

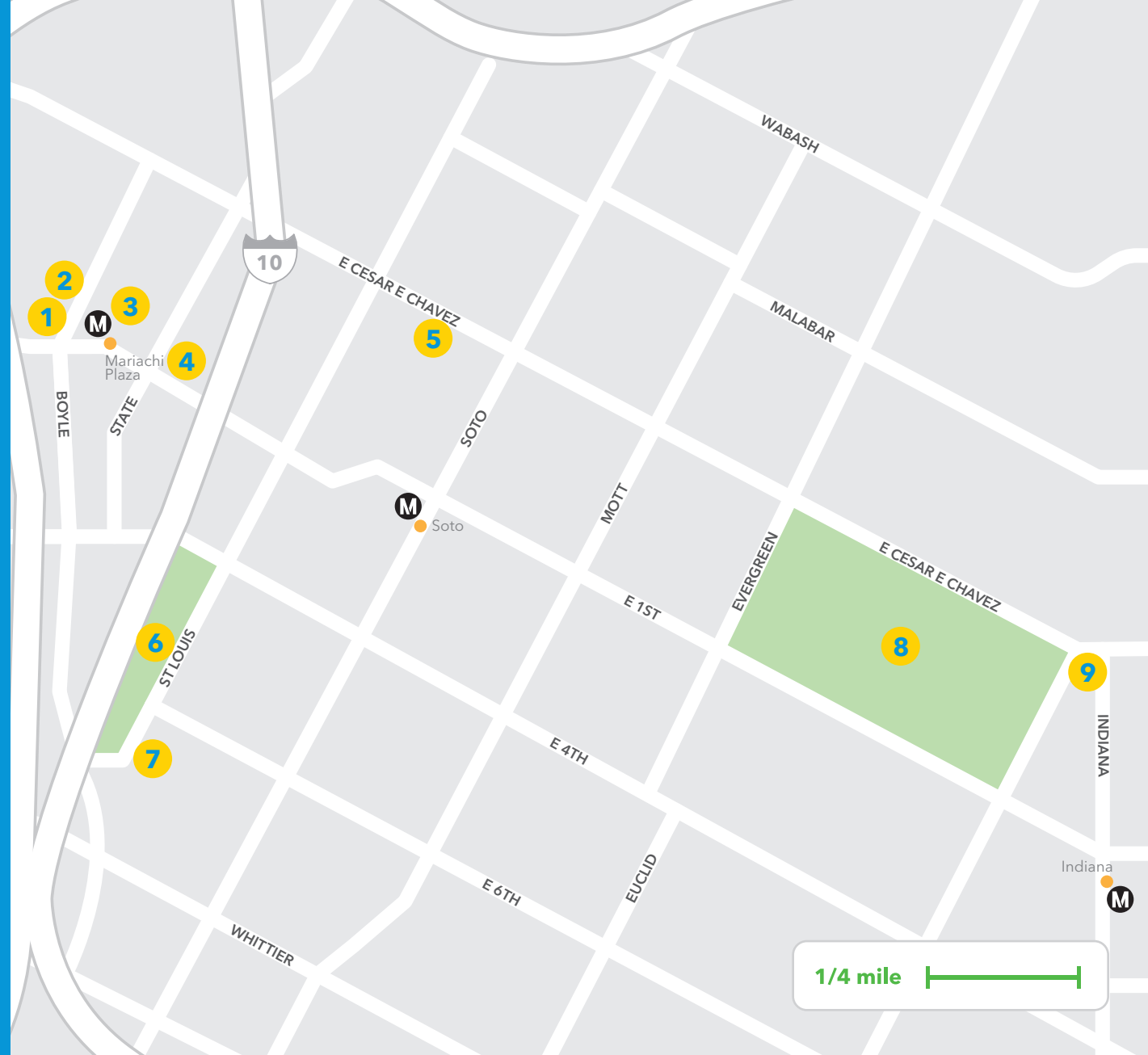


CICLAVIA EXPLORES

Boyle Heights

Inspired by Heart of LA

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Boyle Heights



1 Boyle Hotel *1781 E. 1st St.*

The Victorian-era, Queen Anne style Boyle Hotel is a cultural landmark that has transformed into an affordable housing building. It was built the same year the Los Angeles streetcar went into service; now it sits across from the Mariachi Plaza Metro station.



2 Libros Schmibros

103 N. Boyle Ave.

This used bookstore and lending library was started by writer and LA native David Kipen and “champions the pleasures of literature and its power to change lives.” From hosting events, salons, and classes, the store has become a fixture of Boyle Heights’ 1st Street Arts District, along with the Casa 0101 Theater.



3 Mariachi Plaza de Los Angeles

1st St., Boyle Ave. and Pleasant St.

Named for the musicians who have gathered here since the 1940s, today’s plaza evolved from a traffic triangle with a donut shop where musicians would wait for work, to the outdoor space complete with a kiosk donated from the Mexican state of Jalisco (birthplace of mariachi), and a Metro Gold Line station. The 1889 Boyle Hotel on the corner is often called the “Mariachi Hotel” for the many musicians who have lived there.



4 Jim’s Burgers #10

1901 E. 1st St.

This family-owned, mid-century style diner with its stunning neon sign has been serving burgers and pastrami sandwiches, as well as tacos and burritos since 1972. An institution in Boyle Heights for nearly five decades, it’s the go-to joint for diner food. Like other diners in the area, the availability of pastrami is a reminder of the area’s one-time Jewish population (the original Canter’s was at 2323 Brooklyn Ave.).



5 Breed Street Shul

247 N. Breed St.

The largest and most ornate of the many synagogues that were once in Boyle Heights, this 1922 landmark building, along with a smaller 1915 structure, housed the Congregation Talmud Torah from 1915 to the early 1980s. It was the largest Orthodox synagogue in the West and could accommodate 1,100 people. The Shul served as the center of the area’s Jewish community, which included Brooklyn Avenue’s business district and the educational and medical establishments along Breed (including LA’s first Jewish day school as well as Mount Sinai Clinic—forerunner to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center). Today, it serves as a community cultural center.



6 Hollenbeck Park

415 S. St. Louis St.

This 21-acre park has been one of Boyle Heights’ most recognized attractions for more than 120 years. Built on land given to the city in 1882 by two of the era’s most prominent landowners—former mayor William Workman and Elizabeth Hollenbeck (the park is named for her husband John)—the popular recreation site contains a man-made lake, a skateboard park and numerous picnic spots. The natural beauty of the site was somewhat obscured by the construction of the 5 Freeway along the park’s western boundary in the 1950s.



7 Linda Vista Community Hospital *610-30 S. St. Louis St.*

Originally opened in 1905 by the Santa Fe Railway as a hospital for its employees, this historic (and some say haunted) site was closed for two decades before a \$40 million restoration transformed it into affordable housing for seniors. During that time, it was one of LA’s most popular filming sites (*True Blood* and *ER* were shot here). The original Moorish building was razed, and in its place this 6-story Mission-style building was built in 1924.



8 Evergreen Cemetery & Jogging Path

204 N. Evergreen Ave.

A 70-acre cemetery founded in 1877, Evergreen was the first privately owned burial ground to serve the city. Like the neighborhood that surrounds it, Evergreen boasts a multiracial population, albeit a segregated one with sections for Armenians, Chinese, Japanese, Anglos, African Americans (Biddy Mason is interred here), and Latinos. With so few public parks serving the area, in 2003, the Latino Urban Forum and neighborhood residents rallied support to create a soft jogging path around the cemetery for the surrounding community to use.



9 Cinco Puntos

E. Cesar Chavez Ave./Indiana St.

Also known as “Five Points,” Cinco Puntos is the junction where Cesar Chavez Ave., Indiana, and Lorena Streets meet and weave around a landmark veteran’s memorial (3300 E. Cesar Chavez Ave.) and two traffic islands. Located where the City of Los Angeles meets County territory—at the border of Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles, the All Wars Memorial, built in 1947, honors Mexican Americans who fought in wars. Currently, plans are in the works to transform the intersection into a roundabout, which would relocate the memorial.

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