

Fremont & Green Lake

FREMONT | GREEN LAKE

Neighborhood Top Five

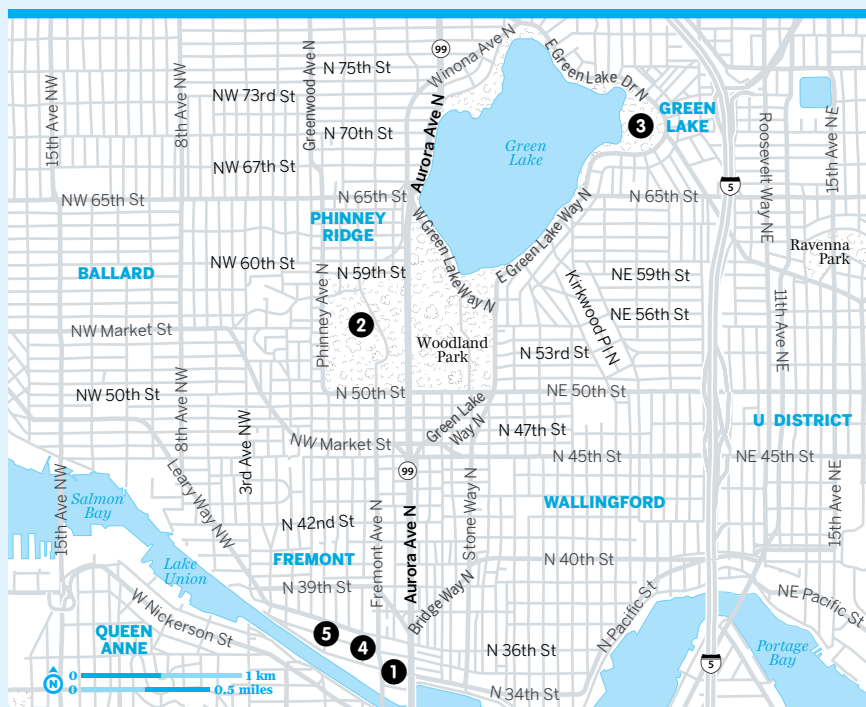
1 Walking around Seattle's most irreverent neighborhood in search of its peculiar sculptures and **public art** (p141) as well as keeping an eye out for any spontaneous pieces that have popped up since this book was written.

2 Exploring one of the US's best animal projects at **Woodland Park Zoo** (p144).

3 Joining the walking, running, skating, cycling mass of humanity powering around beautiful **Green Lake Park** (p144).

4 Soaking up the liberating essence of the summer **Fremont Street Fair** (p21).

5 Watching the wackily attired audience (and the film) at the **Fremont Almost Free Outdoor Cinema** (p147).



For more detail of this area, see Map p244 and p245 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

If you've had your fill of police sirens, panhandlers and the frenetic pace of downtown Seattle, consider staying over in Fremont's new hotel, the affordable Hotel Hotel Hostel, for a more laid-back, under-the-radar look at one of the city's most interesting neighborhoods.



Best Places to Eat

- Pie (p145)
- Paseo (p145)
- Hunger (p145)
- Tangletown Pub (p145)

For reviews, see p145 ➡



Best Places to Drink

- Fremont Brewing (p146)
- George & Dragon Pub (p146)
- Hale's Ales Brewery (p146)

For reviews, see p146 ➡



Best Public Sculpture

- Statue of Lenin (p141)
- Fremont Troll (p141)
- Fremont Rocket (p142)
- Apatosaurs (p143)

For reviews, see p141 ➡

Explore: Fremont & Green Lake

Set your watch back five minutes, turn your brain setting to 'ironic' and cross the Fremont Bridge into the self-proclaimed 'People's Republic of Fremont.'

Weirder than Ballard and more self-deprecating than Capitol Hill, Fremont's essential business is its public sculpture. Most of its outlandish statues and monuments lie clustered around a few square blocks on the southern edge of the neighborhood close to the bridge, making viewing easy. Here you'll also find the bulk of the cheap eating places and Fremont's only hotel.

Fremont's a great neighborhood for getting a taste for local life, especially in summer, when festivals and regular outdoor movies send the locals positively delirious. With good bus connections and a bike-friendly intra-urban trail, it can easily be incorporated with visits to the adjacent neighborhoods of Ballard and Wallingford.

Just north of Fremont lies Green Lake, a small natural lake that's the hub of a large park complex and a pleasant low-key neighborhood punctuated by detached craftsman-style houses. The lake is packed with crowds in summer, but it's even better in fall, when the leaves are changing, or on a rare rain-free day in winter. Any time of the year, it's a great spot for a walk or a run, or just to sit back on a bench and watch the rowers on the water.

Below Green Lake, Woodland Park Zoo is a must-see. And don't neglect to head further up to Phinney Ridge, the hilltop neighborhood north of the zoo along Phinney Ave N, for some good pubs and restaurants.

Local Life

➤ **Outdoor Movies** The best time to meet Fremonters in their element is on summer evenings in the parking-lot-turned-movie-theater better known as Fremont Almost Free Outdoor Cinema. The sight of locals relaxing in beach chairs while dressed up as zombies, wizards or Clint Eastwood is far more interesting than the movie itself.

➤ **Green Lake Park Exercisers** Meet the 75-year-old marathon runner, the hyperventilating weight watcher, the in-line skater on his cell phone, and the lawyer from Phinney Ridge getting bullied by his personal trainer.

Getting There & Away

➤ **Bus** Metro bus 26 runs frequently from downtown to Green Lake via Fremont. Bus 5 runs from downtown via Fremont to Woodland Park Zoo. Buses 28 and 40 connect Fremont with Ballard. Buses 31 and 32 link Fremont with the U District.