

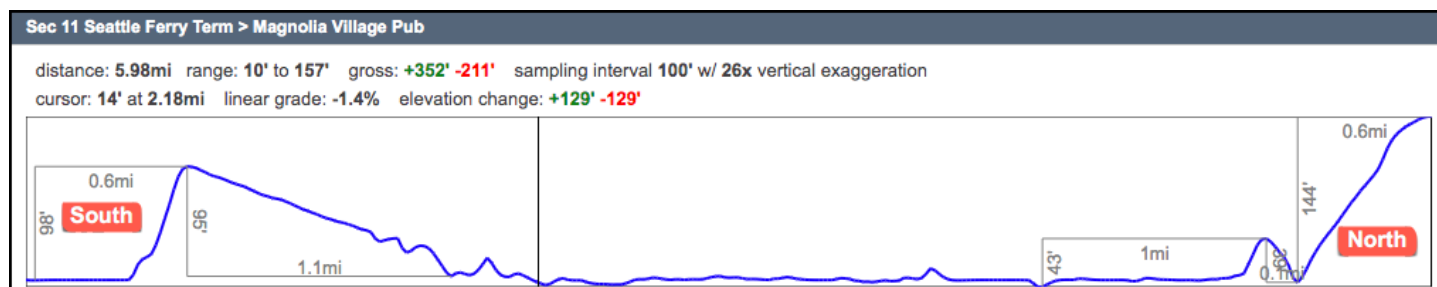
Seattle Olmsted 70 Trail – Section 11

S6 11.7km, 234m	S7 9.6km, 149m	S8 11.1km, 44m	S9 8.6km, 130m	S10 9.5km, 104m	S11 9.6km, 107m	S12 10.8km, 237m
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Pioneer Square Habitat Beach / Pier 50 to Magnolia Village Pub

Walking distance: 9.6 km (6 miles)

Elevation gain: 107m (352 ft)



Section 11 of the Seattle

Olmsted 70 trail begins downtown at Pioneer Square Habitat Beach (9910 8th Ave SW).

You can split Section 11 into two shorter walks. Section 11 South, a celebration of Seattle visual arts, runs from Pioneer Square Habitat Beach to Myrtle Edwards Park 3.5 km (2.2 mi) and Section 11 North finishes at Magnolia Village Pub 6.1 km (3.8 mi). A Loop Option is offered 5.5km (3.4 mi).

For public transit options, public bathrooms and treats see directions, last page.

Pioneer Square¹ and City Hall Park¹ are nearby. Olmsted called for the square to be preserved. The "Battle of Seattle" (1856) was at the City Hall site. City offices moved to 4th and James in 1962.

- Walk north up Western Avenue to turn right (east) up the University Street steps to Post Alley. That's 13-ton **Hammering Man** (Borofsky, 1991 & 1992) you see on 1st Avenue laboring night and day at the Seattle Art Museum (SAM). It fell during installation – no injuries.

Section 11 South

Walking distance: 3.5 km (2.2 miles)

Elevation gain: 39 m (129 ft).

Walkers are responsible for their own safety on Seattle Olmsted routes.

Note: The route is stroller friendly if slight route deviations are not an issue.

- Starting at Pioneer Square Habitat Beach (adjacent to West Seattle Foot Ferry Terminal 50), go north to The Seattle Ferry Terminal (toilets) for stairs (or elevator) up to the Marion Street elevated walkway over Alaskan Way. Cross east to the Western Avenue stairs down to street level.
- Strollers** exit 2nd Avenue and proceed left (north) to Pike Place Market.



Hammering Man right--Photo P Hendrickson

- Turn left (north) past Pike Place Brewing to follow Post Alley along **Seattle Garden** (Sperry, 1988) steel sculpture/security for Seattle City Light Union Street substation.
- Continue north through the much loved (and reviled) Gum Wall to narrow stairs at Pike Street leading up to the Pike Place Market. Kindly greet bronze **Rachel the Piggy Bank** (Gerber, 1986) who has raised money for social service agencies.
- Wander north (beware flying fish) through the Market at your leisure. Some may elect to explore the Overlook Walk (2024).



Overlook Walk to SW--Photo c Tom Rice, City of Seattle

- Cross the cobbled Pike Place, if you must, to wait in line for service at the original **Starbucks** (1971). Hint: **Beecher's** Handmade Cheese nearby also sports a line, but you can watch them make cheddar.

*We are on the traditional land of the **Coast Salish** peoples who live here and steward these lands and waters as they have for time immemorial.*

- Bathrooms are open until at least 5pm and renovated, neighboring **Victor Steinbrueck Park** (1982) keeps long hours. Coast Salish cultural elements were added—find both totem poles and the **Tree of Life** (Wiegman, 2012) bronze memorial sculpture to homeless who died on Seattle streets. Great Sound views. Wander, if you wish,
- Continue north to Belltown neighborhood on Western Avenue past the articulated, inside-out **Angie's Umbrella** (Pridgeon/Shaw, 2003).
- Just ahead at Blanchard Street, find **Union Stables** (Dietrich, 1910), the

largest local horse haven, then housing over 300 steeds. High up see the parapet detailed with a terracotta horse's head. The restored, brick-faced, timber structure is on the National Historic Register.

Olympic Sculpture Park is a mile north of the Seattle Art Museum. Market at the Park offers open air, seasonal dining. Tours include a free, smartphone app and a Tree Walk PDF. Toilets.

- At Broad Street corner find the Olympic Sculpture Park (free). Zig zag your way through 9-acres of monumental artworks to **The Eagle** (Calder, 1971) commanding the park's skyline. If closed (30 minutes after sundown), take Broad Street downhill, then right (north) onto **Elliott Bay Trail**.

Great Northern Tunnel (1904-05) was a James J Hill rail project some called "the longest tunnel in the world" -- it goes Virginia (Street) to Washington (Street). Actual length is 5141 ft for BNSF and Amtrak trains.

- Be sure to cross high over Elliott Avenue and the rail lines to find a ramp (right) leading into **Myrtle Edwards Park**⁴ where you can wet your toes (or all of you) in Puget Sound—the Salish Sea.



The Calder Eagle -- Photo P Hendrickson

Loop Option: Walk the feature-rich waterfront back to ferry terminals. See directions after Section 11 North.

Section 11 North

Walking distance: 5.3 km (3.3 miles)

Elevation gain: 68 m (223 ft)

Note: The final Section 11 North is mostly waterfront including a hidden beach.

- Sculptural treats ahead include **Undercurrents** (Haddadd/Drugan, 2003,2010), **Adjacent, Against, Upon** (1976, Helzer), **Shipmates Light Memorial** (1977), **Tlingit Totem Pole** (Hagen/Kasko/Thomas, 1975).
- Continue north along the Elliott Bay Trail with both pedestrian and cycle paths. See the Post Intelligencer (PI) Globe.
- After the Rose Garden you're in Port of Seattle Centennial Park -- watch deep-bellied bulk carriers filling from the **Terminal 86 Grain Facility** (4.2 million bushels). Salmon rearing pens here, too.
- Find the **Elliott Bay Fishing Pier** (closed indefinitely for safety reasons) and Expedia bathrooms (if available).
- **Expedia** moved here in 2019 and redeveloped the sandy dunes. Take a break on amphitheater steps winding across a high berm with great views.

Strollers retreat to the Expedia pedestrian bridge with elevator service to cross to Elliott Avenue W. Proceed to and cross the Magnolia Bridge. Merge to W Galer St, Magnolia Blvd W, Clise Place W and 32nd Avenue W. Left (west) on W McGraw Street into Village.

- Just past the North Park Garage turn right (east) on W Galer Street to find short flights of stairs up to a flyover. Turn left to cross the train tracks, then down stairs to turn left (northeast) on Elliott Avenue W.
- Follow sidewalk one block, then take the sidewalk across the Magnolia Bridge (W Garfield Street). You walk above **Terminal 91**, with short and long-term moorage for fishing and commercial vessels. To the east are massive rail and cruise ship yards.
- As you approach **Smith Cove**, you may spot a National Geographic Explorer or larger vessel berthed at the passenger terminal.

- You're now in Interbay Neighborhood. Down the ramp to turn left (west) onto 23rd Avenue W past Smith Cove Park.
- Did you spot the former U.S. Navy **Admiral's House** (1944) high on the bluff?
- Bear left onto the Elliott Bay Marina shore side pedestrian path. Forget the bathroom blocks – marina key code entry.
- Treats and splendid views are available at **Maggie Bluffs** restaurant--public toilet also accessible through west entrance (Freedom Boat Club sign on door).
- Walk west until the sidewalk ends above an armored beach at the **Elliott Bay Overlook** (bench). At low tide walk up the beach through **Magnolia Tidelands Park**.
- Or take the rooty, casual trail northwest up through the trees to W Galer Street end—about 100m, 5 minutes.
- Pass by shore homes to find public **"Hidden Beach"** and boat launch at 32nd Avenue W street end.
- Head north up the paved, quiet ravine under the lofty W Howe Street overpass then bear left (northwest) up a sidewalk along 33rd Avenue W.
- Use extreme caution as you approach the 5-way, unprotected intersection at the rear of the **Magnolia Village Pub**.
- Continue to W McGraw Street and the pub entrance. Treats at Magnolia Village center. **Congratulations, you just completed Section 11 of the Seattle Olmsted 70!**

Heading back to Downtown or Colman Docks? One block west on West McGraw Street go right (north) onto 34th Avenue W for Bus #24/124.



Pioneer Square Habitat Beach – Photo P Hendrickson

Section 11 Loop Finish Option

>>Total Loop Data and Loop Finish Section<<
Distance: 5.5 km (3.4 mi) –1.3km (0.8mi)
Elevation Gain: 126 m (416ft) – 20m (66 ft)

- **Note:** *The Loop Option is stroller friendly with sidewalks and ramps.*
- From Myrtle Edward Park follow the Elliott Bay Trail back south as it merges with waterfront Alaskan Way. Perhaps you'll find a cruise ship boarding for the Panama Canal or see the FRS Clipper heading towards Victoria, BC.
- Yes, the Beetles stayed at the Edgewater Hotel on their 1964 tour. No other Seattle Hotel would book them.
- As you approach the Seattle Aquarium, look for the 2024 Overlook Walk to explore new ways to Pike Place Market and terrific views west across the Salish Sea. You're at the epicenter of tourist Seattle.
- The **Seattle Aquarium Ocean Pavilion** (2024) wows veteran Seattleites and tourists alike gazing into the overhead view at the entrance. See <https://www.seattleaquarium.org/explore-the-aquarium/campus/ocean-pavilion/>



Overlook Walk looking NE— Photo P Hendrickson

- Further south Waterfront Park beckons and at night the **Seattle Great Wheel** offers stunning views at Pier 57.

- Pier 55 is the boarding location for Argosy Cruises along the waterfront and transport to Blake Island.
- Seattle folk singer, restaurant and promotions icon Ivar Haglund's first restaurant, **Ivar's Acres of Clams** (Pier 54, 1946), has indoor and covered outdoor service. "Keep Clam!", he counseled. See [History Link Ivar Haglund](#).
- The **Seattle Ferry Terminal** (Coleman Dock) offers bathrooms, transit and views along the elevated boardwalks.
- Just past Pier 50--foot ferries to West Seattle or Vashon Island--is Pioneer Square Habitat Beach. The actual Pioneer Square is four blocks east up Yesler Way.

You've Finished Section 11 Loop Option

Note: *The Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks map display gives five park categories. Our superscripts show: **1**)Pre-1903, **2**)1903-09, **3**)1909-13, **4**)Post 1913, and **5**)Unrealized*

Seattle Olmsted Circuit loops 120km (75 miles) via more easterly parks and boulevards (5 Sections, October 2023) connecting with the more westerly Seattle Olmsted 70 (7 Sections, June 2024). Loop Option (12 sections, January 2025).

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Seattle Urban Walk Committee
The Mountaineers, Founded 1906

(Rev4 12Feb2025/PH)

Navigation Tip: *Staple, then fold these sheets the long way. You can then easily hold them in one hand to follow the turn-by-turn. Some walkers keep their thumb on the bulleted text for their current position.*

TRANSIT, TOILETS and TREATS

King County Metro Transit Service Points

Public transport is available at several locations on Section 11 but these points offer the most options.

Light Rail Schedule [Light Rail](#)

State Ferry Schedule [State Ferries](#)

Metro Water Taxi [Foot Ferry](#)

Bus Routes [Metro Bus Routes](#)

- **Colman Dock Bus** # 21, 56, 57, 113, 545, 550, 70, E Line **Light Rail** S Jackson St & Occidental
- **Third Avenue Buses** # 33
- **Pike Place Market Bus** # 36, 40, 545, 550, 7, E Line, H Line **Light Rail** Westland & Virginia
- **Olympic Sculpture Park Bus** # 1, 7, 70, D Line, E Line, H Line **Light Rail** Westlake Ave & 7th Ave (not close)
- **Expedia Elliott Avenue W Bus** # 24, D Line, E Line
- **Magnolia Center Metro Bus** # 24, 31, 33. D Line

Suggested Bathroom Stops

Free public bathroom access is good on Section 11 during park and business hours. Stops are listed in order of travel from Colman Docks

- Colman Docks Seattle Ferry Terminal
- Pike Place Market
- Waterfront
- Olympic Sculpture Park
- Fishing Pier
- Elliott Bay Marina—Maggie Bluffs
- Magnolia Village Pub

Where to Buy Provisions

Section 11 and nearby have a modest mix of residential, parks and local cafes, bakeries, ice cream parlors, and pubs.

- Seasonal parks, playfield bars
- Seattle Ferry Terminal
- 1st Avenue
- Pike Place Market
- Alaskan Way waterfront
- Elliott Bay Marina

Other Items of Interest

- **Stewards** for Section 11 are to be named.
- **Pike Place Market (1907)** ranks as a #1 tourist attraction but nearly became a parking garage (1950) and high rise (1963). Atty Robert Ashley, architect Victor Steinbrueck and Allied Arts (Friends of the Market) won the day, saving the Market (1974). Visitors and locals gawk at flying fish and support scores of local farmers, merchants, craftspeople, and restaurateurs.
- **Duwamish People** live along these shores and waterways. See <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/real-duwamish-seattles-first-people-and-the-bitter-fight-over-federal-recognition/>
- **P-I Globe** (1948) is now a 13.5-ton, neon city landmark. The last edition of the morning Post Intelligencer was published in 2009. Find the Hearst online edition here [Seattle P-I](#).
- **Neighborhoods** near or on this route are Industrial District, Downtown, Waterfront, Belltown, Denny Hill, Lower Queen Anne, Interbay, Magnolia
- **Olmsted Parks** near or on the route are Pioneer Square, Myrtle Edwards Park, Interbay Playfield, Magnolia Park & Boulevard, Thorndyke Boulevard (unrealized).
- **Seattle Walks** (2025, 2nd Ed) by David Williams and Seattle Stairways Walks (2013, Jaramillos) are excellent sources of historical, cultural and natural information.
- For more complete Olmsted Parks information, consult **Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks**, partners in development of this trail. Local link is [FSOP](#). The national Olmsted Network is [National](#)
- **Seattle ranks** among the top 10 park systems in the country [Top Ten](#)