

Madrona Stair Walk

A 3.6 mile walk takes you through 3 parks, along the Lake Washington shoreline, past some nice coffee shops, and up and down hills with lovely houses and cascade views. It climbs up 437 steps and down 666 steps and includes an intersection of two pedestrian bridges over a ravine.

Start at the parking lot on Lake Washington just south of Madrona Park. Your first mission is to find the stairway going up Wellington Ave - look for this sign:



The pathway at the top of the stair will take you to 38th Ave; turn left to towards the intersection with Fullerton Ave then turn right and up the hill.



At E Columbia St. turn left and climb up the hill going up 2 stairways.



Up 61 steps

Up 71 steps

Turn right on 35th Ave and in one block go down 3 stairways on Marion Street





Down 80 steps



Down 39 steps

Down 63 steps

At the bottom turn left and walk up the hill on 37th Ave. The street curves around and leads to the Spring Street Stairs.





Keep going up Spring St until the corner of the Madrona Playground.



Up 11 steps

Loop through the playground and cross Spring St, walk along 34th Ave where you find several coffee shops. St. Clouds restaurant serves a great lunch, or get coffee and a cupcake at Verite.

At Union St turn right and follow paths and stairs for four blocks to 38th St.

Down 13 steps







At 38th Street turn right towards an apparent dead end.

Down 137 steps.

Turn left at the bottom on Newport Way, and in one block turn left again and climb up Grand Ave and then E Pike Street. This curves around into 38th Ave, where you go up to the sidewalk.



Up 15 steps

Turn right. At the end of the block turn left onto Pike St again, then in one block turn right and in one block find the beginning of the Pine St Path, which takes you down to Madrona Drive. It's a delightful curvy path with one small stairway that goes down 3 blocks.



Across Madrona is a wooden pedestrian bridge. Half way across, turn left at the intersection with another bridge.



Up 49 steps

You will be on 39th Ave. Follow this for 2 blocks, cross E Howell St and the name

changes to Dorffel Drive, and after a long block find a small stairway going down.



Turn left at the bottom and walk back up to Dorffel Drive and a complicated intersection with E John St. Climb up the hill on John St until High Lane on your right and follow this to the next stairway.

Down 101 steps.

Now you are back on Dorffel Drive, and across the street is Lakeview Park. Follow the path but don't turn down the hill.





You will come to Harrison St, turn right to a viewpoint overlooking Lake Washington.



At the south side of this viewpoint is a path that goes down the hill.

At the bottom, cross McGilvra Blvd and cross the street to the right sidewalk.



Follow Lake Washington Blvd (notice the brown steet sign indicating an Olmsted-designed boulevard), until you reach Viretta Park.

Down 17 steps



Up 67 steps

Turn left on 36th Ave which changes name to Evergreen Place. At Olive St is the next stair going down.

Down 63 steps

Turn right and walk down the Olmsted boulevard, with a view of Mt. Rainier.





At Pine street go down to the shore.

Down 38 steps

Follow the path until it comes close to the side walk at Spring Street. Watch for the street sign because this turn is easy to miss.





Up 21 steps



In one block you will be at the entrance to Madrona Park. Now walk through the park to return to the starting point.



Up 12 steps





At this intersection turn left (down).

Down 105 timber terrace steps





This walk is lovely and it's worth doing it again, in the opposite (counter-clockwise) direction.