

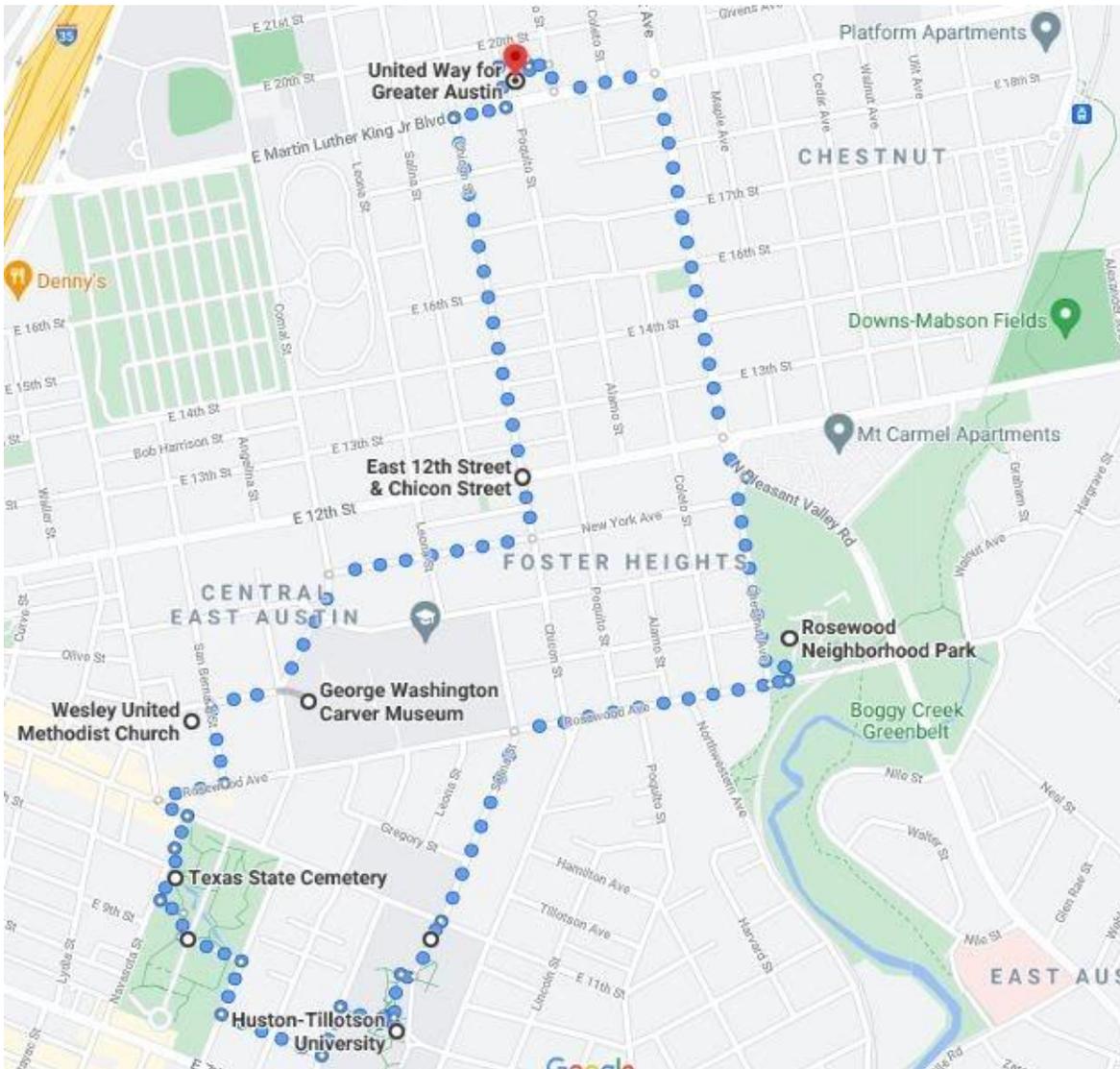
Black History Month

Self-guided walking tour

Our self-guided walking tour takes you on a three-mile loop to six important East Austin landmarks. For free parking at the United Way ATX office, start your tour off here:

[2000 E MLK Blvd. Austin TX 78702](#). Continue on to these six historic sites.

1. [East 12th Street and Chicon Street Mural](#)
2. [George Washington Carver Complex](#): 1165 Angelina St, Austin, TX 78702
3. [Wesley United Methodist Church](#): 1164 San Bernard St, Austin, TX 78702
4. [Texas State Cemetery](#): 909 Navasota St, Austin, TX 78702
5. [Huston-Tillotson University](#): 900 Chicon St, Austin, TX 78702
6. [Rosewood Neighborhood Park](#): 2300 Rosewood Ave, Austin, TX 78702



Learn about these historic sites



East 12th Street and Chicon Street Mural

Start your tour off with an example of the local community's response to gentrification. Before this mural celebrated the lives of 41 influential Black and brown heroes, in May of 2017 a different beloved community mural was removed and painted white by a new building owner. The community was outraged by this symbolic and literal gentrification, but with the help of nonprofit [SixSquare](#), they were able to commission a new mural in its place to celebrate the lives and culture of the neighborhood. *How many faces do you recognize?*



George Washington Carver Complex

This complex includes a museum, genealogy center, and library. One unique feature of the museum is its outdoor installation that includes many statues depicting the history of the black experience from arrival in the United States through the day Black slaves in Texas learned of their freedom on June 19, 1865. *Can you find the Juneteenth memorial?*



Wesley United Methodist Church

The congregation of this historic church was established at the end of the Civil War for freed people in Austin. The church then moved to its current location in 1929, and was built during The Great Depression. In 1985, the National Register of Historic Places recognized Wesley as a national site, and it continues to be an important place in the civic life of the Austin community today. *Can you find other historical markers at the front of the church building?*



Texas State Cemetery

Established in the 1850's, the cemetery is a fascinating place to learn about Texas history. Initially, a resting place for confederate soldiers and their widows, now it is a place where Texas honors state heroes. U.S. congresswoman Barbara Jordan was the first Black woman to be buried here. You can also find a memorial honoring 52 local Black men who worked for education, voting rights, and labor rights, after the Civil War.



[Huston-Tillotson University](#)

Huston-Tillotson University is the oldest university in Austin, and a historically Black institution. Founded in 1875, Huston-Tillotson was established five years before UT, and now offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in business, education, humanities, science, and technology. *Can you find the Anthony and Louise Viaer Alumni Hall?* It was built of bricks made by HT students!



[Rosewood Neighborhood Park](#)

Rosewood's Neighborhood Park creation reflects a time when city planning policies were designed to systematize racial injustice. When the city's 1928 Master Plan implemented segregation, and Black Austinites were forced to move to East Austin, Rosewood Neighborhood Park became the first and later one of the only green spaces for Black people to play and socialize. Despite its troublesome beginnings, this park remains central to the East Austin community today.

Thank you for embarking on this historic walk with us.

This walking tour was originally curated to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January 2021.

Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. every year is critical to our commitment for service and advocacy. We join our community in the fight for racial equity and *creating an Austin that works for everyone*. Thank you for your continued support. **To learn more about our ongoing work, visit the [United Way ATX](#) website.**



United Way for Greater Austin

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