Downtown Architecture

Downtown Seattle isn’t the city’s most buzzing neighborhood, but its tall, modern edifices contain some fascinating architectural details rarely spared a glance by the area’s office workers.

**Start** Arctic Building  
**Distance** 2 miles  
**Duration** 1 hour

1. **Start** at the Arctic Building, built in 1917 as a club for Klondike Gold Rush veterans.

2. Ascend to the 73rd floor of the Columbia Center, the tallest building on the West Coast.

3. Pop inside the post-modern Seattle Central Library to see how good architecture can combine practicality and beauty.

4. Walk into the glass-enclosed lobby of Benaroya Concert Hall and look up at the two giant 20ft-long Chihuly chandeliers.

5. The Cobb Building is one of downtown’s more ornate edifices, decorated with sculpted heads of a Native American chief.

6. Rainier Tower, with its precarious-looking inverted base, has been nicknamed the ‘Beaver Building.’

7. Enter the domain of the Jazz Age Fairmont Olympic Hotel, with its plush lobby replete with chandeliers and marble.

8. Take a Break... There’s a branch of Top Pot Hand-forged Doughnuts next to the Arctic Building. Say no more!