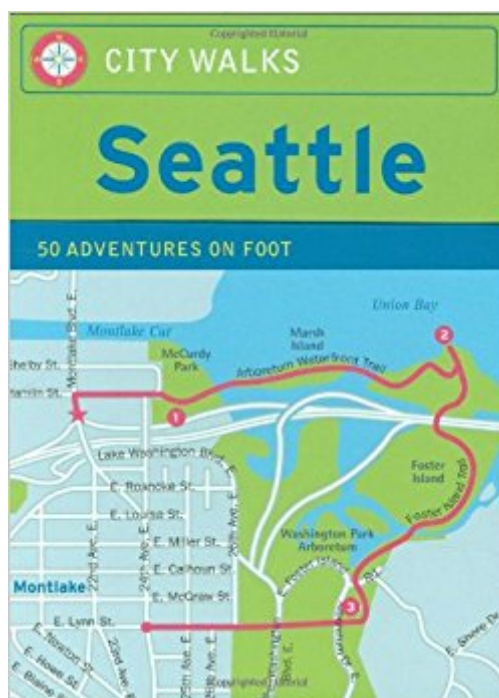


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City Walks: Seattle 50 Adventures On Foot



Synopsis

Explore Seattle like a local! This deck features 50 walking tours packed with insider tips. Walks include: The Space Needle Pioneer Square Pike Place Market Discovery Park

Book Information

Series: City Walks

Cards: 50 pages

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Customer Reviews

Ingrid Emerick is the former editorial director and publisher at Seal Press (now an imprint of Avalon Publishing Group) and now teaches editing and publishing for the University of Washington Certificate Program. She lives and works in Seattle.

I operate a vacation rental property in Seattle and ordered these cards for guests to use. It's a great idea, and I love the design -- the cards are sturdy enough that you can pop one in your bag and take it with you, and it's a lot lighter than carrying around an entire book. And they store nicely in the box. My only criticism is that I noticed half a dozen points of interest that have either closed or moved since the set was published in 2009 (Fun Forest, MOHAI, Elliott Bay Books, etc.). And I'm sure there are more that I'm not familiar with. Of course this is to be expected with any printed guide, so it's not a big deal, but might be disappointing for some. I'd love to have an updated version!

I bought these cards because I know there are a lot of places I just don't make a point to go to

anymore, like West Seattle/Alkali Beach, even though I enjoy them when I get there. Thus, by making it a point to take these walks, I get out of my house and usually jogs along the Interurban Trail and trips to nearby Golden Gardens Park, and get out to the places I used to love to explore when I first moved here. I noticed that almost all the walks begin or end with a bite to eat (walk #2 Seattle Waterfront begins at Ivar's Fish Bar; walk #3 International District ends with Seattle Best Tea. Others mention coffee shops; Kapow! on walk #10 South Lake Union or Uptown Espresso on walk #12 Olympic Sculpture Park) which makes these walks perfect for taking after I get off work. Others, such as Kubota Gardens, Discovery Park, and Marsh and Foster Islands walks, do not. I usually take these walks on the weekends. I like that the cards list the metro bus numbers that run along the beginning and end points, and include actual addresses of many of the points of interest. Because I live in Seattle, naturally a lot of the points of interest I have already been to, but there are definitely some I wasn't aware of! That's another reason I love these cards. For example, Walk #27 University of Washington- of course I've been to the Burke Museum (point of interest #1) and Agua Verde Paddle Club and Cafe (point of interest #8)- but I didn't know that the Theodor Jacobson Observatory (point of interest #2) was open for stargazing the first and third Weds Mar-Nov! The cards are palm sized and made of thick coated paperboard, so I can throw them in my bag as I make my way to the start point and they don't get destroyed. They also resist rain and coffee stains. I also believe the cards to be written by a Seattleite, since walk #26 is called The Ave. One side of the card is an area map with route outlined in pink, and the reverse has a title, an introductory description, and verbiage. "The leafy campus of the state's largest university is home to a number of noteworthy sites, including the Suzzallo Library and its 1.6 million books, the Burke museum, and the sizeable Medicinal Herb Garden" "Start at 15th Ave NE and NE 45th St (via bus #48 or 70). Walk east along 45th, turning right onto Memorial Way. The Burke Museum (1; 4500 15th), a natural history and cultural treasure trove will be on your right...." "Seattle has so many parks, I expected most of the suggested walks to be in the parks. Many are, but many are not! I started Walk #8 Belltown because I LOVE Wasabi Bistro. The walk starts at the Federal Army Navy Surplus store, guides you along the street past mentionable art galleries (JH Terry Gallery eastern treasures, Roq La Rue pop surrealism, Seattle Glassblowing Studio), shops (Chartreuse mod home furnishings) bakeries (nationally renowned Macrina), and bars (Cyclops). When I did this walk I made a mental note to return some other evening with some friends to El Gaucho. The walk ends at Tom Douglas's signature restraint Dahlia Lounge. Bus #2, 7, or 5 departs from 3rd and Virginia. The descriptor at the top gives you a little history on what Belltown used to be known for and what it is now. It also recommends you take this walk later in the day, when the neighborhood comes to

life. And these are just examples. There are too many to list- there are 50 walks total. Every single walk is worth taking, and each one is packed with juicy points of interest that will attract both newbies and long-time residents. The walks are scattered all over the Seattle area, so they give you a good taste of the many neighborhoods Seattle is host too. Many of the walks expectedly hit tourist spots like the fish ladder at the Locks and the Fremont troll, but I never mind seeing these favorites again.

Great to have for visitors. We know all of the major sites but when we have family come visit this is great for additional ideas of things to see/do with them and they are great to pair with a specific activity we have in mind since we can easily find the cards for the area we are already planning to visit. Additionally they are easy to follow and great for lending out to visitors when we are not able to take time off and accompany them sightseeing.

I've just started using these walks and they work more or less for what I need but they contain very little history and seem to have more emphasis on shops and places to buy things than on the history of Seattle. I've been supplementing it with the Lonely Planet Seattle (Travel Guide) because that contains much more history about Seattle's famous locations. If you are someone who just wants to have places to check out and enjoy exploring more on your own and discovering new things these would work quite well because they take you to areas you may otherwise not go to.

So I'm in Seattle a lot for work - like, practically living here - and I wanted to venture into other neighborhoods without a shopping agenda. This has been a great way to introduce me to walking paths and neighborhoods that I would not have otherwise found out about. Highly recommended - anyone who doesn't love Seattle hasn't seen the best parts yet :-)

I moved away from Seattle in the early 90s and I've forgotten most of the interesting strolls in the area. If you are new to Seattle and don't want to start from scratch, City Walks is perfect for you. If you are a marathon walker (shockingly, there are quite a few of you in the Pacific Northwest) and like to explore on your own, you probably won't enjoy this series as much as I have, but I still recommend it: you never know what you'll find with 50 choices.

My biggest disappointment with this is that they are one-way walks, not loops. Most of them are also along the major streets in the neighborhoods. I'll definitely do some of these walks, but instead of

spending my precious time on the bus, I'll be creating my own loops. Better to do that than spend an HOUR on the bus each way (to and from) the beginning of the walk to the end of the walk. Unfortunately Seattle transit just doesn't cut it when it comes to efficiency because for most rides you need to transfer downtown. Even with Rapid Ride, depending on where you're going in the city it still takes on average about an hour to get somewhere that would take 10-15 minutes driving. Maybe this will be an opportunity to check out Car2Go or some other alternative.

we wound up not using them for many of the reasons other people listed. It's not a looped walk and some of the places don't exist anymore.

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