

Queen Anne & Lake Union

QUEEN ANNE | LAKE UNION

Neighborhood Top Five

1 Museum of History & Industry (p98) Riding the streetcar to this fabulous museum for a first-class exposition of Seattle's grunge-playing, aircraft-building, computer-designing history.

2 Cheshiahud Loop (p105) Circumnavigating Lake Union on foot (or bike)

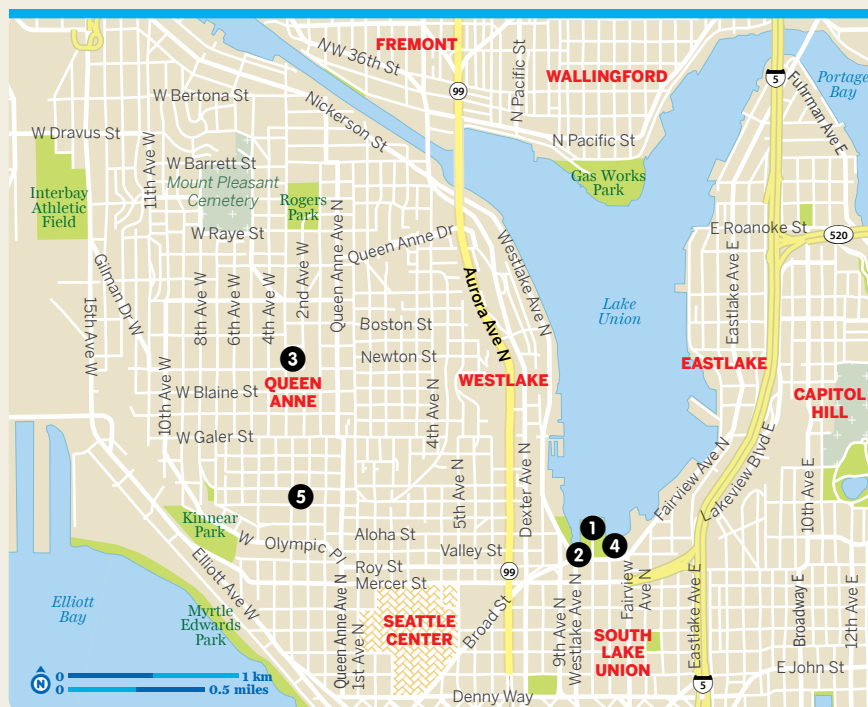
on this well-signposted 6-mile route.

3 Opulent Mansions Admiring the wealthy array of fin-de-siècle architecture atop Queen Anne Hill.

4 Center for Wooden Boats (p99) Sallying forth on Lake Union on a free public sailboat ride from

this one-of-a-kind museum and boating enthusiasts' center.

5 Kerry Park (p99) Viewing lakes, islands, skyscrapers and the even more sky-scraping Mt Rainier from this spectacular lookout at sunset, amid Beverly Hills-like mansions.



For more detail of this area see Map p240 ➔

Explore: Queen Anne & Lake Union

At some point during your Seattle sightseeing sojourn, you'll exit the tourist-heavy Seattle Center and be deposited on one of the busy thoroughfares of Lower Queen Anne, a lived-in urban locale good for a cheap meal or an eye-widening dose of Seattle coffee culture. To get a view of a posher side of the neighborhood, take a steep hike (or jump on a bus) up Queen Anne Ave N, aka 'the Counterbalance' to a markedly different neck of the woods.

Sitting on a 456ft hill above the Seattle Center, Queen Anne proper is an elegant collection of majestic redbrick houses and apartment buildings, sweeping lawns manicured to perfection, and gorgeous views of the city and Elliott Bay. Vistas aside (and, yes, they're worth the energy expenditure), the favorite pastime here is 'mansion-viewing,' ie wandering at will along the traffic-lite streets spying on an opulent array of fin-de-siècle architecture.

To the east, Lake Union – Seattle's watery playground – covers a large area that encompasses several neighborhoods including Fremont and the U District. To get an overview of its famous houseboats and various water-based activities, start in Lake Union Park and circumnavigate the lake on the Cheshiahud Loop, a 6-mile walking circuit. If you have less time, head straight for the Museum of History & Industry, one of Seattle's headline sights. Across Mercer St there are enough restaurants and coffee bars in the burgeoning South Lake Union neighborhood to keep you fueled until dinner time. The handy streetcar will zap you back from lakeside to downtown in 10 minutes.

Local Life

- ➔ **Coffee culture** Examine the velvet foam on your latte at Uptown Espresso Bar (p103) while eavesdropping on cell-phone conversations, yoga enthusiasts comparing breathing techniques, and 20-somethings bragging about how many Twitter followers they have.
- ➔ **Brunch hangout** Find out about the party you missed last night while standing in line for a hangover-curing brunch at 5 Spot (p100).

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Bus** Metro buses 2 and 13 run frequently to Queen Anne from downtown and Seattle Center. Buses 62 and 70 serve the Westlake and Eastlake neighborhoods of Lake Union from downtown.
- ➔ **Streetcar** One of Seattle's two main streetcar lines runs between South Lake Union and the Westlake Center in downtown every 10 minutes.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Hit a Queen Anne super-market or sandwich bar and take a picnic over to Kerry Park (p99), weather permitting, to enjoy what many locals claim is Seattle's finest view.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Toulouse Petit (p101)
- ➔ How to Cook a Wolf (p101)
- ➔ Canlis (p101)
- ➔ Serafina (p102)

For reviews, see p100 ➔

Best Drinking & Nightlife

- ➔ El Diablo Coffee Co (p103)
- ➔ Uptown Espresso Bar (p103)
- ➔ Mecca Café (p103)
- ➔ Hilltop Ale House (p103)

For reviews, see p102 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ REI (p104)
- ➔ Feathered Friends (p105)
- ➔ Queen Anne Book Company (p105)

For reviews, see p104 ➔