

From the water to the water tower

This is a 2.7 mile loop that goes up 633 steps and down 537 steps. The Howe street stairs have the greatest number of continuous steps in Seattle and are popular for joggers. The walk also goes past two historical cemeteries, Volunteer Park (which has a conservatory and Asian Art Museum) and down the new bicycle park. The walk begins at a classic street-end pocket park on Lake Union and the highest point is, of course, the top of the water tower.

However, if you would rather end with the Howe street stairs, then begin on the next page, at Howe and 10th Ave.

Begin at Pettis Park, at E Newton St and Fairview Ave E.

Down and up 16 steps



Walk south along Fairview Ave until you get to a street sign for Howe street, which is across from a parking lot. At the other side of the lot is the next staircase.



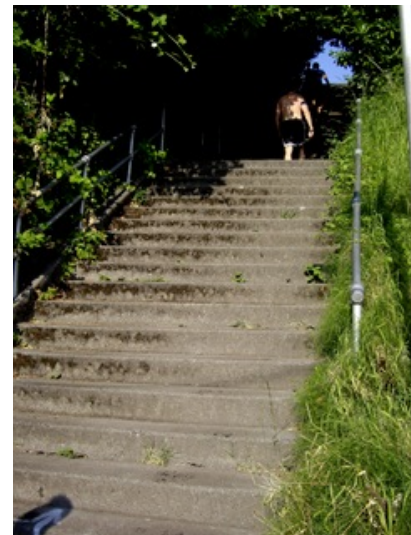
Up 27 steps

Turn right onto Yale Place, cross Eastlake Ave E at the crosswalk, and you can see the Howe Street stairs going under the freeway.

Climb up and up and up.



Up 391 steps



At the top of the stairs, keep walking up Howe Street, and you will go past the Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery. These are graves of Civil War soldiers and it is interesting to look at the tombstones.



Continue on Howe Street and cross 15th Ave E. Turn right and in ½ block turn left onto E. Olin Place. You will have a beautiful view to the East, overlooking Louise Boren Park. Follow this street as it curves around back to 15th Ave E, past a lookout.



Continue along 15th and go past the Lake View Cemetery, with graves of many of the founding pioneers. You can also go down Galer for 3 blocks to the Volunteer Park Café for coffee or lunch.



Volunteer Park is adjacent to the cemetery. Stay on the trail which is parallel to 15th Ave. and cross through the eastern part of the park, curving up towards the water tower. There are two doors out the tower; you will go in the southern door.



Up 13 steps to the door, and 106 steps to the top of the tower.

At the top there is an exhibit of the Olmstead parks and 360° views.



Go down the opposite stairs.

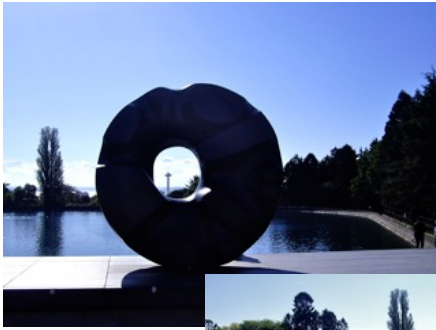
Down 106 steps

After you leave the water tower, turn left (south) towards the reservoir. Follow the road until you get to a lawn which slopes down to the reservoir, and walk down to the fence. Turn around and follow the path back towards the north, towards the next somewhat skewed staircase.



Up 38 steps

Go past the doughnut sculpture and the Art Museum and back down the other side.



Down 38 steps



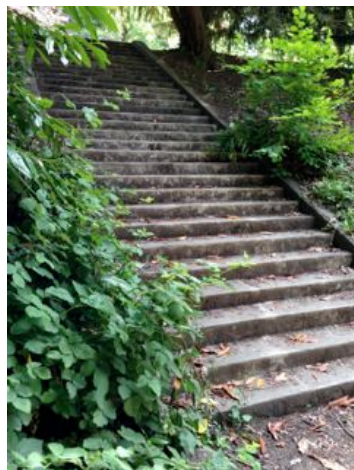
Walk around the reservoir, about halfway you will find another staircase going down to a lawn.



Down 30 steps

Turn left at the bottom of the stairs and follow the path as it slopes down the hill. It intersects a road and on the other side is a another stair going **down 30 steps**

Turn left and follow the path to the corner of the park. Go down the small stairs and come back up the longer ones.



Down 8 steps



Up 23 steps

Turn left and follow the road. Go past the stairway you came down earlier, and you get to a small lawn with a fork

in the path, which goes past a stair that is difficult to see, so don't miss it.



Down 16 steps

Turn right. Follow the path past the tennis courts and you will end up at Galer street.

Go down to the corner, turn right onto Federal Ave E and walk 2 blocks to E Blaine Street (past mansions). Turn left and go down until you get to the stairs.

Down 293 steps

You will go past the lovely Streissguth Gardens.



At the bottom of the stairs is the I-5 Colonade bike park. Walk down the very steep path going under the freeway and continue down Blaine street until you cross Eastlake. (stop at the Grand Central Bakery for coffee). Continue down Blaine to Lake Union, turn right to return To Pettis Park.