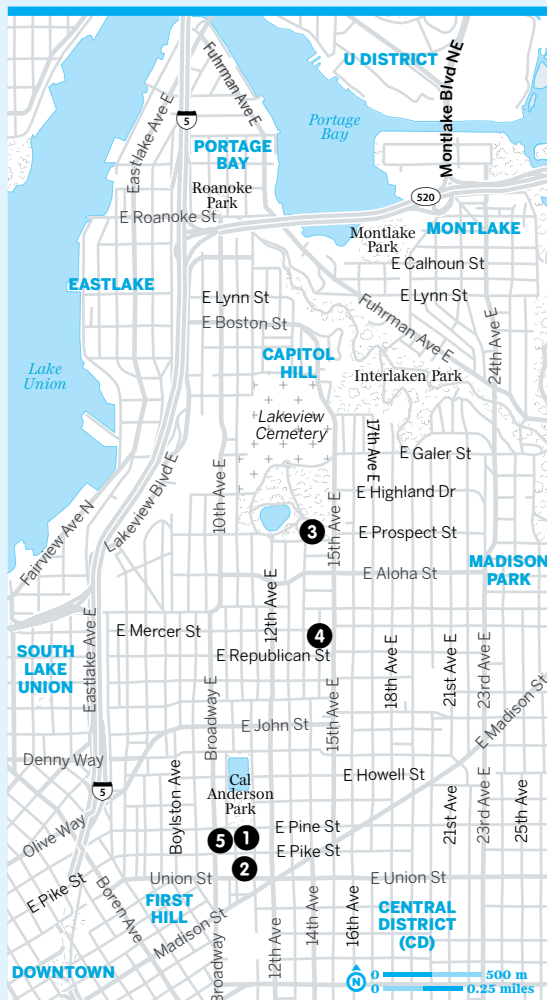


# Capitol Hill & First Hill

CAPITOL HILL | FIRST HILL



## Neighborhood Top Five

- ① Strolling along the **Pike-Pine corridor** (p113), stopping off at bars, brunch stops, music venues or restaurants and watching the fashionable theater of life on the Hill.
- ② Seeing a name band at legendary live-music venue **Neumo's** (p115).
- ③ Climbing the **water tower** (p107) in Volunteer Park to admire dazzling vistas of Seattle and Mt Rainier.
- ④ Gazing jealously at the **mansions on 14th Avenue** and seeing how the top 2% live.
- ⑤ Coming up for air after an afternoon of lazy literary immersion at **Elliott Bay Book Company** (p116).

For more detail of this area, see Map p236 ➔

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

In Capitol Hill, restaurants, bars and cafes usually put quality over quantity. Thus the neighborhood abounds with specialist micro- or (even smaller) nano-businesses. Look out for microbreweries (beer), micro-roasteries (coffee), micro-distilleries (spirits) and micro-creameries (ice cream).

### Best Places to Eat

- Cascina Spinasse (p112)
- Sitka & Spruce (p112)
- Poppy (p112)
- Oddfellows Cafe (p111)

For reviews, see p110 ➡

### Best Places to Drink

- Espresso Vivace at Brix (p113)
- Victrola Coffee Roasters (p113)
- Elysian Brewing Company (p114)
- Tavern Law (p114)

For reviews, see p113 ➡

### Best GLBT Places

- R Place (p115)
- Wildrose (p115)
- Neighbours (p115)
- Crypt (p116)

For reviews, see p115 ➡

## Explore: Capitol Hill & First Hill

To decipher Seattle's most diverse, spirited and downright cool neighborhood it's useful to understand a little of its geography. There are three main commercial strips worth exploring in Capitol Hill – Broadway (the main drag), 15th Ave, and the ultra-cultural Pike–Pine corridor – all of which are refreshingly walkable. Geographically the strips are gelled together by Capitol Hill's residential grid, a mixture of cheap apartment buildings, large grandiose houses and the green expanses of Volunteer Park. This weird but never caustic juxtaposition of rich/poor and chic/scruffy is one of the neighborhood's biggest allures. Herein lives Seattle's wildest assortment of people.

If you're walking up from downtown crossing I-5 on E Pine St, you'll enter the neighborhood close to Melrose Market at the western end of the Pike–Pine corridor. This stretch of aging brick warehouses and former 1950s car dealerships made over into gay bars, live-music clubs, coffeehouses, record stores and fashionable restaurants is Seattle's nightlife central. Explore it by night on foot.

Running perpendicular to Pike–Pine is Capitol Hill's main commercial street, Broadway, while several blocks east is the quieter business district of 15th Ave E. This is where some of the city's wealthiest residents live in the grand old mansions that embellish tree-lined streets such as 14th Ave (aka Millionaires Row). Gawk at the opulence as you make your way up to Capitol Hill's peak, Volunteer Park, home to the Asian Art Museum, a conservatory and a water tower.

More genteel First Hill is best accessed from the bottom of Pike–Pine.

## Local Life

➤ **Espresso Vivace at Brix** Check out next month's fashion and the latest in facial hair at hipster-ville's (and possibly Seattle's), best coffee roasters.

➤ **Cal Anderson Park** On warm summer evenings this is the place to come to watch bike polo, office-versus-office baseball games and tattooed bodies picking up a tan.

## Getting There & Away

➤ **Bus** Metro bus 43 travels between downtown and the U District via Capitol Hill. Bus 10 goes to downtown (Pine and 5th); bus 8 goes to the Seattle Center. To reach First Hill, catch bus 2 on the western side of 3rd Ave downtown and get off at the Swedish Medical Center.

➤ **Streetcar** A new line is coming in 2014, from Pioneer Square up through First Hill to Broadway in Capitol Hill.

➤ **Walk** Capitol Hill can be reached from downtown by walking up E Pine St.