

## Walk Southwest

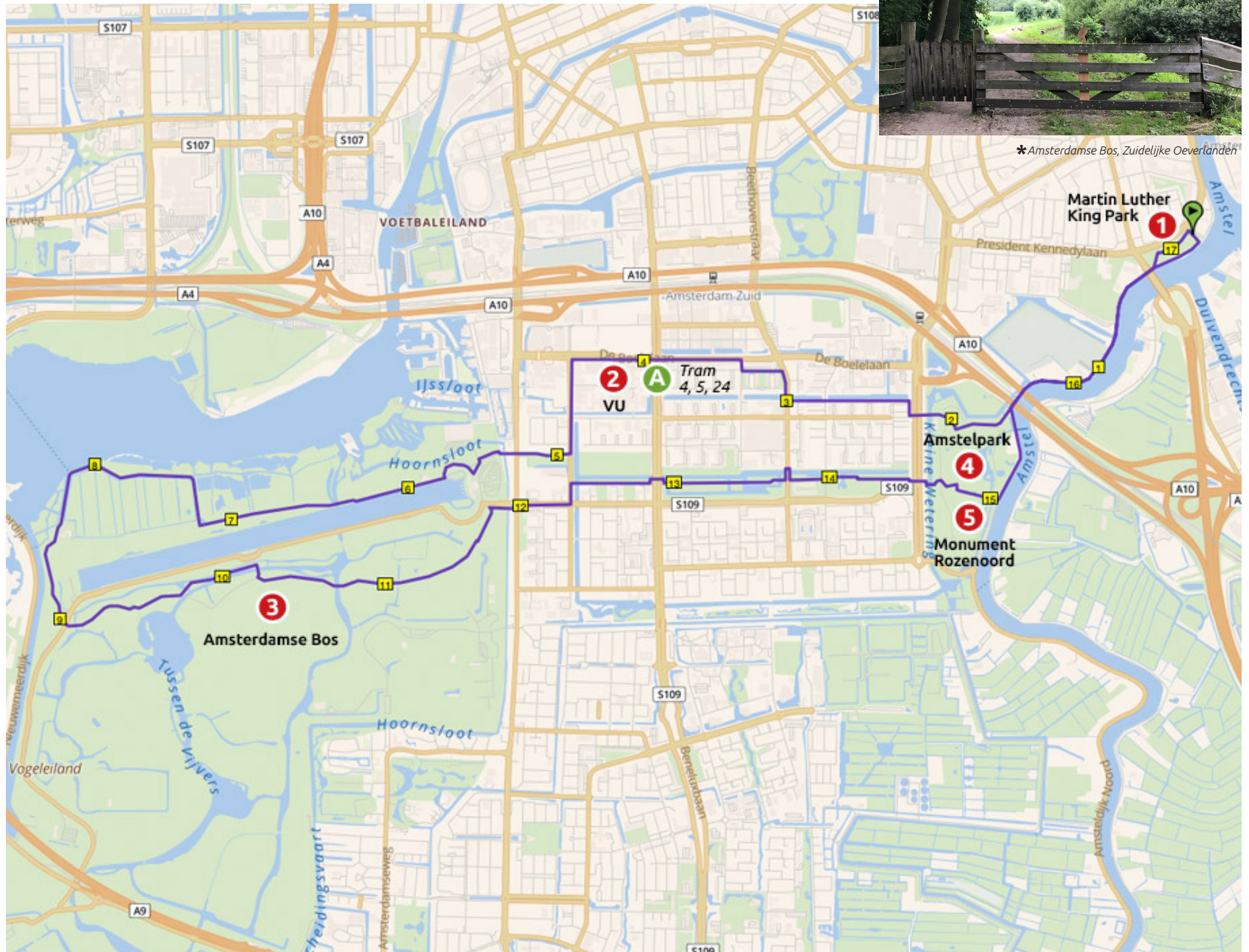
10.7 miles

- Some restaurants & cafés
- 5 parks
- Visit: VU University, statue & sign Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Alternative starting point:*

A - De Boelelaan/VU - Tram 5, 6, 24

Martin Luther King Park >  
Amsteldijk >  
Amstelpark >  
Oversinge >  
Van Leyenberglaan >  
(A) De Boelelaan/VU, Tram 4, 5, 24 -  
De Boelelaan 1105 - VU Martin Luther Kingbeeld  
en plaquette ter herinnering aan eredoctoraat  
Sociale Wetenschappen >  
Van der Boechhorststraat >  
Park Twikkel >  
Amsterdamse Bos >  
Bosbaanweg >  
Van Nijenrodeweg >  
Gijsbrecht van Aemstel Park >  
Moersbergen >  
Amstel Park >  
Amsteldijk >  
Martin Luther King Park



\*Amsterdamse Bos, Zuidelijke Oeverlanden



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Martin Luther King Park, 1 of the 50 MLK statues, placed on April 4, 2018, to remember the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's assassination.



Martin Luther King Park, the bronze Martin Luther King statue, placed on January 15, 2020, his 91st birthday.

### 1. Martin Luther King Park

The park was named after Martin Luther King, Jr. to honor him after his assassination on April 4, 1968. Walk south along Amstel River, underneath highway A10, then enter the Amstel Park on the right. Walk through the park, along the Rosarium, cross the Europaboulevard and walk west along the water. Go right to the Van Leijenberglaan and take a left to De Boelelaan, to the VU.



VU Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1105, Amsterdam



Remembrance sign of the honorary doctorate, and MLK statue, next to the Auditorium, 3rd floor

### 2. VU - Free University

VU Amsterdam was founded in 1880 and is a Christian research university with an academic hospital and more than 26,000 students. The logo is a blue image of a griffin: the body, legs and tail of a lion, head and wings of an eagle and the ears of a horse (nickname: VU-chicken). Go through the main entrance and take the stairs to the 3rd floor. Next to the Auditorium there is a sign to remember the honorary doctorate in Social Sciences that Dr. King was awarded with by the VU on October 20, 1965 (see videos). Next to it stands the Martin Luther King statue. Continue along De Boelelaan, go left to the Van der Boechhorststraat, and right to the Amsterdam Forest.



In the summer season watch out for oak processionary caterpillars



The 2.2 km long rowing track the Bosbaan was opened 1934

### 3. Amsterdamse Bos

The Amsterdam Forest was designed by Jakoba Mulder and Cornelis van Eesteren and build between 1934 and 1970. In 1900 the famous teacher Jac. P. Thijsse already saw the possibilities for a park on this location. The water level is 18 feet below sea level. In the crisis of the 1930's 20,000 people constructed the park. Besides the rowing track Bosbaan the Forest contains 85 miles of footpaths, 31 mi of bicycle paths, 9 mi bridle paths and 116 bridges. There are 150 tree species, 200 bird species and 700 beetle species. And oak processionary caterpillars. Walk 4 miles through the Forest back to the main entrance, cross Van Nijenrodweg, walk through Gijsbrecht van Aemstel Park, cross Europaboulevard and walk over the Red Bridge into the Amstel Park.



The Red Bridge by Stefan Strauss (2006)



The Glass House in Amstel Park

### 4. Amstel Park

The name Amstel Park was in use earlier on. It was the green strip between Rivierenlaan and the Amstel River, that in 1968 was renamed to honor Martin Luther King after his assassination. Amstel Park was built for Floriade 1972, which became the most visited agricultural exhibition ever. Walk along the Glass House, Zone2Source. It's an exhibition platform for art, nature and technology. National and international artists are invited to develop projects in which alternative practices and experiences of our 'natural' environment are being proposed.



Monument Rozenoord in Amstel Park, by Ram Katzir (2015)

### 5. Monument Rozenoord

Pass Monument Rozenoord (by Ram Katzir) that was revealed on May 1, 2015. It is a memorial for the men that were shot to death at the end of WWII. In the grass are 100 chairs that each symbolize a victim. The different models of the chairs indicate the ages of the men. Continue through the park to Amstel River, turn left and walk north over the Amsteldijk to the Martin Luther King Park.. ●