

# FRIDAYS ON FOOT: DOWNTOWN

ENGL 108 / SEC. H & I / SUMMER LEAP 2009 / OLDHAM & RUBASKY / CHANG & LEE

WEEK

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Our class is all about discussion, research, asking questions, critical thinking, analysis, experiencing new things, and fun. On Fridays, we will head out into the city, into the “field” to do some exploration, observation, and interaction. The “Fridays on Foot” are designed to first, encourage you to become more aware of the campus, the city, and the communities at large, and second, to think about the connections between what we do in class to what you do out of class, between learning and lived experience. **This week we will be visiting the Downtown area of Seattle, including the famous Pike Place Market.**

## Overview<sup>1</sup>

Pike Place Market is a public market overlooking the Elliott Bay waterfront in Seattle, Washington. The Market, which opened in 1907, is a place of business for many small merchants and a popular tourist destination. Located in the downtown area, it occupies over 9 acres (36,000 square meters). The Market is bounded by First Avenue to the east, Western Avenue to the west, Virginia Street to the north, and, to the south, a line drawn from First to Western Avenues halfway between Pike Street and Union Street. It is named after its central street, Pike Place, which runs northwest from Pike Street to Virginia Street.

The Market is built on the edge of a steep hill. It has several lower levels below the main level, featuring a variety of unique shops. Antique dealers, comic book sellers, and small family-owned restaurants are joined by one of the few remaining head shops in Seattle. The upper street level features fishmongers, fresh produce stands, and craft stalls operating in the covered arcades. Local farmers sell year-round in the arcades from tables they rent on a daily basis.

## History

Pike Place Market originally opened for business on August 17, 1907. It was operated from wagons on a boardwalk adjacent to the Leland Hotel. After an enthusiastic response from local shoppers, the first building at the Market was opened in late 1907.

In 1941, more than two-thirds of the stalls in Pike Place Market were owned by Japanese-Americans. Following Executive Order 9066, all Americans of Japanese ancestry in the "exclusion zone" of western Washington, western Oregon, California, and southern Arizona were interned in camps. Their property, including any stalls at Pike Place, was confiscated and sold.

In 1963, a proposal was floated to demolish Pike Place Market and replace it with Pike Plaza, which would include a hotel, an apartment building, four office buildings, a hockey arena, and a parking garage. This was supported by the mayor, many on the city council, and a number of market property owners. However, there was significant community opposition, and an initiative was passed on November 2, 1971 that created a historic preservation zone. The Pike Place Market Public Development Authority was created and the market buildings were brought into public ownership.

<sup>1</sup> “Pike Place Market.” [Wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pike_Place_Market). 27 June 2008. 9 July 2008. <[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pike\\_Place\\_Market](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pike_Place_Market)>.

## Major Attractions

One of the Market's major attractions is **Pike Place Fish**, where employees throw fish to each other rather than passing them by hand. (The "flying fish" are so famous that they appeared in an episode of the television sitcom *Frasier* that was shot on location in Seattle, MTV's *Real World: Seattle*, and have been featured on *The Learning Channel*.) Pike Place Fish Market employees have committed themselves to becoming "world famous."

**Starbucks Coffee** was founded at Pike Place Market in 1971. The first store is still operating a block north of its original location. The sign outside this branch, unlike others, features a bare-breasted siren. It also features a large pig statue covered in roasted coffee beans.

**Street Performers** are found on many of the corners. To place legally in the market, a special performer's permit is required (so don't start singing and asking for money without one!).

**International delicacies** are available all over the market!! Most places are relatively inexpensive, and have take-out as their only option. Other sit-down dining options are a little more pricy.

**Hand Made Craft** artists showcase their handmade crafts at many stalls in the market. Their one-of-a-kind goods are in high demand for tourists and Seattle-ites alike.

**Flower market**—wait till you see how beautiful and inexpensive the flowers are!

**Historic buildings** are a part of the market and surround the market. The Pike Market neighborhood is largely defined by the concentration of historic buildings in the small area. The Alaska Trade Building (1900–1924), 1915–1919 1st Avenue; the Late Victorian style Butterworth Building (1900–1924), 1921 1st Avenue, originally a mortuary; the Guiry and Schillestad Building (Young Hotel or Schillestad Buildings, 1900–1949), 2101–2111 1st Avenue; and the Renaissance style New Washington Hotel (Josephinum Hotel, (1900–1949), 1902 Second Avenue, are officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Pike Place Market is also a building, the arcade (1907) which is the original Main Market, and a Historic District. Extant buildings are the arcade, the Outlook Hotel and Triangle Market (1908), Sanitary Market (1910), extended arcade (1911), Corner Market building (1912), Fairley Building (1914), and Economy Market (c. 1914–17, nee Bartell Building, 1900). The Sanitary Market was so named for its innovation at the time, that no horses were allowed inside.

# FRIDAYS ON FOOT: PIKE PLACE SCAVENGER HUNT

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As a team, wander and explore the Pike Place Market, keeping an eye out for interesting and noteworthy things. Don't be afraid to ask questions, try something new, and reflect on your experience. Answer as many of the following "scavenger hunt" questions as you can, writing down what you discover and your experiences and responses. **Though you will work together to find the answers, each team member will fill out their own sheets with their own reactions.** Complete as many as you can.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

List your team members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. What main streets/avenues border Pike Place Market?
2. What are the operating hours of the Market?
3. What body of water does the Market face?
4. What is the little public park called adjacent to the Market?
5. Find the price for Wild Alaskan Salmon at the Flying Fish Market.
6. Name three stores or vendors that sell fresh fruits and vegetables.
7. Name three stores or vendors dedicated to selling only sweets.
8. Name three arts and crafts merchants that offer handmade toys?
9. What is so unusual about the wall outside of the Market Theatre in Post Alley. Describe it.
10. What is the Market's official mascot? What is his/her name?
11. If you find the mascot, what is interesting about it (more than that it is a kind of animal)?

12. What are street musicians called?
13. Where can you buy the least expensive plain leather wrist cuff?
14. What does Charlotte's Web sell? Where is it located?
15. What is the Pink Door? What is the street address?
16. On what street is the "Economy Market Entrance?"
17. At Mee Sum Pastry, what is a "bao"?
18. What does The Fay Farm specialize in and sell?
19. Name five different kinds of fresh flowers that are in season.
20. See what is the lowest price available for a bouquet of flowers.
21. Find out what a cheese curd tastes like. Where did you find this out?
22. Where can you buy some fashionable eyeglasses?
23. Where would you go to buy authentic, "famous" sausages to cook at home?
24. What is a crumpet?
25. How many stores are dedicated just to souvenirs?
26. Where is the "Hammering Man?"
27. What is the Starbucks "logo?" What is unusual or interesting about it?
28. In what year did the Starbucks at that location open?

29. Name two bookstores at the Market.
30. What is Tenzing Momo? What does the name mean?
31. How long can packaged fish last without a refrigerator? They can pack it a certain way for travelers—what is it and how long does it last?
32. What is piroshky? Name three different kinds.
33. Name ten specialty art dealers or sellers (they only sell art).
34. How many Turkish restaurants are there in the market? What are their names?
35. What is the cheapest price for fresh peaches?
36. What is the cheapest price for fresh Ranier cherries? How are they different than Bing cherries?
37. What is the “Showbox?”
38. As a visitor, where can you stay at Pike Place Market (what lodging do they have)?
39. At Uli’s Famous Sausage, what is a “banger” and how much do they cost?
40. Sample a food that you have never tried before. Write down what you tried, where you tried it, and what you thought of it.
41. Who is your favorite street performer? Why?
42. What was your favorite stall? Why?