



# Take a walking tour of downtown Haines



HAINES VISITOR CENTER  
122 Second Ave.  
Haines, AK 99827  
(907) 766-6418  
[www.visithaines.com](http://www.visithaines.com)

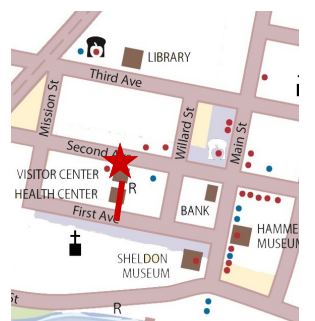
- 1** Your walking tour of downtown Haines begins at the Haines Visitor Center on 2nd Avenue between Main Street and the Haines Highway. Inside the log cabin that was built in the 1980's, you'll find information about Haines, the Inside Passage, greater Alaska, and the Yukon, Canada. You'll also meet local residents who are happy to share their love and knowledge of Haines and Alaska with you.



## Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood Hall

Diagonally to the right as you leave the Visitor Center is the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood (ANB/ANS) Hall. The formation of the Native organization in the early 1900's led to the Alaska civil rights movement and continues as a social and philanthropic organization. It's also where Bingo Nights happen!

As you walk to the right toward 1st Avenue you'll notice our local clinic, which is administered by SEARHC (Southeast Alaska Regional Healthcare Consortium), a nonprofit tribal health consortium of 18 Native communities serving the health interests of the Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, and other Native and non-Native people.



## 2 1st Avenue

Across from the clinic, located on 1st Avenue is the site of the original Haines Mission which is now occupied by the Haines Presbyterian Church. Be sure to see the Mission bell that was cast in 1880 to commemorate the Mission's founding.



### Life on Main Street

Continue north on 1st until you hit Main Street. The oldest part of town started on Main Street near the boat harbor. It seems fitting that a museum chronicling Haines history be located overlooking the harbor.

The **Haines Sheldon Museum** started as a private collection of artifacts and memorabilia of the area by prominent citizen Steve Sheldon more than 80 years ago. The current building opened in 1979 and today houses a nationally accredited collection of Native and local art, Gold Rush mementos and Jack Dalton stories.

Many of the buildings on the north side of the street date back to the early 1900's, and has served as a hardware store, a drug store, a restaurant and the Post Office. It was owned by George Vogel, the first mayor after Haines was incorporated as a city on January 24, 1910.



### Get Hammered in Haines

Next to the recently opened cider house, Three Northmen, is the Hammer Museum. Although it is not a historic building, what's inside reveals the history of homosapiens through the lens of hammers—1800 of them.

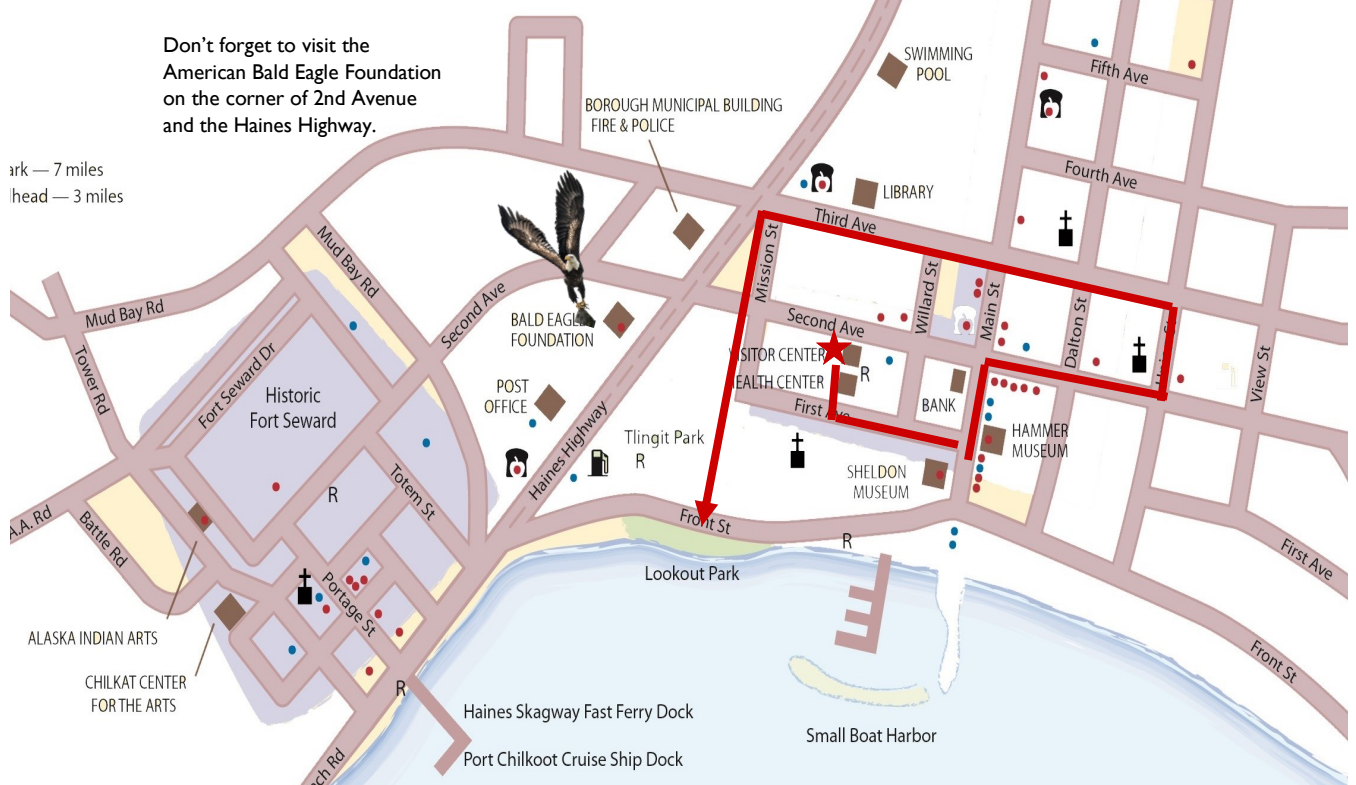
As you continue toward 2nd Avenue, you'll pass the Pryor Building which was completed in 1923 and was recently renovated into the Rusty



Compass Coffeehouse downstairs. Next door is one of the local watering holes, the Fogcutter Bar. It, too, was built in 1923 and served initially as a hardware store and later as the local gas station.

Don't forget to visit the American Bald Eagle Foundation on the corner of 2nd Avenue and the Haines Highway.

ark — 7 miles  
head — 3 miles





The Local Skyscraper



Haines’ tallest building stands proudly on the corner of 2nd Avenue and Main Street and is known as the Chisel Building. It was completed in 1916 by Joe Chisel and served as a hotel with backroom gambling, where rooms rented for \$3.50 a day. During Haines’ boom and bust economy it has housed a variety of businesses and currently is the home to Alaska Rod’s.

A Brothel in Haines on 2nd Avenue?



The red building on the left side of the street has been entertaining guests for more than 100 years, first as the Hotel DeFRANCE at the turn of the century; a restaurant, dance hall, brothel and bootleg joint in the 1930’s; and eventually as a restaurant and bar in the 1950’s. The Bamboo Room and Pioneer Bar has been owned by the Tengs’ family for more than 65 years.

Across the street, the building now called Bell’s Store—a great place to buy flowers and gifts—started life as the City Hall and Fire Station until they were moved in 1977 to the current location at the Haines Highway between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. As you continue north, you’ll notice the Haines’ Soboleff-McRae Veterans Village and Wellness Center, which had its grand opening 9/11, 2014, and the dedication of its totem pole and sign in 2017.



**Inviting Historic Homes**  
Next to the Center is *The Inn at Haines* which was originally built in 1917 by Tim Vogel, a notorious entrepreneur and former member of Soapy Smith’s Skagway gang. He also built the cannery at Letnikof Cove, still in operation today as Haines Packing Co.



Next door is the O’Dell-Tagg House, built in 1912 and once heralded as “one of the prettiest homes in Haines.” It is now a private residence.

Turn Left on Union Avenue

On your left, hidden behind the fence and snuggled between the Assembly of God Church and Haines Assisted Living is the Lindholm House. It was built by carpenter and cabinet maker Charles Lindholm, a Swedish immigrant who arrived in Haines at the end of the Gold Rush.

Haines Assisted Living

A few more steps and your at Haines Assisted Living, which was built in 2009. Stop in for a visit.



Turn left on 3rd Avenue

As you walk down 3rd Avenue you’ll see Sacred Heart Catholic Church and pass Dalton Street, named after Jack Dalton, early entrepreneur, pioneer and the man behind the 246-mile Dalton Trail that starts in Haines and ends at Fort Selkirk in the Yukon.

Main Street: The Art of Shopping meets the Art of Brewing

Main Street. Our local shopping district and residence of the Haines Brewing Company—A perfect distraction before continuing on 3rd Avenue to the Haines Borough Public Library. To the right you’ll find The Hair Shop, Olerud’s Market Center (for all your grocery, outdoor gear and apparel needs), The Alaska Sport Shop and Miles Furniture. La Loft. To the left is Talia’s Treasures, The Book Store, Ampersand AK, the Frontier Tradesmen, Howser’s IGA, Caroline’s Closet, and the Alaska Liquor Store. Currently, Main Street is also our local art gallery. Make sure to check out the window displays. You might just see something you can’t live without.



The Best Small Library in America

On 3rd Avenue you’ll find the offices of the Haines Borough, our local government; Chilkoot Indian Association, the tribal administration for Chilkoot tribal members; and the award-winning public library. In 2005 the Haines Borough Public Library received *Library Journal’s* annual **Best Small Library in America** award co-sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2017, the Library was chosen as a finalist for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service.



A Story Worthy of a Totem

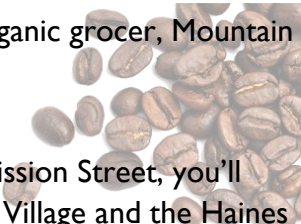


As you continue south on 3rd Avenue you’ll see a 20-foot totem that tells the library’s history beginning with a crouching female figure holding the box of knowledge to represent the Haines Women’s Club, which started a lending library in 1928.

The Smell of Roasting Coffee

Before turning left on Mission Street, you might want to visit our local deli, coffee

roasting company and organic grocer, Mountain Market.

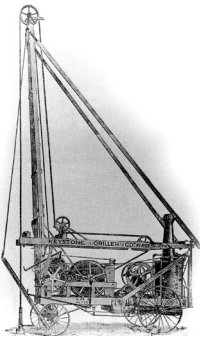


A Park for All Ages

As you continue along Mission Street, you’ll notice the Haines Senior Village and the Haines Senior Center, which is bordered by Tlingit Park. Next to the Senior Center is the children’s play area which connects to the picnic area, walking trail, restrooms, a native longhouse and a historic cemetery with headstones dating to the 1880’s.

A Gold Rush Artifact

Near the cemetery looking out towards the waterfront is a Keystone Driller, a steam-powered, portable drilling machine that was used for gold prospecting in the early 1900’s. It was found at Dalton Cache, 42 miles north of Haines. Take the steps in front to go down to Front Street and Lookout Park, which is graced with a totem pole representing the Eagle clan and a memorial for local residents who lost their lives fishing Alaskan waters.



Boat Harbor Left, Cruise Ship Dock & Historic Fort Seward Right

If you decide to walk back towards Main Street, to the left if you’re facing the water, you’ll see Haines’ picturesque small boat harbor where the local fishermen, Alaska Fjordlines and fishing charters dock their boats. The tall building is the Ice House where fishermen can buy ice to keep their fish cold and fresh.

A Prohibition Favorite

At Front Street and the end of Main Street is the Harbor Bar and Lighthouse Restaurant, originally built in 1907. During Prohibition it was known as a “card room.” Even if you don’t feel like a drink, peek in and check out the bar brought from Skagway during the Gold Rush era.

Fort Seward to the Right

Walking to the right along the waterfront will take you to historic Fort Seward and the cruise ship dock. This is a great area for spotting marine life and birds, and beachcombing.

