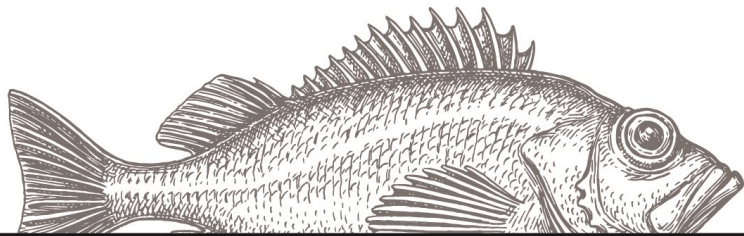




A guide to exploring local beaches



Carkeek Park

Land acknowledgement: Suquamish and Duwamish territories

About the beach:

This beach is great for all age groups (especially younger) because the walk to the water is short. However, to get down to the beach from the parking lot you must cross a bridge that goes over the top of the railroad tracks and down a steep set of stairs. The slope of this beach is relatively flat with mostly cobble and sandy substrate making it easy to walk on. If you go to the right when you get to the bottom of the stairs, at low tide there will be a large rock sticking out of the ground about halfway down the beach. This is a good spot to find lots of sea stars, anemones and crabs.

Parking:

There are many large parking lots within Carkeek Park. The parking area closest to the beach has around 100 parking spots but can fill up quickly on a nice day. Parking at this location is free of charge. Buses can easily pull up and park in the turn out by the bathrooms and reservable shelter.

Bathrooms:

The bathrooms closest to the beach area are in the parking lot next to the playground structures and reservable shelter.

Accessibility:

To get down to the beach from the parking lot, there is a pedestrian overpass and a large set of metal grated stairs you must descend from. There are ADA-compliant bathrooms next to the parking lot before you go down to the beach. They also have covered shelters next to the playground area if you need to take a break from the sun. Note that the covered areas must be reserved to guarantee usage. There is a water fountain near the Salmon Slide that is working. Unfortunately, there is no shade on the beach itself but plenty of trees in the park if the reservable shelter has been booked.

Best tide level:

Visiting this beach is not tide dependent. Ideally, plan to go on a day that has a low tide of anything below 2 feet, but you will be able to observe interesting things even if the tide is higher.

Animals you might meet:

Sea snails, small and large crabs, hermit crabs, chitons, mussels, limpets, geoducks, giant blue heron, harbor seals, sea lions

Address:

1400 NW Carkeek Park Road
Seattle, WA 98177

Park hours:

Mon-Sun 6am to 10pm