go down the hill to SW Holly Street. Turn right for one block, then turn right on Sylvan Way. You will be walking past Forest Lawn Cemetery. The sidewalk changes from the east to the west side of the street at the base of the next stair.



Up 36 steps



There is a nice path at the top of this stair that ends at SW Myrtle Street. To your left is a long, new stair down past some new townhouses.



Down 100 steps

To return, turn left at the bottom of the stairs and left again to SW Sylvan Heights Drive, which curves to join Sylvan Way. Follow the road down the hill until you get to the Home Depot, turn right and go past the front of this store. Keep going straight, cross SW Webster Street, and you will be back on the Longfellow Creek Trail, going past a retention pond on 24th Ave SW. In a block turn left onto SW Holden street and the starting place.