MAP 3: South Walk

You’ll get the best of both worlds on the South Walk. Take a relaxing stroll in Waterloo’s old and new parks, and then re-energize at one of the many restaurants and shopping establishments in uptown Waterloo.

Length: This walk is about 20 minutes long.

LEGEND

Heritage
- Pumphouse
- Bean-Wright House
- Kuntz-Eckert House
- Kuntz-Labatt House
- Erb-Kumpf House
- McLaughlin House
- Seagram-Remax Buildings

Places
- City Centre
- TimeTeller
- Adult Recreation Centre
- Old Seagram Distillery
- Waterloo Public Square

Art
- John Labatt Barley Field
- Triad: dual, Interface & Reunited

Parks
- Barrel Warehouse Park
- Laurel Creek
- Cenotaph Park
- Heritage Park
- Brewmeister Green
- Labatt Park
- Alexandra Park
Pumphouse
This Pumphouse was built in 1899 after the Town of Waterloo took ownership of its own waterworks plant. At a cost of $40,000, three wells were sunk to provide the city with water and fire protection. The yellow brick on this Heritage Landmark is common in uptown Waterloo because it’s made of clay that’s native to the area.

Bean-Wright House
This impressive Victorian home with Italianate-influenced architecture was built by town councillor Theodore Bellinger in 1882, and later sold to David Bean, who also was a councillor, mayor of Waterloo and owner of the Waterloo Chronicle. This Heritage Landmark features a frieze board and brackets under the wide eaves, a bay window with delicate mouldings and a double front door highlighted by an arched course of brick.

Kuntz-Eckert House
The yellow brick Kuntz-Eckert House is an example of a mid-to late-19th-century merchant’s home built in 1880 by David Kuntz. Purchased by Anna Eckert in 1898, the house reflects Italianate influences with its elaborate roof brackets and two-storey projecting bay.

Kuntz-Labatt House
Dating to the mid-1880s, the Kuntz-Labatt House has Italianate features as well as verandahs typical of architecture during that time. The Kuntz family owned a brewery that grew to become the second largest in the province by 1910. Eventually it was sold to Carling, and today this building holds offices and meeting rooms for Erb and Good Family Funeral Home.

Erb-Kumpf House
One of Waterloo’s oldest homes, the Erb-Kumpf House was originally occupied by Abraham Erb, the city’s founder. Ownership passed through several well-known families, including the Devitts, Sniders and Kumpfs, over the years. Parts of the structure date to 1812, and it has undergone a number of additions since then, resulting in a mixture of architectural characteristics – Georgian, Gothic, Doric and Regency.

McLaughlin House
Built in 1867, the McLaughlin House stands out because it was rare to build frame houses in urban areas at that time. Brick houses were encouraged back then, and fire regulations restricted wooden constructions.

Seagram-Remax Buildings
The original Seagram-Remax buildings were built in the 1850s to house a foundry. They were purchased by the Seagram Distillery in 1905, and today they’re used by Remax and Sole Restaurant and Wine Bar.

City Centre
This is Waterloo’s “civic centre” with Waterloo City Centre on one side of Regina Street, and the Region of Waterloo Public Health building on the other. Waterloo City Centre is home to City Hall as well as some businesses. Drop by the third floor to see a collection of watercolours by the late Peter Goetz and photos of all of Waterloo’s mayors. City council’s chambers are also on that floor, with many meetings open to the public. This building has a number of environmentally friendly features, including a green roof.

Waterloo Public Square
After years of planning and anticipation, the Waterloo Public Square officially opened in May 2009. Located in the heart of uptown Waterloo, the square is a place where people can take part in a variety of programming opportunities or relax with friends and family.

Waterloo Bell
The Waterloo Bell – also called Bell For Kepler – was unveiled in the Waterloo Public Square in June 2009. Created by artist Royden Rabinowitch, this piece of public art serves as a reminder of what this city has been, as well as what it will be in the future.

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Adult Recreation Centre
The Adult Recreation Centre opened in 1975 to provide space for adult and senior programming. Over the next few years there was increasing demand for its services, and the centre expanded in 1988 to accommodate this growth.

Old Seagram Distillery
The Seagram Distillery – which was the world's largest producer of spirits and wines at one time – operated here from 1857 to the 1990s, employing as many as 250 people in the production of its fine whisky. Purchased by Joseph Seagram in 1883, this site is a Waterloo landmark, and it's about to enter the next stage in its history as the home of the Balsillie School of International Affairs. Jim Balsille, one of the co-founders of Research In Motion, donated millions of dollars to the think-tank. Meanwhile, the distillery building where whisky barrels were once stored is now an upscale condominium complex.

Triad: Dual, Interface and Reunited
Called Triad: Dual, Interface and Reunited, the three bronze sculptures in front of the Uptown Parkade are by Ann Roberts. The pieces reflect upon the futility of war while introducing a sense of hope and regeneration.

Laurel Creek (public art)
Named Laurel Creek, this work by Nat McHaffie was inspired by the interrelation of Waterloo and its creeks, which weave under and through the buildings and landscapes in this city. In fact, the creek flows under the piece of art.

Cenotaph Park
The 18-foot granite Cenotaph was purchased in 1957, replacing a wooden cross that had been erected in memory of the 14 local men who died in the First World War. Now located by City Hall, the Cenotaph is the site of Waterloo's Remembrance Day ceremonies honouring those lost in wars.

Heritage Park
Heritage Park was the site of Waterloo's original public square. Back in the 1850s, a cattle market was held there on the second Tuesday of each month.

Brewmeister Green
Famous for its attractive floral displays, Brewmeister Green is Waterloo's oldest park. A fountain has stood here since the early 1900s, although the original structure fell into disrepair and was replaced with this one around 1950. Bud Clair, whom Clair Lake was named after, and his family created the rock garden and pool that surround today's fountain.

Timeteller
It's hard to miss the German/Austrian design of the gazebo in Brewmeister Green. Known as the Oktoberfest Heritage Timeteller, this attractive landmark was built in 1984.

Labatt Park
Located on Park Street, Labatt Park was home to a brewery for almost 140 years. Today, the John Labatt Barley Field sculpture commemorates its heritage.

John Labatt Barley Field
The John Labatt Barley Field sculpture signifies the historical importance of agriculture in Waterloo Region. Representing a field of barley, this piece of public art consists of 61 plant forms that were constructed out of hand-forged steel stalks and leaves with copper flower heads.

Alexandra Park
Alexandra Park is located on a portion of the former Alexandra School site. The City of Waterloo acquired the lot in 1999 at a cost of $75,000, and cleaned it up and added play equipment for families in that area.