

Local Guide to Capitol Hill/Eastern Market

There's a lot more to Capitol Hill than a marble dome and the House and Senate Buildings. I work and live on Capitol Hill in an area now known as "Hill East." Capitol Hill is one of the largest neighborhoods in Washington, stretching east from the Capitol all the way to the Anacostia River. There's a lot to do—especially on the weekends. Enjoy!

—Compiled by Megan Halsband, Library of Congress and Program Committee Co-Chair

Getting there: Hop on the blue/orange line from Metro Center and get off at either the Capitol South station or the Eastern Market Station. The 30's bus lines (32/34/36) run east along Pennsylvania Avenue past the US Capitol and right down to Eastern Market—or grab the 96 Bus or the Circulator from Union Station.

1. **Coffee and breakfast/brunch:** Getting breakfast on the weekend at Market Lunch at Eastern Market is a Capitol Hill tradition—but be prepared to wait in line and bring cash! I like to go to Pound, which not only has great coffee, but also serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Many of the restaurants in the area also serve brunch on the weekends as well (see my recommendations below).

2. **Shop:** I go to the Flea Market at Eastern Market to get presents (for myself and others)—you can find everything from vintage maps and postcards to furniture. I also regularly stop by Hill's Kitchen to get fun kitchen/food stuff. Labyrinth, a game store for adults and children, is a fun place to browse as is Capitol Hill Books—plan to stop at the book store before shopping elsewhere as the aisles are crowded. For those of you with a sweet tooth, check out the Sweet Lobby. Macaroons—need I say more?

3. **Look at some art/architecture:** For those of you looking to check out some local art, the Hill Center has regular exhibitions of local artists, as does the Fridge. Also see what's on the events schedule at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop. The Sewall Belmont House and Cedar Hill, Frederick Douglass' house in southwest Washington (technically Anacostia, but close to Capitol Hill), are worth visiting.

5. **Grab a beer (or wine or cocktail):** There are a lot of places to grab a drink around these parts. If you like Belgian beer, check out Belga Café (see below). Sonoma has a great wine menu, along with a good weekday happy hour. For cocktails, check out the Eddy Bar at Hanks – and get some fresh oysters too! Want to drink with some locals? Head to the Tune Inn or venture further afield to Trusty's (which is in "Hill East").

6. **Eat dinner:** My husband and I like to go to the bar at Belga Cafe and have mussels and frites along with our Belgian beer (they also do a weekend brunch, but make a reservation!) If you're feeling more like comfort food, check out Ted's Bulletin (here, too, be prepared to wait or make a reservation) where you can get homemade poparts, or hit up the Tune Inn. Monmartre is a local French favorite (they also do a weekend brunch). For something more casual grab some pizza/sandwiches from their sister restaurant next door, 7th Hill.

7. **Afterparty:** The Corner Store often has performances in the evenings—check their schedule! And of course, there are numerous other bars and restaurants in the area—check individual websites to see what they have lined up!