

Georgetown & West Seattle

GEORGETOWN | WEST SEATTLE

Neighborhood Top Five

1 Museum of Flight (p169) Seeing how Homo sapiens got from the Wright Brothers to Concorde in the space of just 66 years at this illustrious, entertaining and subtly educational museum.

2 Alki Beach Park (p170) Slowing down the rhythm a notch on a weekend

summer's afternoon on Alki Beach.

3 Georgetown (p39) Going on a pub crawl amid the redbrick bars and beer-stained history of this bohemian enclave.

4 Easy Street Records & Café (p175) Spending a pleasurable afternoon in the cafe, bar and vinyl-stuffed

aisles of West Seattle's legendary record store.

5 Art Attack (p171) Investigating surreal and abstract art creations in Georgetown's fabulous monthly arts event.



For more detail of this area see Maps p254 and p255 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Even Seattle's most rain-hardened brethren would admit that West Seattle is best saved for a sunny day. Visit this hilly, beach-embellished neighborhood in spring or summer and join in the high jinks on ebullient Alki Beach.



Best Places to Eat

- Bakery Nouveau (p172)
- Fonda la Catrina (p171)
- Brass Tacks (p172)
- Spud Fish & Chips (p172)

For reviews, see p171 ➡



Best Drinking & Nightlife

- Conservatory (p173)
- Easy Street Records & Café (p175)
- Machine House Brewery (p173)
- Jules Maes Saloon (p173)
- Elliott Bay Brewery & Pub (p174)

For reviews, see p173 ➡



Best Places to Shop

- Easy Street Records & Café (p175)
- Fantagraphics Bookstore & Gallery (p174)
- Georgetown Records (p174)

For reviews, see p174 ➡

Explore: Georgetown & West Seattle

Located south of downtown and its industrial extension, SoDo, the neighborhoods of Georgetown and West Seattle feel more detached, cut off from the city center by the glassy expanse of Elliott Bay and SoDo's utilitarian warehouses. Since transportation connections to and from downtown are better than those between the neighborhoods themselves, they're often visited separately. Georgetown can be incorporated with a visit to the Museum of Flight, while West Seattle works as a pleasant summer weekend beach sortie.

Located 3 miles south of Seattle proper, Georgetown is an old neighborhood with a scrappy yet independent artistic sensibility whose coolness has still only been partially discovered. Once you get here (regular buses from downtown take 20 minutes), navigation is easy. Most of Georgetown's pubs, hip bars, funky shops and restaurants are clustered on Airport Way S.

There are plenty of Seattleites who would more likely visit Hawaii than spend a day catching rays in West Seattle. But, although this island-like enclave might feel peripheral in the minds of many urbanites, it's actually only – ahem – 15 minutes from downtown by water taxi. Not that everyone dismisses it. Indeed, among a certain type of Seattleite, West Seattle beckons like a proverbial Coney Island, courtesy of sandy Alki Beach, the city's best excuse to get undressed in public and pretend you're in California.

Spread over a peninsula, the neighborhood spins on two hubs: the de-facto downtown called 'the Junction' at California Ave SW and SW Alaska St (whose indie record store and one-in-a-million bakery alone are worth the visit), and the famous beach and its promenade. Free shuttles from the water-taxi dock connect with both.

Local Life

- **Seattle's backyard** When the sun's out, Alki Beach (p170) and its adjacent promenade become Seattle's communal backyard and a good place to play 'guess which neighborhood they're from' with the passing faces.
- **Arty inclinations** Mingle with minstrels, painters, posers and beer aficionados as Georgetown exhibits its playful side during its monthly 'Art attack' (p171).

Getting There & Away

- **Bus** Metro buses 106 and 124 run frequently from downtown to Georgetown. The 124 carries on to the Museum of Flight. Rapid Ride C-Line runs from downtown to West Seattle.
- **Water taxi** Hourly water taxis leave Pier 50 from the downtown waterfront to Seacrest Park in West Seattle. There's no weekend service in the winter.