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AND SHE'S USING HER OUTSIDE VOICE.



LOUISIANA
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LOUISIANA OFFICE OF TOURISM

CONTACT INFORMATION

DOMESTIC

Megan Ryburn, *Director of Sales*
mryburn@crt.la.gov | 225.219.9858

Marshall Thompson, *Director of Association/Convention Sales*
mthompson@crt.la.gov | 225.342.9051

Matthew Cope, *Group Tour Sales Manager*
mcope@crt.la.gov | (225) 342-9282

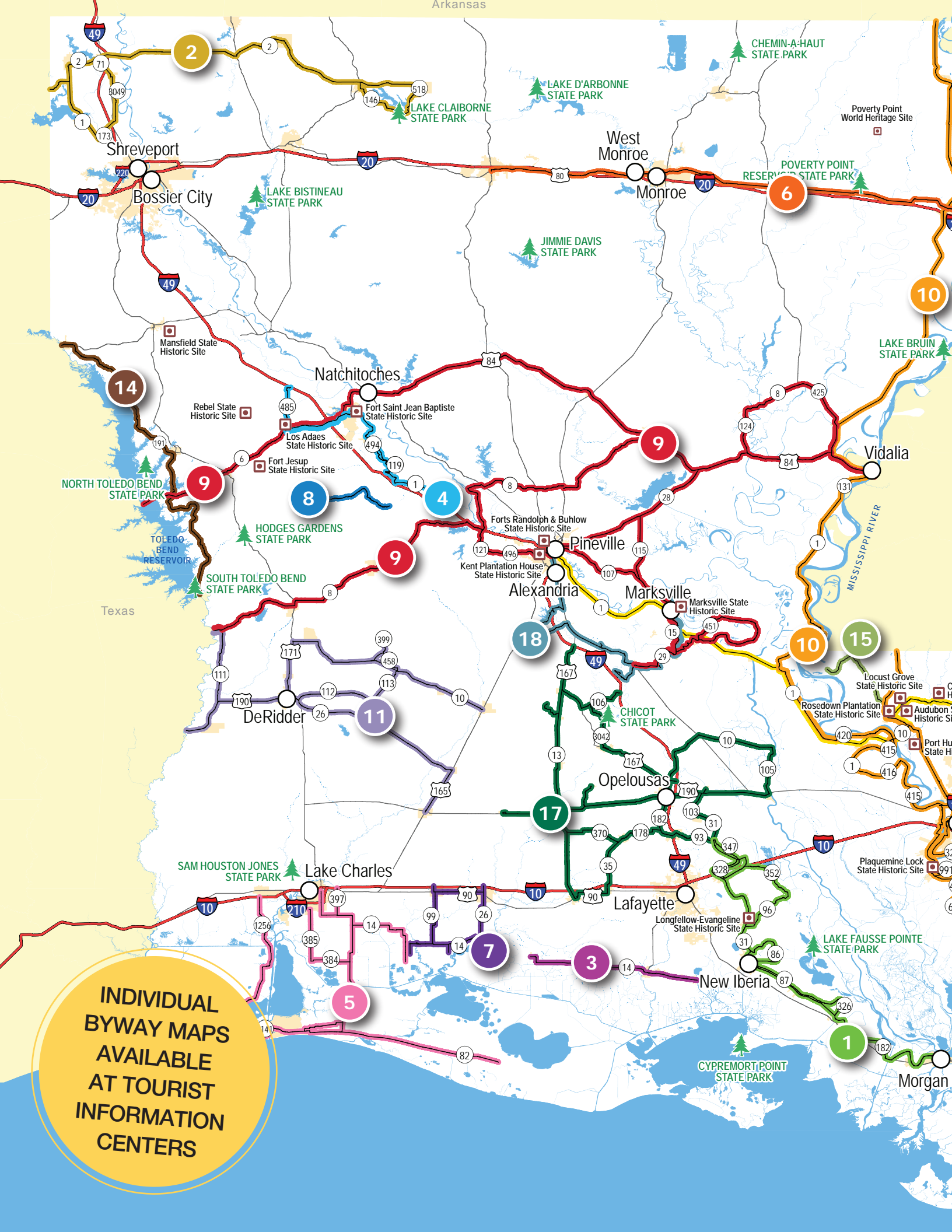
William Bloom, *Sports & Consumer Sales*
wbloom@crt.la.gov | (225) 342-9283

INTERNATIONAL

Mike Prejean, *Director of International Sales/Marketing*
mprejean@crt.la.gov | 225.342.4354

ACADIA	8
ALEXANDRIA/PINEVILLE	9
ALLEN	10
ASCENSION	11
AVOUELLES	12
BEAUREGARD	13
CAJUN COAST	14
DESOTO	15
EVANGELINE	16
GRANT	17
GRETNA	18
HOUMA	19
IBERIA	20
IBERVILLE	21
JEFF DAVIS	22
JEFFERSON	23
LAFAYETTE	24
LAKE CHARLES/SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA	25
LIVINGSTON	26
LOUISIANA'S CAJUN BAYOU	27
MADISON	28
MONROE-WEST MONROE	29
MOREHOUSE	30
NATCHITOCHES	31
NEW ORLEANS	32
NEW ORLEANS PLANTATION COUNTRY	33
PLAQUEMINES	34
POINTE COUPEE	35
RUSTON LINCOLN	36
SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER	37
ST. BERNARD	38
ST. LANDRY	39
ST. MARTIN	40
ST. TAMMANY	41
TANGIPAHOA	42
TOLEDO BEND LAKE COUNTRY/SABINE	43
UNION	44
VERMILION	45
VERNON	46
VISIT BATON ROUGE	47
WASHINGTON	48
WEBSTER	49
WEST BATON ROUGE	50
WEST FELICIANA	51
WINN	52

TABLE OF CONTENTS



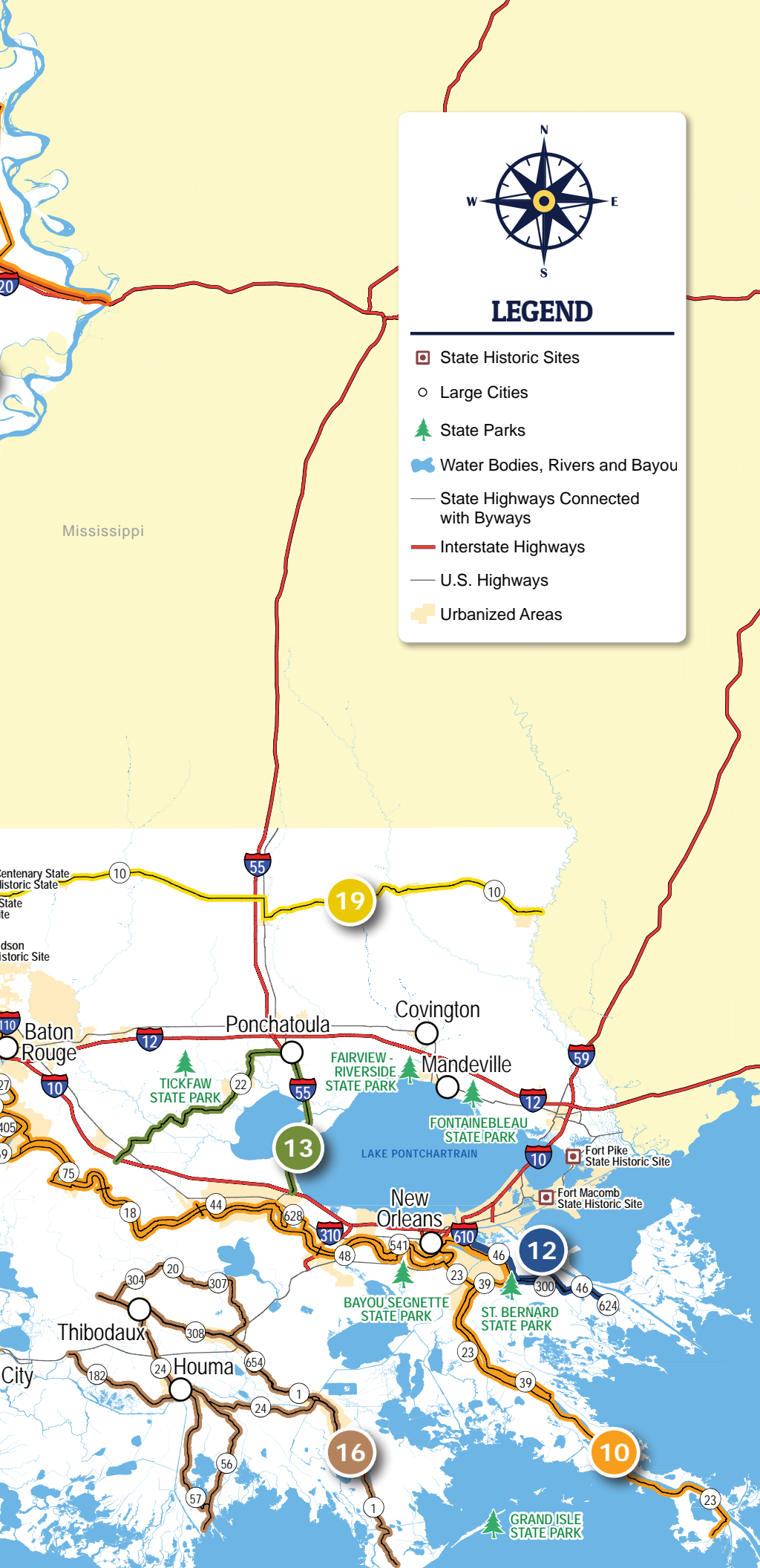
INDIVIDUAL
BYWAY MAPS
AVAILABLE
AT TOURIST
INFORMATION
CENTERS

The Louisiana Trails & Byways network takes visitors on 19 epic road trips through the state's culture, geography and history. Make the most of your journey with maps and insider info that highlight noteworthy experiences along each — just visit

LouisianaByways.com

or one of the state's Welcome Centers for maps of individual trails and suggested stops along each of them. You can also get free printed versions of maps at any of Louisiana's Welcome Centers and CVB visitor information areas.

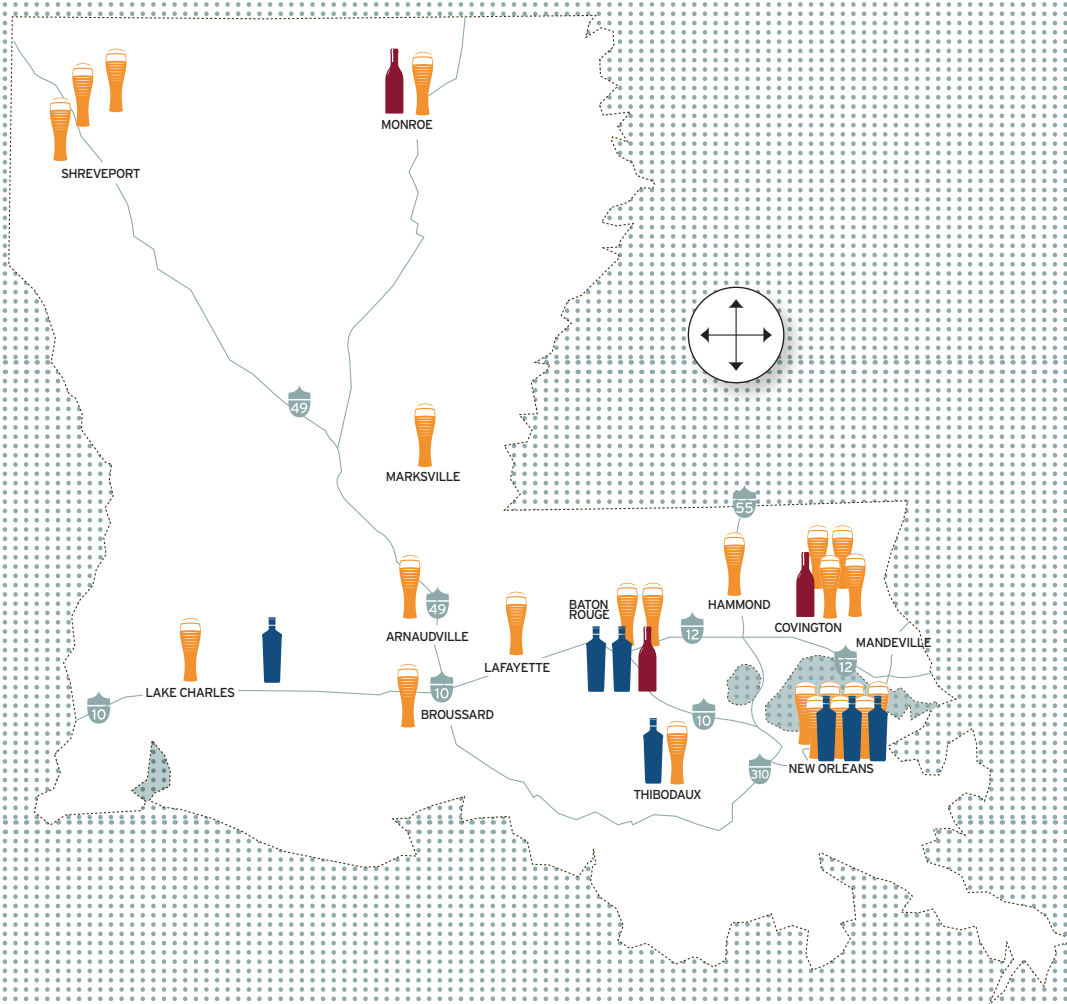
**LOOK FOR THESE
SIGNS ALONG
EACH BYWAY**



LOUISIANA LIBATIONS



IN LOUISIANA, WE DINE WITH GUSTO, but did you know we're also home to America's first cocktail—the Sazerac? In celebration of our cocktail culture, we've created a place for visitors to explore our Louisiana craft breweries, distilleries and wineries while planning your trip. Our Louisiana libations are hand-crafted and infused with local ingredients to create flavor profiles you won't find anywhere else in the country.



PASSIONATE ABOUT PADDLING? WELCOME TO LOUISIANA.

One of the best ways to explore Louisiana is by water. You'll find beautiful rivers, bayous, lakes, reservoirs, ponds and marshes scattered throughout the state. Whether paddling a canoe, kayak or pirogue, these waterways afford excellent opportunities to explore our lush liquid landscapes.

We invite you to discover the many pleasures of paddling through Louisiana. For more detailed information on the many routes available for exploration, visit LouisianaPaddle.com.



IF BIKING IS YOUR PASSION, LOUISIANA IS YOUR PLACE.

A great way to enjoy the bounty of Louisiana is on two wheels. From the rolling hills of the north to the marshlands and coastal areas of the south, the roads and trails will take you into the heart of Louisiana.

Whichever trail you choose, you're sure to discover great music, excellent food, historic landmarks and grand plantations.

For printable maps and more detailed information on Louisiana's many bike trails, visit www.BikeLouisiana.com.





ACADIA

ACADIA PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS COMMISSION

AcadiaTourism.org

401 Tower Road, Crowley, LA 70526

P.O. Box 1342, Crowley, LA 70527

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Gwen Hanks

337.783.2108 | aptc@bellsouth.net

Tour the Crowley Ford Assembly Building's four museums: the Rice Interpretive Center, History of Crowley, the J.D. Miller Recording Studio and the Ford Automotive Museum. Catch a glimpse of the 1901 Grand Opera House of the South, a museum that holds treasures of the past. Then hop over to Rayne to view the frog murals that explain why it is the Frog Capital of the World and Louisiana's City of Murals. Travel down to Roberts Cove, a German settlement, and visit its Heritage Museum.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Food:** Acadia Parish boasts the best Cajun cuisine—gumbos, crawfish dishes, jambalaya, boudin cracklin', red beans and rice and the best bread pudding you will ever taste.
- **Culture:** Travel the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway and experience the heartland of Acadiana while enjoying Cajun and zydeco music.
- **Festivals:** Acadia Parish has seven fairs and festivals. Church Point hosts Cajun Woodstock (a benefit for St. Jude Hospital) the last full week in June. Crowley celebrates the International Rice Festival, Louisiana's oldest and largest agricultural festival on the third weekend in October. You are sure to have a jumping good time at the Rayne Frog Festival May 10-12. Acadia Parish is also known for its Cajun Prairie family-friendly, rural Mardi Gras, which includes chicken chases and costumes with screened masks and capuchins (cone-shaped hats), with festivities in Church Point Feb. 13, 2018; Crowley, Feb. 13, 2018; and, Iota, Feb. 13, 2018.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Kelly's Landing Agricultural Museum & Farm Tours: Take a nostalgic walk through the past and view the farming tools of our forefathers. The antiquated equipment is simple and usually handmade. You will marvel at the ingenuity of former generations and how many basic concepts they recognized are still used today. Take the crawfish tour or rice tour to learn about the importance of agriculture in Acadia Parish.

Facebook: [ACADIATOURISTCOMMISSION](https://www.facebook.com/ACADIATOURISTCOMMISSION)

ALEXANDRIA/PINEVILLE AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



ALEXANDRIA/PINEVILLE

AlexandriaPinevilleLA.com

707 Second St.,
Alexandria, LA 71301

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Shirley Ingram
318.442.9546 or 800.551.9546
shirley@apacvb.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Kelli West
318.442.9546 or 800.551.9546
kelli@apacvb.org

Discover a variety of boutiques, locally-owned restaurants and a diverse art scene in the Alexandria/Pineville area. Experience the area's history at a plantation, museum or historic site. Find your adventure outdoors along trails, waterways or on the greens. Whether it is family and food or bayous and blues, you can find it all in the Heart of Louisiana.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **At the Heart of Louisiana:** Located in the center of the state, the Alexandria/Pineville area is also known as the Heart of Louisiana. It is situated on Interstate 49 with easy access to Interstate 10 and Interstate 20. If you prefer to fly, choose the Alexandria International Airport (AEX) for your arrival. Our central location makes the Alexandria/Pineville area a convenient place for hub-and-spoke tours.
- **At the Heart of History:** Central Louisiana is rich in many areas of history, especially military history. Spanning from the Civil War's Red River Campaign to World War II's Louisiana Maneuvers, our museums and historic sites tell the story of cotton plantations; the burning, rebuilding and growth of Alexandria; and the preparations for war and beyond.
- **At the Heart of Arts and Culture:** The Cultural District in Alexandria has seen revitalization in the past few years. This completely walkable district is home to five museums, state-of-the-art performance venues, locally-owned and operated restaurants, nightlife, and two hotels, which are connected to the Alexandria Riverfront Center.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Historic Hotel Bentley: This historic hotel in downtown Alexandria offers guests the opportunity to stay where John Wayne, Roy Rogers and several WWII generals stayed and dined. Critical decisions during the Louisiana Maneuvers, the training prior to being deployed to the war front in WWII, were made within these walls. The Bentley was originally opened in 1908 and has reopened with 93 sleeping rooms, the Mirror Room Lounge and the Bentley Room Restaurant.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

6 New and Completely Renovated Hotel Properties: In the past year, the Alexandria/ Pineville area has opened four brand new hotel properties as well as two completely renovated hotel properties. The Hotel Bentley and the Holiday Inn Downtown are now open in Alexandria's downtown Cultural District. TownePlace Suites, Home2Suites, and Fairfield Inn are now open in the area of the Alexandria Mall, and the Holiday Inn Express in Pineville is now open.

Solomon Northup Story: Twelve Years a Slave, the story of Solomon Northup that took place in Rapides and Avoyelles parishes, was made into a movie in 2013. Northup, originally from New York, was kidnapped and sold into slavery before being freed at "the Marksville Courthouse" in the 1850s. A self-guided driving tour of Northup's journey is now available on AlexandriaPinevilleLA.com.

Twitter + Instagram: [@APACVB](https://twitter.com/APACVB) Facebook: [ALEXANDRIAPINEVILLECVB](https://www.facebook.com/ALEXANDRIAPINEVILLECVB)

ALLEN PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION



ALLEN

AllenParish.com

12855 Highway 165,
Oberlin, LA 70655

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Adagria Haddock

337.639.4868 or 800.639.4868

director_allenparish@yahoo.com

Come on over and step into Cajun Country. Canoe on the famous Ouiska Chitto Creek and enjoy nature at its best. The Leatherwood Museum is a sight to see and a stop at the Coushatta Casino Resort will surely add to your experience. Check out our road food “Convenience Store DeJour” trail and taste our boudin, cracklin’ and deep fried corn on the cob.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Coushatta Casino Resort:** The largest land-based casino resort in Louisiana, this is where players say gaming is at its best.
- **Leatherwood Museum:** A family-friendly attraction that showcases the diverse cultures of Allen Parish.
- **RE-Thunk Junk Flea Market Trail:** offers second-hand treasures along its 60 miles and is held the third Friday and Saturday in October.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Canoeing or tubing down the Ouiska Chitto Creek (also known as the Whiskey Chitto), one of Louisiana’s most scenic waterways. The water journey takes about four hours but allow time to stop along the beaches and enjoy some of Mother Nature’s best gifts.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

The Allen Parish Welcome Center is home to the Wall of Honor. Coming soon in 2018, the welcome center will include new additions of a Louisiana native swamp scene, a music museum and a Coushatta Native American heritage exhibit.

Facebook: [ALLENPARISHTOURISTCOMMISSION](https://www.facebook.com/ALLENPARISHTOURISTCOMMISSION)

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION



ASCENSION

TourAscension.com

6967 La. Hwy. 22,
Sorrento, LA 70778

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Tracy Browning
225.675.6550
tracy@tourascension.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Kylie Louque
225.675.6550
kylie@tourascension.com

Situated on both banks of the mighty Mississippi River, Ascension Parish is a must-see area between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Visit museums, plantation homes, gardens, shopping boutiques and restaurants, ranging from casual to exquisite. Stay in one of the thousand accommodating hotel guest rooms or charming bed-and-breakfasts. The food, festivals, architecture, history and way of life reflect this rich culture, which Ascension Parish residents are proud to share with visitors.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Shopping:** Ascension Parish is home to Louisiana's favorite outlet mall, the Tanger Outlet Center, which has tax-free shopping for international visitors. Visit Cabela's, the world's foremost outfitter for outdoorsmen. It offers an interactive retail experience with entertaining and educational displays. Shops at the Cajun Village offer a unique experience.
- **Attractions:** Explore Houmas House Plantation and Gardens beneath 200-year-old live oaks dripping with Spanish moss. Hear stories of life on a sugar cane plantation. The River Road African American Museum in Donaldsonville collects, preserves and exhibits art, artifacts and buildings related to the history and culture of African-Americans in the rural communities along the Mississippi River.
- **Food:** The Cabin in Burnside is a one-of-a-kind restaurant serving down-home southern cooking, Cajun and River Road cuisine. The Cabin was constructed from former slave dwellings. Grapevine Café and Gallery in Donaldsonville is earning rave reviews from visitors, food writers and locals for its authentic south Louisiana flair. Sno's Seafood and Steak House, a Gonzales landmark, is where locals and visitors enjoy regional and signature dishes.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Jambalaya Festival: This festival is held every year in Gonzales on Memorial Day weekend. The whole family will enjoy the variety of world-champion jambalaya served daily along with other great food, live music, entertainment, cooking contests and carnival rides.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Ascension Hot Air Balloon Festival: Bring your entire family to the Lamar Dixon Expo Center for the Hot Air Balloon festival in September. Enjoy great music, food, a children's village, carnival rides, a car show, early morning balloon flying, balloon glows and fireworks at night.

Twitter: [@TOURASCENSION](#) Instagram: [@TOUR_ASCENSION](#) Facebook: [TOURASCENSION](#)



AVOYELLES

AVOYELLES COMMISSION OF TOURISM

TravelAvoyelles.com

8592 La. Hwy. 1, Suite 3,
Mansura, LA 71350

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Wilbert Carmouche
800.833.4195 | wcarmouche@krocket.net

Located in the center of Louisiana is historic Avoyelles Parish, a northern gateway to the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area. Avoyelles is home to nine cities/municipalities, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana and its premier property, Paragon Casino Resort and Tamahka Trails Golf Course (part of Audubon Golf Trail). Avoyelles is known for its *joie de vivre*, rich history, French heritage and annual festival fun. Learn from 10 museums and select from a variety of opportunities for specialty shopping throughout Avoyelles.

REASONS TO VISIT

- **History:** Twelve Years a Slave, the story of Solomon Northup that took place in Avoyelles and Rapides parishes, was recently made into a movie. Northup, originally from New York, kidnapped into slavery in the Bunkie-Cheneyville area before being freed at “the Marksville Courthouse” in the 1850s. After obtaining his freedom, Northup wrote a book that made its way to Avoyelles and later reprinted. A self-guided driving tour of Northup’s journey is available. The recently designated Northup Trail is the most recent addition to the LA Trails and Byways collection.
- **Tunica Biloxi Cultural and Educational Resource Center:** See where the famed Tunica Treasures are displayed and maintained in the conservation lab. Tunica-Biloxi Reservation is the site of the annual Tunica-Biloxi Pow Wow and the Tunica-Biloxi Nature Walking Trail.
- **Festival Fun:** Plan your trip around any of Avoyelles Parish’s unique festivals: Mardi Gras activities in the spring, Egg Knocking Festival on Easter weekend, Lagniappe Fest in April, Cochon de Lait Festival on Mother’s Day weekend, Tunica-Biloxi Pow Wow in May, Louisiana Corn Festival in June, Avoyelles Arts and Music Fest on July 4, Quilt Festival in October, Cookbook Festival the second weekend in October, Farm Festival in Moreauville and Christmas on the Bayou Festival during the second weekend in December in Cottonport.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Broken Wheel Brewery: Located at the corner of Tunica Drive and Main Street in Marksville, Broken Wheel Brewery is the only craft beer brewery in Central Louisiana offering locally-brewed beers named after events and indigenous expressions like Pachafa, Spring Bayou Blonde, AP IPA, Grand Chien, and La Vielle!

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Gator Grounds RV & Waterpark Resort: Schedule a weekend at Central LA’s only RV & Waterpark. A 118-slot park with indoor and outdoor pools, water slides, outdoor movie theater, zipline challenge course and catch to release fishing ponds and a lazy river located adjacent to a 9-hole golf course.

Facebook: [TRAVEL-AVOYELLES-485632755598](https://www.facebook.com/Travel-AVOYELLES-485632755598)

BEAUREGARD TOURIST COMMISSION



BEAUREGARD

BeauregardTourism.com

205 W. First St.

P.O. Box 1174, DeRidder, LA 70634

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Lori Darbonne

337.463.5534 | beautour@bellsouth.net

View the countryside once known as No Man's Land and learn many tales from its once booming lumbering heyday. Travel the Myths and Legends Byway through the vast landscape of rolling hills to the swamplands of Bundick Lake and enjoy many roadside markets along the way.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Tours of the Gothic Jail:** The historic Gothic Jail in DeRidder is open for guided tours. Hear ghostly tales and learn the history and the stories of the historical jail.
- **Nation's First USO & War Room Museum:** Opened on Nov. 27, 1941, DeRidder USO was the first building built for and used exclusively by the United Service Organizations during World War II. Both the exterior and interior of the structure are preserved in their original condition on the original site, and dances are still held on the original wooden floor. This museum has the distinction of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- **Lois Loftin Doll Museum:** This museum displays a collection of more than 3,000 dolls from around the world. Admission is free.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Beauregard Watermelon Festival: The fun and sweet annual Watermelon Festival is held the last weekend in June each year and offers great Louisiana swamp pop music.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Myths and Legends Byway: The Myths and Legends Byway is the state's only byway based on cultural stories that may or may not be true. While they remain faithful to factual information in a historical context, the stories are entertaining and provide a glimpse into the history and culture of rural south Louisiana.

Cajun and Southern Cuisine: Steamboat Bill's, Cecil's Cajun Kitchen and Two Sisters Pecan House are where you can get your fill of Cajun and southern foods. Full of bold flavors and spices, these three restaurants will show you what you've been missing.

Facebook: [BEAUREGARDTOURISTCOMMISSION](https://www.facebook.com/BEAUREGARDTOURISTCOMMISSION)



CAJUN COAST

CAJUN COAST VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU

CajunCoast.com

900 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.,
Morgan City, LA 70380

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Vanessa Spinella
985.380.8224 or 800.256.2931
vspinella@cajuncoast.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Carrie Stansbury
985.380.8224 or 800.256.2931
cstansbury@cajuncoast.com

The Cajun Coast is the perfect place to start your Louisiana adventure. Step into the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area along the Bayou Teche Scenic Byway. Enjoy Cajun food, fun and music at some of the nation's best festivals. Tour antebellum homes and museums, go bird watching, play golf, kayak or try your luck at casino gaming.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Atchafalaya Basin & Bayou Teche Scenic Byway:** Covering one-third of Louisiana, the Atchafalaya Swamp is the largest overflow swamp in the U.S. It is home to an abundance of wildlife including birds, endangered/threatened wildlife species, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, finfish and shellfish. This 125-mile route is home to two distinct cultures, the French Cajun culture of the upper Teche area and the Anglo culture of the lower Teche area. It is also home to a natural landscape that is part of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area, featuring beautiful scenery and abundant wildlife. Enjoy swamp tours, paddling, music, food, driving adventures and more.
- **Welcome and Interpretative Center:** Step inside to learn about the flora and fauna of a south Louisiana swamp, and then step outside to experience it firsthand. Stroll the covered walkway while viewing cypress trees, hear cicada, spy an American bald eagle or catch a glimpse of Cayenne —the 6-foot American alligator that lives in the swamp behind the visitor center, open daily.
- **Franklin:** Named one of the most beautiful towns in Louisiana by Lyle Saxon in his book Old Louisiana, Franklin encompasses more than 420 noteworthy properties and a turn-of-the-century shopping district. Walking and driving tours are recommended when visiting.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival: Held on Labor Day weekend in Morgan City, this free festival is the oldest chartered harvest festival in Louisiana and a 2012 American Bus Association Top 100 Event. This four-day extravaganza of family entertainment includes live music, a huge arts and crafts show, the children's village, the Cajun Culinary Classic, the traditional Blessing of the Fleet and a water parade.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Cypress Bayou Casino + Hotel: The casino is located on the Chitimacha Indian Reservation in Charenton. Enjoy slot machines, table games, a poker room, seven restaurants and ROX, an upscale nightclub. The 102-room hotel connects to the casino and offers a variety of room options.

Atchafalaya Golf Course at Idlewild: An Audubon Golf Trail course named Golfweek's 2012 Best Course to Play in Louisiana, this masterfully-crafted course includes expansive greens and spectacular views. The clubhouse is constructed of cypress boards and offers a spectacular view of the shared ninth and 18th holes.

Twitter + Instagram: [@CAJUN COAST](#) Facebook: [CAJUN COAST](#)

DESOTO PARISH TOURIST BUREAU

DiscoverDeSoto.com

115 N. Washington Ave.,
Mansfield, LA 71052

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Edna Thornton
318.872.1177 | touristb@bellsouth.net



DESOTO

Sharing a border with Texas influenced the history of DeSoto Parish and left a rich legacy for visitors to explore. Communities within the parish have many Civil War sites, some with annual re-enactments. Keachie's three 19th-century historic churches, Greek Revival homes and other buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The communities of DeSoto Parish—Carmel, Frierson, Gloster, Kingston, Pelican, Mansfield, Keachie, Stonewall, Logansport, Grand Cane, Longstreet and Stanley—are rich in history.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **History:** DeSoto Parish is filled with history, recreation and culture with many historic homes, churches, the Mansfield State Historic Site and the Mansfield Female College Museum.
- **Recreation:** Logansport—the Gateway to Toledo Bend—is located on the Sabine River where it empties into the lake.
- **Mansfield Female College Museum:** Officially incorporated in 1855, this college taught arts, sciences and teaching as professions to many generations of young women.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Mansfield State Historic Site: This must-see Civil War site offers semimonthly programs pertaining to military and civilian events.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Grand Cane Louisiana Cultural District: Original artwork can be purchased tax-free at the DeSoto Arts Council Art Gallery in Grand Cane.

DeSoto is Different: DeSoto will soon feature information about its cemeteries. The cemeteries and the extensive genealogical library at the Mansfield Female College Museum are good places to rediscover your lineage, whether you are a genealogy buff or you simply want to know more about our nation's history.

Clista A. Calhoun Center: This center, located in Mansfield, is open for private and public gatherings.

Facebook: [DESOTOPARISHTOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/DESOTOPARISHTOURISM)



EVANGELINE

EVANGELINE PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

306 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 331, Ville Platte, LA 70586

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Camille L. Fontenot
337.363.1878 | cajun@vpchamber-tourism.org
or cajun2@vpchamber-tourism.org

Along the Cajun Prairie in the south-central part of Louisiana exists a tiny piece of heaven where neighbors still visit, call each other *chèr* and stand up fiercely for their flag and their French, Cajun and Creole heritages. This is Ville Platte, named for the flat terrain of the land. The motto is “*Ici on est fier de parler Français*” which means “Here we are proud to speak French.” Some Evangeline Parish residents speak more French on a daily basis than any other parish in Louisiana.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Wonderful People:** Evangeline Parish residents enjoy a *joie de vivre* unlike any other community. In English or in French, you will feel the hospitality from your first step into Evangeline Parish and throughout your visit.
- **Fabulous Food:** Main Street Pizza and Grill in Ville Platte is a local sports bar that serves pizza, po'boys and a luncheon buffet featuring Cajun food. Leroy's Cajun Meats, B & S Grocery Shop's Food Store, Teet's Food Store, Paul's Meat Market and T-Boy's Slaughter House Meat Market in Mamou serve traditional boudin, cracklins and hogs head cheese as well as daily plate lunches of home-cooked Cajun delights. A special treat awaits all at the Crawfish Barn on the west side of town with crawfish, crab, shrimp and alligator. Café de LaSalle is a quaint restaurant that serves breakfast and a Cajun buffet at noon. Also, the Grit House and Cottage Couture serves lunch every day with specials throughout the week. Miss Sue's Café in Turkey Creek, the Pine Cone in Pine Prairie, the Bearcat in Basile and the Krazy Cajun Café feature home cooked Cajun delicacies. A malt shop, serving ice cream treats and sandwiches, is located in the historical Hotel Cazan in Mamou.
- **Swamp Pop, Cajun French and Zydeco Music:** Enjoy music at Fred's in Mamou every Saturday morning and throughout Mardi Gras season. This year Mardi Gras weekend will have revelry in Mamou with the official Mardi Gras run on Tuesday. The official Swamp Pop Reunion Dance will be on the Monday night before Mardi Gras at the Civic Center in Ville Platte. April hosts the Boggy Bayou Festival in Pine Prairie; Labor Day weekend offers the Mamou Cajun Music Festival and mid-October brings the annual Louisiana Cotton Festival and Le Tournoi de la Ville Platte (a jousting tournament). The Louisiana Swine Festival, held the first weekend in November in Basile, serves the best cracklins in the world. Veterans Day is celebrated with a car show and a parade in Mamou.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Le Grand Hoorah – Prairie Heritage Festival: Held at beautiful Chicot State Park in April. This festival is a must for locals and visitors alike. People from around the world spend the weekend in Ville Platte to learn and share Cajun/French language, music, dance and cuisine.

Smoked Meat Festival (Le Festival de la Viande Boucanee): Come enjoy this festival held in June at the Ville Platte Civic Center, as smoked delicacies are cooked to perfection. This festival is dedicated to all veterans with an opening ceremony which reflects our flag and freedom.

Gobble Gulley Paintball Field: A one-of-a-kind, low-impact outdoor paintball field located in Turkey Creek. Many playing fields are open to ages six and up. Seasonal themes are used throughout the year, and parties and celebrations can be booked in advance.

Facebook: [EVANGELINEPARISHTOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/evangelineparishtourism)

GRANT PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION



GRANT

200 Main Street, Colfax LA 71417

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Fran Demers

318.664.0276 | frandemers26@yahoo.com

Located in the heart of Central Louisiana, adjacent to the Red River (which we consider one of our most essential resources), you can get here easily from anywhere in the state via I-49, or US Highways 71, 165 or 167. Grant Parish offers outdoor recreation for everyone, whether you love hunting or fishing, or just camping near a quiet body of water to watch the sun set or the moon rise. There are hiking and biking trails, nature walks or quiet drives down country lanes. Much of the parish is located within Kisatchie National Forest, which has Stuart Lake for swimming, camping areas and much more. And if you like good stories, stop in where locals hang out. You'll hear tall tales and fun tales, and make new friends while you listen.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Festivals:** If you like festivals, we have three - the Louisiana Pecan Festival, where 60,000 visitors come to celebrate with us during the first full weekend of each November. There is also the Dogwood Festival in April and our new event, the Bon Dieu Falls Festival in September.
- **Louisiana MudFest:** Where the big trucks roar and playing in the mud is just plain fun for the grownups, visit LouisianaMudFest.com for more information. Twice a year, Trucks Gone Wild attracts as many as 10,000 visitors from around the country.
- **The Colfax Recreation Area/RV Park:** Located on the Red River at Colfax, it offers excellent facilities, including a boat launch, dock for fishing and boaters, a play area for children and year-round accommodations for campers and recreational vehicles.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Our History: Our cemeteries, churches and old homes date back to the early days of our country, and there are places where, if you listen carefully, you might still hear the Civil War cannons roar, or the voices of World War II soldiers as they took part in the Louisiana Maneuvers. Many of our homes and other structures are being restored or repurposed. Bronze markers throughout the parish describe areas of interest and help tell our story.

 <p>GRETNA</p>	<h1>CITY OF GRETNA</h1>	
	<p>GretnaLA.com P.O. Box 404, Gretna, LA 70054</p>	<p>TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT Ronnie Gauthreaux 504.363.1580 rgauthreaux@gretnala.com</p>

Gretna is a charming city with a small-town atmosphere, located in the middle of a major metropolitan area. Settled by German immigrants in 1836, Gretna was declared a village on May 19, 1913, and four months later it was incorporated. Come stroll through one of Louisiana’s largest National Register of Historic Places Districts.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Gretna:** Louisiana’s largest National Register of Historic Places Districts, Gretna turned 100 years old in 2013.
- **Louisiana Fire Museum – Gretna Historical Society Museum:** The David Crockett Fire Company No. 1’s 1859 firehouse proudly displays an 1876 hand-pulled steam-fire pumper. The museum includes artifacts from throughout the state. Most importantly, it is the oldest continuously active volunteer fire department in the U.S.
- **Hook & Ladder Cemetery:** This cemetery, which dates back to 1859, has beautiful statues adorning the above-ground tombs which are common to the region. View several interesting monuments including one dedicated to Louis Oscar Fried, who was the first casualty during the 1914 Mexican-American War.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Gretna Attractions: Explore the German-American Cultural Museum and follow the journeys of German immigrants who came to Louisiana during the 1800s and became a major influence in New Orleans. Take a tour of Gretna City Hall—erected in 1907—which was a courthouse and is the grandest structure of its age in Jefferson Parish. City Hall houses a pictorial history of Gretna and its people. Make time for the Gretna City Park Observatory, the largest public observatory in the Greater New Orleans area. Walk through the 1850 McDonoghville Cemetery and the 1859 Hook and Ladder Cemetery and enjoy the free tours of above-ground tombs.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Heritage House Information and Welcome: The Welcome Center is located at 1036 Huey P. Long Ave. at the restored former home of John Linden, a German immigrant who came to Gretna around 1840.

Historic Post Office – Gretna Cultural Arts Center: Formerly a U.S. Post Office built in 1906, this historic space has been transformed into the Black Box Theater and is available for public events and private rentals.

Twitter: [@CITYOFGRETNA](https://twitter.com/CITYOFGRETNA) Facebook: [CITYOFGRETNA](https://www.facebook.com/CITYOFGRETNA)

HOUMA AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



HOUMA

HoumaTravel.com

114 Tourist Drive, Gray, LA 70359
P.O. Box 2792, Houma, LA 70361

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Hal Moser
985.868.2732 or 800.688.2732
hal.moser@houmatravel.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Joey Pierce
985.868.2732 or 800.688.2732
joey.pierce@houmatravel.com

Travel less than an hour southwest of New Orleans, and you'll enter Louisiana's Bayou Country and New Orleans Cajun Country—Houma. Embark on a unique adventure with thrilling swamp tours, Cajun food and music, a wildlife park and working alligator farm, world-class charter fishing, several plantations and museums and a wide assortment of festivals and fêtes. Here, you don't just see the sights—you become a part of them.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Swamp Tours:** The home of *Swamp People's* R.J. and Jay Paul Molinere, the Houma area showcases some of the most pristine swamps in the Atchafalaya Basin. Visitors can tour the swamps by airboat, pontoon, kayak or by air in a small plane.
- **Greenwood Gator Farm:** See live alligators of all sizes, from new hatchings to full-grown monsters, up close at this full-time working alligator farm. Greenwood Gator Farm houses and hatches 5,000 – 10,000 alligators each year. Come take a guided tour of how Louisiana alligators are born and raised and learn about the centuries-old art of alligator hunting from authentic hunters.
- **Museums & Plantations:** Houma has two sugar cane plantations that were built in the 1800s. Ardoyne Plantation is a rare example of Victorian Gothic architecture featuring all the original furniture. Southdown Plantation has several exhibits including a Mardi Gras exhibit and an exhibit celebrating the history and significance of the Houmas Indians. The Regional Military Museum features artifacts, ammunition and vehicles from World War II to modern military history.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Mardi Gras/Festivals: Mardi Gras in Houma is a true Cajun celebration. Houma has one of the largest Mardi Gras celebrations in Louisiana, with more than a dozen parades full of colorful floats. The Voice of the Wetlands Festival featuring Tab Benoit is held in the fall, and the Rougarou Festival, which celebrates the legendary Cajun swamp monster that is half wolf and half human, is held on Halloween weekend.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

The New Houma Area Visitors Center: The perfect place to begin your Bayou Country adventure is the new Houma Area Visitors Center. The expansive building holds interactive exhibits on local cultures, industries, histories and environments. Be sure to sign into the digital guestbook and send home your complimentary digital postcard.

Shrimp Boat Tours: Take a ride “down the bayou” to learn all about shrimping from a multigenerational family business. Tours include information on traditions, current techniques, processing and cooking. Be sure to contact us for the availability of this delicious tour for the seafood lover.

Twitter: [@HOUMACVB](#) Instagram: [@HOUMATRAVEL](#) Facebook: [HOUMATRAVEL](#)



IBERIA

IBERIA PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

IberiaTravel.com

2513 La. Hwy. 14,
New Iberia, LA 70560

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Fran Thibodeaux and Céline Alis

337.365.1540 or 888.942.3742

fran@iberiatravel.com | celine@iberiatravel.com

Savor Louisiana's hot and sweet side in Iberia Parish. Discover a captivating culture teeming with lush tropical gardens on tranquil islands, famous factories, museums, charming historic districts, stately plantation homes, art galleries, live theater, shopping, fishing, scenic drives and walking tours, colorful birds, golf, canoeing, festivals, contagious Cajun and zydeco music and renowned cuisine.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **New Avery Island Experience:** Avery Island's world-famous TABASCO® Factory and Country Store expanded its tour, offering visitors an in-depth look into the making and history of the sauce. They also offer a cafeteria-style restaurant and a food tour featuring Cajun culture and samplings of local cuisine. TABASCO® offers cooking classes for groups and individuals, as well as guided tours of the factory by a historian. Individuals and groups can buy tickets on their new mobile-friendly website. Nearby Jungle Gardens added new signage and private birding tours for individual travelers and groups. Founded in 1868, TABASCO® celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2018.
- **New Iberia's Historic Commercial and Residential District:** The city of New Iberia has recently been designated as an accredited Main Street America™ program. The Commercial District won the 2005 Great American Main Street Award® sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation®. The Residential District includes Shadows-on-the-Teche, Louisiana's only National Trust for Historic Preservation® house, museum and garden.
- **Easy Access and Abundance of Tourism Opportunities:** In the heart of Cajun Country, enjoy and explore rich culture and history, festivals, delicious food and people who never meet a stranger. Iberia Parish is located 30 minutes from Lafayette and two-and-a-half hours from New Orleans.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Famous Attractions: Tour the famous TABASCO® factory, century-old KONRIKO®/Conrad Rice Mill, National Trust plantation home, Shadows-on-the-Teche and award-winning historic Main Street. Stroll the lush Jungle Gardens, Antique Rose Ville and Rip Van Winkle Gardens/Jefferson Mansion. Learn about Iberia's history and culture at the Bayou Teche and Jeanerette Museums tours of above-ground tombs.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

New Permanent Famous Artist George Rodrigue Exhibit: Bayou Teche Museum hosts a permanent exhibit of George Rodrigue's studio, complete with his last unfinished painting, as well as rotating exhibits for the 'Blue Dog' artist, a New Iberia native.

French Friendly Iberia Parish & New Website: Iberia Parish and Iberia Parish CVB were recently awarded the Prix French Friendly Louisiane by the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL). All our attractions offer guided tours in French by reservation for groups. Tabasco® is translating its entire tour and Restaurant 1868 menu into French. The CVB has a new mobile-friendly website with niche-focused itineraries.

James Lee Burke's Dave Robicheaux Detective Series: New Iberia hosts the annual Books Along the Teche Literary Festival every spring and has a new "James Lee Burke's Iberia" self-guided tour available in English and French.

Accolades: Avery and Jefferson islands made Expedia's "Most Beautiful Places in Louisiana" list and are featured on National Geographic's "Top 10 Outdoor Adventures in Louisiana" and Avery Island made the publication's "Best Fall Escapes in the US."

Twitter: @VISITIBERIA Instagram: @IBERIA_TRAVEL Facebook: VISITIBERIA

IBERVILLE PARISH TOURISM DEPARTMENT

VisitIberville.com

23405 Church St.

P.O. Box 389, Plaquemine, LA 70765

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Sissy Irwin

225.687.2642 | sirwin@ibervilleparish.com



IBERVILLE

Nestled in the heart of the Atchafalaya at the soul of Louisiana's Plantation Country, Iberville is a wealth of discovery. One of the oldest settlements on the Mississippi River, Iberville boasts historic sites, plantation homes and natural landscapes ideal for paddling and fishing.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Nottoway Plantation:** This is the South's largest antebellum plantation home and a Historic Hotel of America.
- **The Madonna Chapel:** This chapel is fabled to be the smallest Catholic Church in the world.
- **National Hansen's Disease Museum:** This captivating tour documents the exiled lives of Hansen's Disease (formerly leprosy) patients.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Iberville Swamp Life Expo: This expo occurs the first Saturday in October. Come experience authentic Cajun lifestyles at the Swamp Life Expo, the official kickoff of Louisiana's Atchafalaya Days. Enjoy displays of local art, food, crafts and music. Admission is free.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Nottoway Plantation: The plantation continues to expand its resort services by providing 40 luxurious accommodations. Recently receiving the prestigious designation of one of the Historic Hotels of America, Nottoway provides stellar hospitality through its cuisine, accommodations, elegant meeting and event venues and riveting history.

The Island Country Club & Golf Course: An inaugural member of Louisiana's Audubon Golf Trail, this course is appropriately known as the "Sweet Spot of the South" due to its great golf, amazing cuisine and prime location in the heart of Louisiana's sugar cane country. The Island celebrates the culinary talents of Louisiana chef Michael Dardenne. Open for lunch Tuesdays through Sundays and dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, The Island Grill specializes in culinary dishes with Louisiana flair served in a beautiful Acadian-style setting.

Iberville Museum: The museum captures the heritage and culture of Iberville Parish. Continued enhancements include an expansion of exhibit space with the addition of a permanent interpretive display of the life and culture of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Twitter: [@IBERVILLETOUR](#) Instagram: [@VISITIBERVILLE](#) Facebook: [VISIT-IBERVILLE](#)



JEFF DAVIS

JEFF DAVIS PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

JeffDavis.org

100 Rue de l'Acadie,
Jennings, LA 70546

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Dione Sabelhaus
337.821.5521 | dione@jeffdavis.org

In Jefferson Davis Parish, you can canoe, bike or drive a scenic route along the Flyway Byway to get up close and personal with millions of birds and creatures. Come visit the Gator Chateau and hold baby alligators. Dine over beautiful Lake Arthur and taste and tour the rum distillery.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Flyway Byway:** Millions of migratory waterfowl funnel through the North American Flyway and feed in the harvested rice fields. The Flyway Byway begins off Interstate 10 at La. Hwy. 99 in Welsh and heads south to both the Lacassine Pool and the Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge. An extreme bike trail begins at Niblett Road, and canoeing is available on the Lacassine Bayou. The entire byway provides an opportunity to view birds and the natural flora and fauna of Louisiana.
- **Seafood Sensation Culinary Trail:** Arrive by plane, boat or car to Lake Arthur and dine on the water at the Regatta LA Seafood and Steakhouse, featuring fresh seafood, steaks and pasta. Try award-winning gumbo, steaks and seafood at Mike's Seafood and Steakhouse in Jennings. Dine on homestyle Cajun favorites at Cajun Tales Seafood in Welsh. Eat the famous Gummy Burger and local seafood favorites at Nott's Corner in Lake Arthur. Indulge in the famous Darrell's Special sandwich at Darrell's PoBoys in Jennings.
- **Regatta Festival:** Lake Arthur is one of Louisiana's best-kept secrets. It is a small town with big hospitality nestled eight miles south of Interstate 10 on La. Hwy. 26. Cast your sails and find a shady seat under one of the majestic oak trees in Lake Arthur's beautiful park during the second weekend in June, when you can tempt your taste buds with some great Cajun favorites and listen to some of the hottest regional and national bands.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Crawfish Tours and Gators: Crawfish field tours in Jefferson Davis Parish run from March to May. Spectators will experience the habitat, harvest, distribution and consumption of Louisiana's favorite food. See live alligators at the Gator Chateau, our Rescue, Educate and Release facility, and interact with baby alligators year-round.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Bayou Rum Distillery: Bayou Rum, "America's Rum," is handmade in the largest privately-owned rum distillery in the U.S. using traditional methods. The distillery was awarded winner of Louisiana Travel Promotion Association's, "Attraction of the Year" for Louisiana in 2015. Rum is pasteurized, fermented, distilled, aged in barrel storage, bottled and served at their in-house tasting bar. After the tour and tasting experience, make sure to visit the gift shop.

Bank Hotel: The hotel is named L'Banca Albergo, Italian for The Bank Hotel. An old bank located in downtown Lake Arthur was transformed into a two-story boutique hotel, featuring a wine cellar for hotel guests, and a balcony that overlooks Main Street--perfect for local Mardi Gras parades.

Coming Soon: Groundbreaking on the new Gator Chateau will begin in 2018. It will feature a whole new facility, keeping with our "Rescue, Educate, and Release" program. It will also house the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Information Center.

Twitter + Instagram: @JEFFDAVISPARISH Facebook: JEFFDAVISPARISH

JEFFERSON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, INC.

VisitJeffersonParish.com

1221 Elmwood Park Blvd.,
Suite 411, New Orleans, LA 70123

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Casey Ronquille, Sales Manager
504.731.7083, ext. 207
Casey@visitjeffersonparish.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Terrie Birkel, Vice President
504.731.7083, ext. 203
Terrie@visitjeffersonparish.com



JEFFERSON

Adjacent to the famous city of New Orleans, you will discover a place steeped in history, culture, mouth-watering cuisine and shopping. It is also the home of the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport. From adventurous swamp tours to vibrant historic districts, Jefferson Parish is full of excitement for everyone.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Student and Senior Friendly Attractions:** The largest National Register of Historic Places District in Louisiana, Gretna is a must see for all ages. Enjoy historic homes, a firehouse, blacksmith demonstrations, unique architecture and German history. The nature trails in Lafitte and central Jefferson's parks are tranquil and bountiful. Explore the bayous and marshes by airboat. Visit historic Rivertown in Kenner, which boasts the region's only planetarium.
- **Louisiana Oyster Trail:** The Louisiana Oyster Trail is a public art project spotlighting the talents of local chefs and artists. Each location proudly displays a 3-foot-tall 3-D oyster sculpture, designed by local artists to reflect the spirit of Jefferson's culture. Louisiana is known for world-famous seafood, and oysters are the highlight of seafood delicacies. Each restaurant showcases a unique oyster dish. Travel along the oyster trail to find exceptional Louisiana seafood and marvel at the one-of-a-kind artwork.
- **Convenience and Value:** Jefferson Parish is the central destination to visit in southeast Louisiana. It is home to the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport and only seven miles to the historic French Quarter and downtown New Orleans. It is the heart of shopping in Louisiana as well as home to the New Orleans Saints' and Pelicans' training camps, the Baby Cakes AAA Baseball team and Stadium and NOLA Motorsports for racing enthusiasts. Jefferson has Bayou Barataria, communities of Lafitte and Grand Isle where you will experience authentic swamp and airboat tours, Cajun food and the best fishing, crabbing and camping adventures. The value-priced hotels range from economy to full-service. The majority do not charge parking and offer complimentary breakfast, giving you two more reasons to choose Jefferson Parish for your next Louisiana experience.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Family Gras and Jefferson Parish Mardi Gras: The Carnival season kicks off in Jefferson Parish with Family Gras, an event combining the pageantry and fun of Mardi Gras parades with outdoor concerts, food and art vendors.

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LAFAYETTE

LAFAYETTE CAJUN COUNTRY

LafayetteTravel.com

1400 NW Evangeline Thruway,
Lafayette, LA 70501

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Eugenie Mitchell

337.232.3737

eugenie@lafayettettravel.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Kelly Strenge

337.232.3737

kstrenge@lafayettettravel.com

Lafayette, in the heart of Louisiana's Cajun Country, is a place known for great food, music and an irresistible culture that exudes a *joie de vivre* (joy for living). It's no secret why Lafayette was named the Happiest City in America, Best Food City in USA Today and Tastiest Town of the South.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Lively Cajun & Zydeco Music:** Live Cajun or zydeco music can be enjoyed seven nights a week at our Cajun dancehall restaurants including Randol's and Prejean's. Live music can also be enjoyed on the weekends at Vermilionville, Begnaud House and Blue Moon Saloon. For groups, experience the music presentation at Martin Accordions, a family-owned Cajun accordion manufacturer.
- **Vermilionville Living History Museum & Folklife Park:** Vermilionville, located on the banks of Bayou Vermilion, is a 23-acre Cajun, Creole and American Indian heritage and folklife park that authentically recreates life in the Acadiana area between 1765 and 1890. This historical village features costumed interpreters sharing the stories of their ancestors. Lunch options, including a cooking school, are available. Boat tours, Cajun or zydeco dance lessons, a watershed environmental exhibit and voluntourism are also available for groups.
- **Swamp Adventures:** With a variety of swamp and outdoor experiences, we have something to fit every level of adventure. Choose from large boat tours with McGee's Landing, more intimate small boat tours or guided kayaking and canoeing trips with Bayou Teche. More options include airboat experiences for groups and individuals.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Downtown Lafayette: Explore Lafayette's eclectic downtown including murals, public art, historic St. John Cathedral, museums, art galleries, local shops and an array of dining and nightlife. Many festivals and events are held year-round downtown. Groups and VIPs can enjoy a prime spot for parade viewing at Lafayette's Mardi Gras, the second largest Mardi Gras celebration in Louisiana. Festival International de Louisiane celebrates our Francophone heritage in April each year. Free concerts like Downtown Alive! and Bach Lunch in the spring and fall add to the excitement.

Cajun Food Tours: Hop on board Cajun Food Tours' party bus and get ready to experience the incredible food that put Lafayette on the foodie map, including Cajun originals like boudin, king cake, étouffée, gumbo, seafood, cracklin' and more!

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Top Spring Break Trip for Adults: TripAdvisor included Lafayette among 20 destinations designated as best spring break trips for adults, describing Lafayette as "the heart of Louisiana's Cajun and Creole Country, where bold art and big flavors are a nod to the city's creative spirit."

Cajun Boudin Trail Top 10 Best Food Trail: The Cajun Boudin Trail, centered in the Lafayette area, is a USA Today 10 Best Food Trail.

All-American Vacation: Lafayette was included in the Travel Channel's Best All-American Vacations 2015 for its unique Cajun/Creole food, music and language found only in this small part of the country.

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LAKE CHARLES/SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



LAKE CHARLES

VisitLakeCharles.org

1205 N. Lakeshore Drive,
Lake Charles, LA 70601

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Anne Taber Klenke
337.502.4347
aklenke@visitlakecharles.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Amanda Reeves
337.502.4354
areeves@visitlakecharles.org

There is a reason why AAA Southern Traveler readers named several Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana attractions the Best of the South. Spot alligators, hear the rhythms of Cajun & zydeco, catch a glimpse of Mardi Gras and taste flavorful cuisine in Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana. The area offers world-class casino gaming resorts, Cajun cuisine, live music, performing arts, more than 75 annual fairs and festivals, pristine golf courses and outdoor adventure along the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **World-Class Casino Resorts:** Our newest property, Golden Nugget Lake Charles, opened December 2014 and is a \$700 million resort with 1,100 lavish guest rooms, a championship golf course, lazy river swimming pool and ten restaurants. Located immediately next door is L'Auberge Casino Resort, with 1,000 luxurious rooms, an award-winning golf course, lazy river and swim-up bar, six innovative restaurants, a world-class spa, high-end shopping, and entertainment.
- **The Creole Nature Trail All-American Road:** Experience a hands-on opportunity to see one of America's last great wildernesses near Lake Charles. Traveling through wildlife refuges, Gulf Coast beaches and marshlands, visitors will see alligators, migrating waterfowl, Neotropical birds, and dolphins along the ship channel, not to mention the all-natural beauty and tranquility of Louisiana's Outback.
- **Southwest Louisiana Boudin Trail:** This trail offers more than 25 stops for visitors to try boudin, described as Cajuns' favorite finger food. One location, LeBleu's Landing, includes a gift shop, a full-service restaurant and a meat market with a window for patrons to watch the boudin-making process.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Mardi Gras: Southwest Louisiana hosts one of the largest Mardi Gras celebrations in Louisiana—and it's family friendly! The majority of the season's events will take place Feb. 10 – 13, 2018. The Mardi Gras Museum—featuring the largest costume display in the world—is open year-round.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Crying Eagle Brewing: Enjoy Taproom-exclusive brews along with comfortable indoor seating or step outside to the beer garden and relax while playing a game of washers or bean bag toss.

Creole Nature Trail Adventure Point: Kick off your Creole Nature Trail journey at Creole Nature Trail Adventure Point in Sulphur—a free, fun attraction that immerses you in nature and Louisiana's unique culture through imaginative, hands-on displays.

Awards: Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana was noted as one of the 17 Places You Should Visit in 2017 by Landloppers.com, a leading online publication specializing in travel, in December 2016. The Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau was named 2015 CVB of the Year by the Southeast Tourism Society, the 2013 Outstanding CVB of the Year and Louisiana Travel Promotion Association's Best Tourism Campaign of the Year in Louisiana. Lake Charles was named City of the Year by Acadiana Profile in 2013. AAA Southern Traveler named the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road the Best Nature Trail and L'Auberge Casino Resort the Best Casino.



LIVINGSTON

LIVINGSTON PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

LivingstonTourism.com

30340 Catholic Hall Road, Hammond, LA 70403

P.O. Box 1057, Albany, LA 70711

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Jonathan “JT” Taylor

225.567.7899 | jt@livingstontourism.com

Each year, thousands of visitors discover the wonder of southeast Louisiana. From first-class golfing and endless waterways to shopping and strolling through quiet antique boutiques, Livingston Parish offers something for everyone. Convenient to Interstate 12, Interstate 10 and Interstate 55, Livingston Parish is 10 minutes from Baton Rouge, home of Louisiana State University and Southern University, and 45 minutes from New Orleans. You will find excellent hotels, beautiful RV parks and local restaurants coupled with a friendly, down-home atmosphere. Come visit, kick back your heels and stay a while.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Denham Springs Antique Village:** The oldest buildings in this area provide a perfect ambiance for the Denham Springs Antique Village. The village consists of more than 30 shops with many unique items. Shoppers will find new and collectible jewelry and accessories, original art, home decor, flower arrangements, books, vases, pottery and many more one-of-a-kind treasures.
- **Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World Shopping Complex:** As a national leader in sales and one of the most unique facilities in the U.S., the Bass Pro Shops store anchors a shopping experience including several small retail shops and eateries. The complex is located only a few miles from the Antique District of Denham Springs.
- **Delicious Dining:** While Louisiana is renowned for exceptional cuisine, Livingston Parish sports more than a fair share of great restaurants, and gumbo, jambalaya and crawfish pie are just a few of the specialties. Sample the original, creative dishes, and you will be sure to come again. On or near the water, mouthwatering tastes are available at Hill Top Inn, Kevin’s Cajun Seafood, Charlie’s, Red’s and many more.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Powerboat Poker Run: The Tickfaw 200 is the nation’s largest Powerboat Poker Run. It is hosted the first weekend of May at the Blood River Marina in Springfield. More than 300 boats come from all over the nation to compete in the Poker Run, a celebration that features great food, super music acts and boating pageantry. Proceeds go to charity.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Denham Springs Antique District: This district was recently voted among the three Best Louisiana Main Streets and also Best Antique Shopping.

Carter Plantation: Carter Plantation in Springfield features the David Toms Signature Golf Course and was named one of the Top 10 Places You Can Play by Golf Magazine and Best in the State by Golf Digest.

Hungarian Museum and Historic Carter Plantation House: These two properties were recognized for preserving their historical buildings by the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation.

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LOUISIANA'S CAJUN BAYOU

lacajunbayou.com

4484 La. Hwy. 1

P.O. Box 340, Raceland, LA 70394

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Kellie Walters

985-537-5800 | kwalters@lacajunbayou.com



LAFOURCHE

Just 45 minutes south of New Orleans is an authentic Cajun lifestyle unlike any other. This unapologetic culture runs up and down Bayou Lafourche, and is filled with outdoor experiences like fishing and swamp tours, along with regular celebrations such as food, music and festivals. Up the Bayou and down the Bayou - It's how we tell you to get from one place to another. It's a little different, but so are we. Our Cajun runs just a little bit deeper than the rest of the state, and it shows up at every bend in the Bayou. Come see the unpolished, unspoiled beauty of the bayou when you visit Louisiana's Cajun Bayou in Lafourche Parish. It's where Cajun runs deep.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Fishing:** One of the top five fishing destinations in the U.S., Louisiana's Cajun Bayou boasts more than 25 local charter captains available for fishing excursions year-round. Deep-sea, coastal, and freshwater fishing trips include everything from your overnight accommodations to your bait and tackle.
- **Swamp Tours and Wildlife:** One of the best ways to truly immerse yourself in bayou life is on a swamp tour. The region's swamps are a world of mystery and intrigue, places where cypress trees emerge from black waters while Spanish moss cascades down from their branches, and alligators surface from those same waters while eagles soar overhead. No trip to this part of Louisiana is complete without time spent in the swamps.
- **Downtown Thibodaux:** This downtown area filled with local shops, restaurants and bars, has small-town charm with historic architecture surrounding each street. You'll find live music, unique gifts and tasty dishes all embodying the rich Cajun culture of the community.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Louisiana's Cajun Bayou Festival Weekends: Festivals are one of the best ways for visitors to see the authentic Cajun culture and truly get a taste of local food, traditions and music all in one place. These events showcase the best of what makes the area such a popular place to immerse yourself in Cajun culture. Most festivals last for a weekend, but there's many other ways to extend your stay in the area such as visiting museums, experiencing swamp tours and checking out local shops and restaurants.

Spirits on the Cajun Bayou: Try a beer from Thibodaux's own Mudbug Brewery. Sample the King Cake Ale, named for the Mardi Gras delicacy and featuring hints of cinnamon and vanilla, or a White Boot Blonde, which pays tribute to the footwear preferred by shrimpers. Nearby, Donner-Peltier Distillers transforms local rice into Oryza vodkas, and they incorporate local sugar cane into their Rougaroux rums. It's all worth a sample—or two—and the distillery happily shares recipes used by bartenders throughout the state.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Lafourche Live Oak Scenic Driving Tour: A self-guided driving tour designed to entertain and inform through brief stories of the oaks, their location, and their connection to the settlement and growth of Louisiana's Cajun Bayou, Lafourche Parish. The tour maps out 40 tree locations where you can stop and enjoy the beauty of centuries-old oaks both up and down the bayou.

Twitter: [@LA_CAJUNBAYOU](#) Instagram: [@LACAJUNBAYOU](#) Facebook: [LACAJUNBAYOU](#)



MADISON

MADISON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

www.louisiananorth.com

305 Dabney St., Tallulah, LA 71282

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Tina Johnson

318.574.8519 or 888.744.8410

mptourism@att.net

Hunting and fishing have been the most popular sports in Madison Parish since the earliest settlers, and that popularity continues today. The first enclosed mall in Louisiana—known as Bloom’s Arcade—was built in Tallulah and patterned after the French malls in Paris. Madison Parish is home to Madame C.J. Walker, the first self-made woman millionaire of any race. Born to slave parents, she created a line of hair products for blacks.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Hunting and Fishing Opportunities:** The most popular sports in the parish continue to be hunting and fishing. The woodlands of Madison Parish are abundantly stocked with squirrels, wild turkeys, rabbits, quails, doves, ducks and geese. As far back as 1894, the most popular game fish were black bass, crappie, goggle-eye and perch. By 1957, bream, crappie and channel catfish became the favorites among fishermen.
- **Historical Sites:** A driving tour of the parish will reveal Civil War trail markers for the Battle of Milliken’s Bend, Dalkeith Prison Hospital, Duckport Canal, Grant’s Canal, Crescent Plantation and Hermione Museum.
- **Hermione Museum:** A restored antebellum home saved from General Grant’s March now houses the history of Madison Parish. Brochures are available for a driving tour of Grant’s March through Louisiana.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

The Annual Teddy’s Bearfest: Held the second weekend in October, this festival is a historical celebration commemorating President Theodore Roosevelt’s travel to Louisiana in 1907 to kill the elusive black bear that he failed to capture in Mississippi in 1902.

Annual Christmas along the Bayou Arts and Crafts Festival and Parade: Held on the first Sunday in December, this festival boasts a Christmas concert and fireworks show.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

The Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge: Enjoy hiking trails, hunting and fishing opportunities and programs for children and young adults.

Southern Heritage and Air Foundation: Tour the museum and have an unforgettable flight experience, whether you choose an aerobatic flight in a warbird airplane or a vintage airplane.

Twitter: @LOUISIANANORTH Twitter: LOUISIANA-NORTH

MONROE—WEST MONROE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



MONROE—WEST
MONROE

Monroe-WestMonroe.org

601 Constitution Drive,

West Monroe, LA 70292

P.O. Box 1436, West Monroe, LA 71294

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Harolyn Falgoust

800.843.1872

hfalgoust@monroe-westmonroe.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Sheila Snow

800.843.1872

ssnow@monroe-westmonroe.org

Monroe-West Monroe is the place to shop, eat and discover. Shop along Antique Alley lined with classic antique shops and boutiques. Eat at one of more than 100 locally-owned restaurants. Discover our history with Coca-Cola, Delta Airlines and World War II hero General Claire Lee Chennault.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Landry Vineyards:** Located in the rolling hills of West Monroe, Landry Vineyards is a local tradition and a must-see stop for visitors to enjoy the views while sampling wines in the tasting room. Do not miss the fall and spring outdoor concert series and summer harvest festivals when the grounds are filled with music, food and fun.
- **Antique Alley:** Antique Alley has long been a top shopping destination in our region with classic antiques, boutiques, restaurants and a newly opened bed-and-breakfast.
- **Duck Commander the Experience:** This interactive walk through exhibition will take you through 15 rooms, featuring never-before-shared photographs, artifacts, stories and so much more. It will not only be entertaining but educational.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Christmas on the River: The event is full of holiday cheer with walk through light displays, parades, fireworks, live entertainment, great shopping, ice skating and more.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Flying Tiger Brewery: Visit this new brewery inspired by General Claire Chennault's Flying Tigers. Enjoy a flight of their specialty beers like the Burma Blonde or Heroic Hops at the bar under the nose of a P-40 or outside on the patio. Before visiting the brewery, be sure to check out Chennault Aviation & Military Museum to learn the story of Gen. Chennault and his brave flying squadron.

Twitter: [@MWMCVB](#) Instagram: [@DISCOVERMONROEWESTMONROE](#) Facebook: [MONROEWESTMONROE](#)



MOREHOUSE

MOREHOUSE TOURISM COMMISSION

BastropLacoc.org

110 N. Franklin St., Bastrop, LA 71220

P.O. Box 1175, Bastrop, LA 71221

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Dorothy Ford

318.281.3794

director@bastropLacoc.org

If you enjoy hunting, fishing and watching wildlife, then Morehouse Parish is the place to be. Begin your journey at Chemin-A-Haut State Park and continue by canoeing or kayaking on beautiful Bayou Bartholomew. Hunting, wildlife, tranquility, shopping, museums, antique shops—it is all in Morehouse.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Home of Simmons Sporting Goods:** Simmons is the South's largest independently owned sporting goods store.
- **Morehouse Parish:** The parish is the fifth-largest duck hunting location in the U.S.
- **Canoeing or Kayaking on Bayou Bartholomew:** This bayou is a major part of the state's paddle trail for canoe and kayak enthusiasts.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Bayou Bartholomew: Morehouse Parish is known throughout the country for its 77 miles of beauty for those who canoe and kayak. A part of the Louisiana Paddle Trails, Bayou Bartholomew made its national debut on television as part of a documentary filmed by the Arkansas Educational Television Network. Also receiving recognition in the film is Chemin-A-Haut Creek, a Bartholomew tributary that was recently recognized for its thousand-year-old cypress trees.

Chemin-A-Haut State Park: Recognized for having some of the oldest cypress trees in Louisiana, Chemin-A-Haut State Park has one tree in particular, the Castle, that measures 20 feet in diameter and has a hollow cavern large enough to paddle a canoe through. Core samples estimate the tree's age to be at least 1,000 years old. Further tests may prove that this tree is even older than a millennium. It was designated as one of the six trees in Louisiana alive in 1812, the year of Louisiana's statehood.

Canoeing and Kayaking on Chemin-A-Haut Creek: Boat tours are available on beautiful Chemin-A-Haut Creek which winds around the state park. Canoes and kayaks are available for rent.

Facebook: [BASTROPMOREHOUSE.CHAMBER](https://www.facebook.com/BASTROPMOREHOUSE.CHAMBER)

NATCHITOCHES AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Natchitoches.com

780 Front St., Suite 100,
Natchitoches, LA 71457

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Arlene Gould

800.259.1714

director@natchitoches.com or media.natchitoches.com



NATCHITOCHES

Located in northwest Louisiana, Natchitoches (pronounced “Nack-a-tish”) is a one-of-a-kind community full of culture, history, recreation, shopping and more. Natchitoches celebrated its tricentennial in 2014 and is the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Natchitoches Historic Landmark District:** Overlooking historic Cane River Lake, downtown Natchitoches offers many unique activities for travelers. Shop our 33-block historic district, take a complimentary guided walking tour with a Cane River National Heritage Area tour guide and snack on a famous Natchitoches meat pie.
- **Cane River National Heritage Trail, a Louisiana Scenic Byway:** Stretched along the banks of beautiful Cane River Lake, Natchitoches is home to three state historic sites, the National Parks at Oakland Plantation, Magnolia Plantation Complex and Melrose Plantation all within the boundaries of the Cane River National Heritage Area.
- **Famous Natchitoches Christmas Lights:** Louisiana’s premier holiday celebration for more than 90 years, begins the Saturday before Thanksgiving with a holiday open house, fireworks and entertainment. In December, more than 300,000 Christmas lights and 100 set pieces illuminate the historic district and Cane River Lake nightly, with spectacular fireworks every Saturday through January 6.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site: Experience French colonial life while guided through the fort by costumed interpreters. The site, obtained for the replication of Fort St. Jean Baptiste, is located on Cane River Lake (formerly the Red River) a few hundred yards from the original fort site that Louis Antoine Juchereau de St. Denis set up in 1714.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Home to the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame & Northwest Louisiana History Museum: Located in the heart of downtown Natchitoches, the two-story, 27,500-square foot museum features spectacular exhibits displaying more than a century of Louisiana sports history and culture. The gallery showcases more than 300 inductees and their incredible stories. Discover the rich history of the region, beginning in the late 1600s.

National Recognition: Named one of “The 15 Most Beautiful Main Streets in America” by Architectural Digest in 2017, One of “The 30 Most Beautiful Towns in America” by Expedia.com, USA Today named Natchitoches the Best Southern Small Town in 2015. “One of the Cutest Towns in the South” by MSN.com in 2016, CNN named “Natchitoches the Best Destination to Travel” in 2014. Yahoo.com named the Natchitoches Christmas Festival of Lights the Third-Best Holiday Light Show in 2013.

Twitter: [@NATCHTOURISM](https://twitter.com/NATCHTOURISM) Instagram: [@NATCHITOCHESTOURISM](https://www.instagram.com/NATCHITOCHESTOURISM) Facebook: [NATCHITOCHESTOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/NATCHITOCHESTOURISM)



NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

NewOrleansCVB.com
2020 St. Charles Ave.,
New Orleans, LA 70130

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT
Thu Tran
504.566.5053
ttran@neworleanscvb.com

MEDIA CONTACT
Sarah Forman
504.566.5019
sforman@neworleanscvb.com

Steeped in a history of influences from Europe, the Caribbean, Africa and beyond, New Orleans is home to a truly unique melting pot of culture, food and music. You will find gumbo, jazz clubs, historic neighborhoods and festivals year-round. Come experience one of America's most culturally and historically rich destinations.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Music:** Wherever you go in New Orleans, live music is part of the rhythm of everyday life, pouring out of open doorways and ringing out from street corners. The city's thriving musical community provides ongoing soundtracks for visitors and locals alike. It is easy to immerse yourself in an authentic musical experience by catching a performance at any local hotspot.
- **Culture:** New Orleans has a vibrant culture. It is Old World with a new twist. The food, festivals and music are shared pleasures and give the city a powerful sense of identity. There are neighborhood restaurants opened by bold creative chefs, brass band parades in local neighborhoods and up-and-coming jazz musicians dominating the local scene. This remarkable city naturally combines traditions with new influences and continues to amaze tourists and locals alike.
- **Food:** New Orleans is known worldwide for its cuisine. Home to more than 1,500 restaurants, New Orleans is truly an epicurean delight. French cuisine blends with local cooking styles and creates distinctive Creole and Cajun dishes that are original to the city, such as gumbo and po'boys.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

National World War II Museum: The National WWII Museum's exhibits cover the global scale of the war that changed the world in a voice that is intimate and personal right in the heart of New Orleans. Exhibits not only highlight the role of world leaders, but also the everyday men and women who found the strength and courage to accomplish the extraordinary.

Culinary Walking Tour: New Orleans is a city rich in the history of dining and cocktails. Enjoy learning about the history of signature dishes while visiting restaurants throughout the French Quarter. Experience these tours through Gray Line Tours and Destination Kitchen.

Festivals: With more than 137 festivals on the calendar each year, be sure to incorporate one of the many events into your visit. Some popular festivals include French Quarter Festival, and New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Tricentennial: New Orleans is celebrating its 300th anniversary. New Orleans will celebrate its birthday with a year's worth of festivities and infrastructure improvements including a redeveloped riverfront and more. The Historic New Orleans Collection will unveil a 12,000-square foot expansion including the new exhibit "New Orleans, the Founding Era." Firework Shows will occur throughout the year including Dick Clark's Rocking New Year's Eve on Dec. 31, 2017, and Dec 31, 2018. Public Art will be a cornerstone of the festivities including unveiling public murals and two established art festivals Luna Fete & Prospect.

NEW ORLEANS PLANTATION COUNTRY

NewOrleansPlantationCountry.com

2900 U.S. Hwy. 51, Laplace, LA 70068

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Jo Banner

985.359.0372 | jo@visitnopc.com



NEW ORLEANS

Visit America's most memorable travel destination, New Orleans Plantation Country, where history comes alive! Experience a unique culture started by Europeans, Africans and Native Americans centuries ago that's still present today. Every bit of our 54-mile area is filled with historical plantation homes, picturesque swamps, Cajun/Creole cuisine and historic churches. It all awaits you here in New Orleans Plantation Country—only minutes away from downtown New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Make a day trip, or better yet, spend the night in a charming Southern bed-and-breakfast or in the comfort of a national chain hotel. Discover New Orleans Plantation Country, where the river shaped the culture and the experience will shape you.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Plantations:** Immerse yourself in the region's unique and diverse history by touring the plantation homes nestled along the Great River Road. Learn how their inhabitants, both free and enslaved, shaped the culture of Louisiana. Plantations include Oak Alley Plantation, Houmas House Plantation and Gardens, Evergreen Plantation, Destrehan Plantation, Laura Plantation, Ormond Plantation, San Francisco Plantation, St. Joseph Plantation, Poche Plantation, Felicité Plantation and Whitney Plantation.
- **Swamp Tours:** New Orleans Plantation Country is not only known for its beautiful homes, but also for its mysterious swamps. Travel through the Louisiana bayous and explore flora and fauna up close where the gators are waiting. Cajun Pride, Airboat Tours by Arthur, Swamp Adventures, Pleasure Bend Swamp Tour and Wild Louisiana Tours, are just a few of our swamp offerings.
- **Food:** New Orleans Plantation Country boasts several restaurants ready to serve your favorite Louisiana dishes. From casual eateries to fine dining, experience the best of Cajun and Creole cuisine. Restaurants in New Orleans Plantation Country include Frenier Landing, Nobile's, B&C Seafood, Oak Alley Plantation Restaurant and Latil's Landing. Many fairs and festivals such as the Andouille Festival, Catfish Festival and the Alligator Festival highlight the delicious food found throughout New Orleans Plantation Country.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Christmas on the Bayou Boat Parade: The annual boat parade takes place on the waters surrounding Bayou Gauche Island and features many local boats decorated and lit up for the holidays. Boaters throw beads and candy to the crowds on shore.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Slavery Exhibit Openings: To give deeper insight into the lives of the enslaved, Laura, Whitney, San Francisco and Destrehan Plantations have opened new permanent exhibits on their grounds this year. Based on years of research, these exhibits detail the impact of slavery on not only those enslaved, but also the plantation and its lasting impact on society.

Twitter + Instagram: [@NOLAPLANTATIONS](#) Facebook: [NOLAPLANTATIONS](#)



PLAQUEMINES

PLAQUEMINES PARISH OFFICE OF TOURISM

PlaqueminesTourism.com

8056 La. Hwy. 23, Suite 215
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Plaquemines Parish, a world-class fishing destination, has something for everyone to enjoy with sport fishing, outdoor adventures, wetland tours, festivals and historic sites. The community keeps its culture alive through the many fairs and festivals hosted throughout the year, which celebrate the unique people and way of life in Plaquemines Parish. Come experience how the outdoors, history and culture blend together to bring people from all over the world to enjoy this unique and authentic experience.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **World-Class Fishing:** Legendary anglers Bert Jones, Roland Martin and Bill Dance come to Plaquemines Parish to catch the big ones. These anglers continually feature the areas of Venice, Empire, Myrtle Grove and South Pass on their national outdoor shows. Whatever you are looking to catch, the offshore, freshwater and saltwater wetlands in Plaquemines Parish have some of the greatest variety and numbers of fish in North America.
- **Fairs and Festivals:** Plaquemines Parish is home to several annual fairs and festivals that are great family fun. The festival season begins with the Buras Volunteer Fire Department Crawfish Boil-Off in April. May brings the Plaquemines Parish Seafood Festival, where visitors can enjoy great local seafood and other unique food specialties. October brings the newest and only festival to showcase the East Bank of Plaquemines Parish; the Bayou Paddle Festival. Held the 2nd weekend of October in Pointe-a-la-Hache, LA. The first full weekend of December brings the oldest of the parish festivals, the 70-year-old Orange Festival. Held at historic Fort Jackson, the festival was started to celebrate the industrious citrus growers of Plaquemines Parish.
- **Culture and History:** History and culture blend together here and can be found in the many historical sites scattered throughout Plaquemines Parish. The parish has a lot to offer including a Mardi Gras parade, Civil War forts, plantation homes and monuments.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Outdoor Adventures: Kayaking, hiking, birding and off-road biking are some options available to visitors at the Woodland Trails Wilderness Area. Bird watchers will enjoy the Delta National Wildlife Refuge, which is a federal preserve located at the mouth of the Mississippi River that plays host to thousands of migratory and indigenous birds each year. For those who want a closer look at the wildlife in the parish's wetlands, perhaps an air tour or guided swamp tour is more to your liking.

Instagram: [@PLAQUEMINESGOV](https://www.instagram.com/PLAQUEMINESGOV) Facebook: [PLAQUEMINESGOVERNMENT](https://www.facebook.com/PLAQUEMINESGOVERNMENT)

POINTE COUPEE PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

PCTourism.org

727 Hospital Road, La Hwy. 1
P.O. Box 733, New Roads, LA 70760

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Jeanie Andre, Director
225.638.3998 | jeanieandre727@gmail.com



POINTE COUPEE

Pointe Coupee Parish is one of the oldest settlements in the Mississippi River Valley, and its French and African influences can still be seen. You will find friendly people and delicious cuisine. It has beautiful lakes, a history that can be taken in by biking, hiking or driving, festivals, country fairs and parades for visitors to enjoy.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Hospitality:** Pointe Coupee is a rural area with friendly people, great restaurants and beautiful scenic views.
- **Fairs and Festivals:** Pointe Coupee Parish is host to many events such as country fairs, parades, festivals. There is something going on all year long within the parish.
- **Fordoche Fair:** Experience a country fair set up around a beautiful pond in Fordoche. Enjoy rides for all ages, home-cooked dinners, live entertainment and lots of Southern hospitality.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

A peaceful boat ride on beautiful False River or Old River: Stay in a camp, motel or bed-and-breakfast. Enjoy fishing and water sports or relax and enjoy the tranquil views of sunrises or sunsets on either lake.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

False River Historical Trail: Hike or cycle along the re-established False River Historical Trail.

Restaurants: Satterfield's, MaMama's Kitchen, Not Your Mamma's, Savvy's, Hot Tails, and Bayou Shack are among a few well known restaurants within the parish.

Facebook: [POINTE-COUPPEE-PARISH-OFFICE-OF-TOURISM-167784043234998](https://www.facebook.com/POINTE-COUPPEE-PARISH-OFFICE-OF-TOURISM-167784043234998)



RUSTON LINCOLN

RUSTON LINCOLN CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

ExperienceRuston.com

2111 N. Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270

P.O. Box 1383, Ruston, LA 71273

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Amanda Quimby

318.255.2031

aquimby@rustonlincoln.com

Located in the piney woods of north Louisiana, Ruston is known for southern charm and hospitality, as well as some incredibly sweet peaches. But more than just peaches, it is the perfect getaway for adventure and relaxation. From mountain biking and camping to downtown shopping and dining, enjoy a little something for everyone in this family-friendly locale.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Eddie G. Robinson Museum:** The Eddie G. Robinson Museum in Grambling is a place where history buffs and sports fanatics can enjoy highlights from the life of a national football coaching icon. Take a trip through Robinson's powerful life and be touched by his remarkable American spirit.
- **Louisiana Military Museum:** Relive 200 years of military history and see through the eyes of local heroes and unknown enemies. The Louisiana Military Museum showcases a massive collection of weapons, uniforms, artifacts and more from the Spanish-American War to Desert Storm.
- **Dixie Center for the Arts:** A restored 1938 theater, Dixie Center for the Arts presents an array of musical and theatrical productions year-round. Home to the Ruston Community Theatre and the Ruston Civic Symphony Society, this gem hosts an array of productions, musicals, orchestral ensembles and performances from regional and national musicians.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Louisiana Peach Festival: Held the fourth weekend in June, the Louisiana Peach Festival is celebrated with music, exciting events, more than 200 artisans and vendors and Ruston's delicious, juicy, sweet peaches. Ruston and the Louisiana Peach Festival now hold the Guinness World Record for Largest Peach Cobbler.

Beau Vines Steakhouse: This fine dining experience is the classic American steakhouse with hints of Creole influence throughout the menu. Specializing in premier cuts chargrilled to perfection over an open fire, they also offer a variety of wines and liquors to complement every dish. Join them for Sunday brunch and enjoy your favorite dishes with some local flare.

Downtown Ruston: A day in Downtown Ruston offers a variety of shopping, dining, family-friendly entertainment and multiple photo opportunities with Ruston's murals painted by local artists—all conveniently located in an 18-block historic district. Railroad Park, located in the center of downtown, plays host to monthly outdoor and cultural events.

Twitter + Instagram: [@RUSTONCVB](#) Facebook: [EXPERIENCERUSTON](#)

SHREVEPORT–BOSSIER CONVENTION & TOURIST BUREAU



SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER

Shreveport-Bossier.org/groups

629 Spring St., Shreveport, LA 71101

P.O. Box 1761, Shreveport,

LA 71166-1761

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Erica Telsee

318.429.0652

etelsee@sbctb.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Aly Velasquez

318.213.8266

avelasquez@sbctb.org

Shreveport-Bossier, located in beautiful northwest Louisiana, is a mixture of spicy Cajun attitude and wide-open Texas spirit. Experience 24-hour gaming, riverfront entertainment, family-friendly festivals and mouthwatering cuisine. Groups love our big-city amenities and signature Southern hospitality.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Casinos:** Shreveport-Bossier offers six riverfront casinos and a horseracing track. These venues lend themselves to 24-hour excitement, world-class cuisine and nightlife.
- **Shopping:** Leave some time to shop and be sure to pick up some local art from Agora Borealis, an artists market; Tubbs Hardware, the Mardi Gras headquarters; and Enchanted Garden, a boutique gift shop. The Louisiana Boardwalk Outlets is a favorite one-stop shop for dining, clothes, accessories and entertainment.
- **Holiday Splendor:** Get in the holiday spirit along the Louisiana Holiday Trail of Lights. Eight of north Louisiana's most festive cities mesmerize families and groups from November to December. Shreveport-Bossier is one of the cities that offers great food, music, festivals, fireworks, home tours and more.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Mardi Gras Bash: The annual Red River Mardi Gras Bash is an exclusive party for groups to enjoy one of the largest Mardi Gras parades in Louisiana. The party is held during the Krewe of Centaur Mardi Gras Parade and is hosted by the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau. The climate-controlled party tent is located on the most exclusive spot and includes live entertainment, authentic Louisiana cuisine, commemorative Mardi Gras souvenirs and hands-on experiences. During the parade, groups will see floats, outrageous Mardi Gras personalities and, of course, catch beads.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

New Group Experiences: Groups of 10 or more looking for something new and exciting can immerse themselves in the unique culture of Shreveport-Bossier. From wine and chocolate tastings and soul food cooking demonstrations to Elvis sightings, these hands-on experiences offer something for everyone.

New Attractions: Shreveport Aquarium, an outstanding new family attraction featuring sharks, rays, octopus, crabs and more, is now open on the riverfront in downtown Shreveport. Private event space rentals are available for this unique building featuring an arboretum, classroom, restaurant and more.

Twitter: [@SBCTB](#) Instagram: [@SEESHREVEPORTBOSSIER](#) Facebook: [LOUISIANASOTHERSIDE](#)



ST. BERNARD

ST. BERNARD PARISH OFFICE OF TOURISM

VisitStBernard.com

409 Aycok St., Arabi, LA 70032

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Katie Tommaseo

504.278.4242 | ktommaseo@sbpg.net

St. Bernard Parish is located just five miles southeast of the French Quarter and is considered “New Orleans’ Most Historic Neighbor.” Traveling along the Mississippi River down the San Bernardo National Scenic Byway, visitors can stop at the site of the Battle of New Orleans on the grounds of the Chalmette Battlefield, tour the Old Arabi Cultural & Historic District—named one of America’s Prettiest Painted Places—and learn the culture of the Canary Islands at the Los Isleños Museum and village. Enjoy St. Bernard!

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **St. Bernard Festivals:** Which includes cultural, historical and culinary festivals for people of all ages, young and old.
- **Los Isleños Museum:** Considered the last vestige of Spanish colonial Louisiana, groups can enhance their visit with Spanish culinary demonstrations and folklife demonstrations.
- **World-Class Fishing Destination:** St. Bernard Parish was named Best Charter Fishing in Louisiana by The Official Best of LA TV Program.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Chalmette Battlefield National Park: Experience the History Comes Alive event at the Chalmette Battlefield each January. Chalmette Battlefield visitors will enjoy cannon firings, encampments, living history and military drills.

Docville Farm: The historic farm and home of the late Dr. Louis Meraux, overseen and managed by the philanthropic Meraux Foundation, now serves as a 130-acre educational center hosting art exhibits, twilight concerts, festivals and youth activities. Please visit www.Merauxfoundation.org, or call the St. Bernard Parish Office of Tourism for more information.

Val Riess Sports Complex: 33-acre recreational park including two state of the art baseball/softball quadruple fields as well as a 35,000-square foot multi-purpose facility that can accommodate conferences, events, tournaments and expos.

The Fredrick J Sigur Center: Features a set of ballrooms, as well as a 58,000-square foot amphitheater-style auditorium, adjacent to 11,000-square foot ballroom. An entertainment venue that hosts a variety of events: weddings, concerts, entertainment events, various ceremonies, and Mardi Gras Balls.

Twitter + Instagram: [@STBGOV](https://twitter.com/STBGOV) Facebook: [STBTourism](https://www.facebook.com/STBTourism)

ST. LANDRY PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

CajunTravel.com

978 Kennerson Road, Opelousas, LA 70570
P.O. Box 1415, Opelousas, LA 70571-1415

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Caitlin Bussey, Communications Manager
337.948.8004 ext. 101 | assistant@cajuntravel.com



ST. LANDRY

St. Landry Parish's rich culture derives from centuries of Cajun, Creole, African, Native American and Western European people whose influences have provided music, food, and culture that are unmatched. This parish is home to the Zydeco Capital of The World, Cajun music, and more than 500 antique dealers all within a twenty-mile radius.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Festival Eats:** There's no lack of stuffed, fried or blackened foods in this region, especially at the area festivals. Head to Historic Grand Coteau on the fourth Saturday in October for the Sweet Dough Pie Festival, and sample little handmade pies with a selection of fillings such as fig, sweet potato and blackberry. Put your taste buds to the test at the Arnaudville Étouffée Festival in late April. Pig out on hog cracklins at the Port Barre Cracklin Festival on the second full weekend in November, or sample regional dishes such as barbeque, stew and brisket at the Annual Here's the Beef Cookoff, held the first Sunday in March.
- **French Louisiana:** Friendly locals of both Creole and Cajun descent can be found at social gatherings speaking in French at events such as The Savoy Saturday Jam Session, French tables, The Liberty Theatre's Rendez-vous des Cajuns or the Les Courdre Pointes Quilting Circle. These locals often have a story to tell, be it in French or English, and they're always willing to share their boudin and cracklins.
- **Antique Shopping:** Collectors and lovers of all things vintage can shop at a 1930's schoolhouse converted into an antique mall in Washington or visit the town of Sunset for an avenue lined with flea markets and antique shops, some specializing in funky mid-century modern design.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Cajun Country Courir de Mardi Gras: This long-lived rural celebration is an experience like no other that involves chasing chickens, a community gumbo, an old time boucherie (hog butchering) and live music. Don't have a costume? That's okay! Spectators are welcome to watch the costumed revelers carry on this century-old tradition.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Fete Dieu du Teche: This floating Eucharist procession on Bayou Teche has gained a lot of attention for being an awe-inspiring event that is uniquely Cajun. The celebration always takes place on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption. Those who aren't participating by boat can join onlookers on the banks of the Teche.

Opelousas Jazz Night : Arpeggios Lounge is a restaurant and music hall located in downtown Opelousas. Sunday nights this historic venue is the perfect spot to hear live jazz, brass and blues bands from Louisiana. The city of Opelousas, also known as the Zydeco Capital of the World, was selected by the Project for Public Places to participate in Sound Places, a placemaking project. The project pairs young chamber musicians, WindSync, with community leaders and volunteers in order to inspire revitalization ideas and assist with project planning.



ST. MARTIN

ST. MARTIN PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

CajunCountry.org

314 E. Bridge St., Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Dona Degatur Richard

337.442.1597 | ddr@cajuncountry.org

St. Martin Parish is home to history, Cajun and Creole fun, music and dancing, and it incorporates the wildlife and nature symbolic of Louisiana. Visit each of these three distinct areas: St. Martinville, home of Longfellow's Evangeline; Breaux Bridge, the Crawfish Capital of the World; and Henderson, the Gateway to the Atchafalaya Basin.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Swamp Tours:** Henderson, the Gateway to the Atchafalaya Basin, offers group tours into Henderson Lake for a unique view of the largest swamp in the U.S., where you will see alligators, migratory birds and other native wildlife.
- **World-Famous Cajun Seafood Restaurants:** Henderson and Breaux Bridge are homes to several world-famous seafood restaurants. Dine at one of the many family-owned restaurants such as Pat's Fisherman's Wharf or Crawfish Town USA. Breaux Bridge, the Crawfish Capital of the World, offers Cajun cuisine with a different flair at establishments such as Joie de Vivre Cafe, Crazy 'Bout Crawfish or Buck & Johnny's. Pont Breaux's Cajun Restaurant caters to large groups with the added bonus of live Cajun music each evening from Thursday to Sunday.
- **Acadian Culture & History:** St. Martinville Historic Downtown District offers a view into the past. The Historic District consists of 32 buildings dating from 1820 to 1931 which are notable for their historical significance and architecture. St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church, Evangeline Oak Park, the Acadian Memorial, the African American Museum and Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site offer guided tours.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Crawfish Festival: The world-famous Crawfish Festival began in 1960 as a spin-off of the Breaux Bridge Centennial Celebration, and it is known throughout the country and the world. Every May, thousands of hungry people flock to Breaux Bridge to be part of the festivities. The Crawfish Festival has also become one of the largest gatherings of world-famous Cajun musicians. All weekend long, you can hear the sound of authentic Cajun, zydeco and swamp pop music. Watch the Cajun dance contests, or join in. Take part in Cajun music workshops. There is no better place to experience Cajun and Creole music than at the Crawfish Festival.

Bayou Teche Brewery: Bayou Teche Brewing was founded on this simple dream – to craft beers that complement the cuisine and lifestyle of Cajuns and Creoles. Tours offered daily with food and music on Saturday.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Prehistoric Park: This life-size walk through exhibit features 30 dinosaurs including 10 animatronics with moving action and sound and a Go Cart Track. Group tour discounts, field trips and party setups are available.

Twitter: [@VISITSTMARTIN](https://twitter.com/VISITSTMARTIN) Instagram: [@VISIT_ST.MARTIN.PARISH_LA](https://www.instagram.com/VISIT_ST.MARTIN.PARISH_LA) Facebook: [VISITSTMARTIN](https://www.facebook.com/VISITSTMARTIN)

ST. TAMMANY PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION/LOUISIANA NORTHSHORE

LouisianaNorthshore.com

68099 La. Hwy. 59,
Mandeville, LA 70471

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Tanya Leader
985.892.0520 or 800.634.9443
tanya@louisiananorthshore.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Renee Kientz
985.892.0520 or 800.634.9443
renee@louisiananorthshore.com



ST. TAMMANY

Nicknamed Louisiana's Northshore for its location north of Lake Pontchartrain, St. Tammany Parish is less than an hour's drive from Baton Rouge, New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Known for eco-friendly and easily accessible outdoor attractions, outstanding fishing, unique museums and a deep and delicious culinary scene, the Northshore has become a popular getaway destination.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Memorable Experiences:** Enjoy one of many attractions such as the Insta-Gator Ranch and Hatchery, Global Wildlife Center or a Honey Island Swamp Tour. Tour one of our three breweries including the popular home base of Abita Beer. Groups can tour MovieSets prop house and see part of Hollywood South as they dance and dine among various props from movies and TV shows.
- **Epicurean Haven:** Food lovers can eat their ways through the area. Find classic gumbo and po'boys at casual spots or sophisticated chef-driven fare at upscale dining rooms, all showcasing fresh-caught Louisiana seafood and locally sourced produce.
- **Location:** The Northshore is perfectly positioned for visitors to enjoy the hub and spoke concept with access to three major interstates—Interstate 10, Interstate 12 and Interstate 59—and is less than an hour away from the New Orleans French Quarter, plantation country and the Mississippi Gulf Coast beaches.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Wooden Boat Festival: Held in Madisonville on a mid-October weekend, visitors can stroll the banks of the scenic Tchefuncte (pronounced Cha-FUNK-ta) River, lined with scores of vintage wooden boats from across the South. Enjoy food booths, live music and tours of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum, which benefits from festival proceeds.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

New Hotel Openings: Newly opened is Towne Place Suites by Marriott in Slidell. This all-suite hotel has 92 rooms with fully equipped kitchens, featuring free Wi-Fi and high-speed wired Internet access, plush bedding, large work space and 40" flat-screen TVs. There are two great-for-groups restaurants that opened in 2017: Walk-on's Bistreaux and Bar in Covington and the Blind Tiger in Slidell, featuring a vacation-vibe and water view.

Twitter + Instagram: @LANORTHSHORE Facebook: EXPLORELOUISIANANORTHSHORE



TANGIPAHOA

TANGIPAHOA PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Tangitourism.com

13143 Wardline Rd., Hammond, LA 70401

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Emily McKneely Matise

985.542.7520

emily@tangitourism.com or info@tangitourism.com

From strolling down the sidewalks of a nationally-recognized antique city to taking a walk on the wild side, Tangipahoa has hidden surprises for everyone. Nowhere else in Louisiana can you experience the ambience, charm and flavor of Louisiana in a 51-mile stretch of easily accessible highway than in Tangipahoa Parish.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Global Wildlife Center:** This is where the animals roam free and the people are caged. Home to more than 3,000 exotic and endangered animals, Global is the place to wiggle a camel's hump or hand-feed the big boys on this 1.5 hour tour!
- **Liuzza Land:** Come pick your own produce and experience life on the farm. Known worldwide for their scrumptious strawberries, the Liuzza farm features educational experiences for children of all ages.
- **America's Antique City of Ponchatoula:** Discover hidden treasures at antique stores, pick up your Louisiana souvenirs at the many boutiques or simply grab a bite at one of the downtown dining establishments in this historic walking city.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Tangipahoa Parish Brewery Trail

Bruce Mitchell's Swamp Adventures Tour

Vintage Market Days of Southeast Louisiana

Autogyro flights of Louisiana

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Restaurants: Two new restaurants will be hitting the scene soon in Tangipahoa Parish. Salty Joe's BBQ Shop in Hammond and Paw Paw's Country Buffet in Ponchatoula will begin serving the masses in October 2017. Both restaurants feature an eclectic atmosphere and home cooking.

Reunion Lake Resort: Located off I-12 in Robert, Louisiana, Reunion Lake combines the outdoor fun of a lakeside park with the high-end amenities of a luxury resort. New additions include a heated/cooled lazy river with swim up tiki bar, hot tub, additional RV hookups, a Sonic drive-in and Exxon gas station.

Ponchatoula Roller Rink: with traditional and in-line skates available for rent, is the perfect place for themed nights, dance parties, movie nights and team building exercises.

Sandy Bottom Canoeing and Kayaking: Outdoor enthusiasts will love exploring the Tangipahoa River.

Hammond Northshore Regional Air Show: The air show will occur on October 20-21, 2018.

Twitter: @TANGITOURISM Facebook: TANGITOURISM

TOLEDO BEND LAKE COUNTRY/SABINE PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION



SABINE

ToledoBendLakeCountry.com

1601 Texas Hwy., Many, LA 71449

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Linda Curtis Sparks

318.256.5880 | director@toledobendlakecountry.com

Toledo Bend Lake Country offers great fishing opportunities along with many other outdoor adventures to make your visit a memorable one. The area, which has a rich frontier history, has a Louisiana Audubon Golf Trail course, four state parks and more than 35 places to stay.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Toledo Bend Lake:** This 186,000-acre lake is a world class bass fishery along with other great freshwater fish. Toledo Bend was named Best Bass Fishing Lake in the US by Bassmaster Magazine in 2015 & 2016. Fishing here is easy with public fishing piers, boat launches, boat rentals, and stores to purchase your fishing license and bait. 139 lunkers (bass weighing more than 10 lbs) were caught and released in a single year through the Toledo Bend Lake Association's Lunker Bass program. Maximize your fishing trip and choose a professional guide service listed on our website, ToledoBendLakeCountry.com.
- **Outdoor Adventures:** Unsurpassed outdoor adventures include golf, fishing, four-wheel drive mud bogs, all-terrain vehicle trails, RVing, hiking, biking, birding, water sports and much more. All of these adventures can be experienced at North Toledo Bend State Park, South Toledo Bend State Park or at 35 other resorts and marinas on the lake.
- **History:** Here in Toledo Bend Lake Country, the past meets the present with our rich frontier history. Take a drive along the 300-year-old El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, where men such as Stephen F. Austin and Davy Crockett traveled. Visit Fort Jesup State Historic Site, built in 1822 by Zachary Taylor. Fort Jesup served as an important military post for nearly 25 years and brought order to a once lawless region known as No Man's Land.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Festivals and Re-enactments: The Zwolle Tamale Fiesta is a three-day event held in Zwolle each year during the second weekend in October. Celebrating the rich Spanish and American Indian heritage of the town, this festival offers hundreds of thousands of hot tamales, live musical entertainment, a parade, contests, a carnival and a huge mud bog event. Taking visitors back in time to 1864, the Battle of Pleasant Hill re-enactment is the second weekend in April. It was the largest Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi River. Guests will enjoy a period military camp, parade and lots of vendors.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Lunker Bass List: The Top 100 Lunker Bass list boasts bass that weigh from 12.11 to 15.33 pounds caught on Toledo Bend Lake.

Bald Eagles: Bald eagles can often be seen during the nature trail hikes at South Toledo Bend State Park.

Twitter: [@TOLBENDCOUNTRY](https://twitter.com/TOLBENDCOUNTRY) Instagram: [@TOLEDOBENDLAKECOUNTRY](https://www.instagram.com/TOLEDOBENDLAKECOUNTRY) Facebook: [TOLEDOBENDLAKECOUNTRY](https://www.facebook.com/TOLEDOBENDLAKECOUNTRY)



UNION

UNION PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

TourUnionParish.org

403 E. Fourth St., Suite 2

P.O. Box 328, Bernice, LA 71222

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Minor Patton

318.285.9333 | unionparishtourist@att.net

Recreation on Lake D'Arbonne is tremendously popular among locals and visitors. Record freshwater catches of bass, crappie, catfish and bream make Lake D'Arbonne a fishing haven. Wide-open areas of the lake appeal to water skiers and pleasure boaters. Cyclists will enjoy the challenge of the rolling hills of the park, and a forest full of birds, squirrels, deer and other animals will appeal to nature enthusiasts.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Lake D'Arbonne State Park:** Piney forests, rolling hills, five fishing piers and a beautiful lake draw visitors to this quiet, majestic state park. Designed to keep the focus on nature, park facilities blend with the natural landscape to enhance the outdoor experience of this 655-acre park.
- **Annual Mayhaw Festival:** This festival is held on Mother's Day weekend each year in downtown Marion. The festival features arts and crafts, entertainment, food booths, quilt shows and tasty mayhaw jelly. The Mayhaw Orchard, located on the outskirts of Marion, features more than 400 trees.
- **Corney Creek Festival:** The annual Corney Creek Festival is held in downtown Bernice each year in April. The festival features live entertainment, arts and crafts, a carnival and plenty of food.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Watermelon Festival: The Louisiana Watermelon Festival is held each July in downtown Farmerville. Featured activities include a parade, street dance, watermelon auction and eating and seed-spitting contests. The Miss Louisiana Watermelon Festival Pageant is also held at this time.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Golf: Enjoy the piney hills of north Louisiana with two nine-hole golf courses: Meadow Lake Golf and Country Club in Bernice and Lake D'Arbonne Country Club Pro Shop in Farmerville.

Facebook: [UNION-PARISH-TOURIST-COMMISSION-400244000018576](https://www.facebook.com/UNION-PARISH-TOURIST-COMMISSION-400244000018576)

VERMILION PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

MostCajun.com

1905 Veterans Memorial Drive,
Abbeville, LA 70510

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Alison Miller
337.898.6600 | director@vermilion.org



VERMILION

Vermilion Parish is known as the most Cajun place on earth, known for our food, authentic Cajun culture, festivals, marshlands, nature, true southern hospitality and more. Come visit; your place at the table is ready. It is located 30 minutes from Lafayette and New Iberia.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Authentic Cajun Cuisine:** With more than 30 locally owned Cajun and seafood restaurants, Vermilion Parish is the place to come for authentic Cajun cuisine. The only problem you will have is deciding what to eat next.
- **Palmetto Island State Park:** Located south of Abbeville on the Vermilion River, this Louisiana state park offers a real south Louisiana outdoors experience. Overnight guests may choose from six cabins or more than 90 camper sites. The visitor center complex features a water playground and bathhouse. A multipurpose room can be rented for meetings, gatherings and many other events. A boat launch provides access to the river for fishing and boating, while the interior lagoons allow paddlers and kayakers an up-close look at the native plant and animal life.
- **Fall Festivals:** Whether its shrimp, cattle, ducks or giant omelets, we celebrate it with great music, delicious Cajun food and plenty of dancing in the streets. Vermilion Parish loves to pass a good time.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Fall Festivals: The Delcambre Shrimp Festival is held the third full weekend in August. The Gueydan Duck Festival is held the weekend before Labor Day weekend and features duck and goose calling, dog trials, a cook-off, a parade and more. The Louisiana Cattle Festival is held the second weekend in October and is one of Louisiana's oldest festivals, featuring music on two stages, a beef cook-off, parades and more. Abbeville's Giant Omelette Celebration is held the first full weekend in November in Magdalen Square. This is an international festival ending with the cooking of a 5,000-egg omelet on Sunday.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Days Inn now in Abbeville: The Executive Inn is now Days Inn and joins the Best Western Inn and Motel 6 as Abbeville's franchise hotels. Days Inn is located on Veterans Memorial Drive and offers very economical rates to the business and leisure traveler.

Midway On The Square Italian Steak House: Abbeville's newest and only Italian restaurant, Midway On The Square Italian Steak House, is located in the historic Midway building in downtown Abbeville. They serve amazing Italian cuisine in a restaurant that's decorated in old-school gangster decor. Sip on a craft cocktail, take a bite of their chef's veal specialty of the night and take in the vibe of Midway On The Square Italian Steak House for lunch, dinner or Sunday brunch.

Robbert Dafford Murals: Famous muralist, Robert Dafford was hired to paint several murals in historic downtown Abbeville. These enormous works of art can be viewed on the side of Abbeville City Hall, the Sam Guarino Blacksmith Shop Museum Annex and on the Kaplan Museum.

Twitter: @MOSTCAJUN Instagram: @VERMILIONPARISH Instagram: VERMILIONPARISH



VERNON

VERNON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

LouisianaLegendCountry.com

201 S. Third St., Leesville, LA 71446

P.O. Box 349, Leesville, LA 71496

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

John Crook

337.238.0783 office or 337.208.8310 cell

jcrook@bellsouth.net

Nestled in the piney woods of west central Louisiana, Vernon Parish offers a vast array of opportunities for nature lovers, art enthusiasts and sportsmen alike. Hunters, fishermen, campers and hikers enjoy nature's bounty as they traverse the gently rolling hills through forests studded with freshwater lakes and streams. Art enthusiasts find treasure among the many area art events.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Great Outdoor Activities:** Enjoy fishing, hunting, biking, hiking, birding, camping, horseback riding, all-terrain vehicle trails and wildflower finding.
- **Fairs and Festivals:** Enjoy a wide variety of festivals including the Roses-in-the-Pines Arts and Crafts Festival the third weekend in April, Mayfest the first weekend in May, Freedom Fest in July, Lions Club Pro Rodeo the first full weekend in October, West Louisiana Forestry Festival and Fair the first full weekend in October, Derby Daze in October, Witch Way to Mainstreet on Halloween day and gallery exhibitions in the Leesville Cultural District.
- **Myths and Legends Byway:** This byway—with plenty of stops—encompasses three parishes along one of the most fascinating routes in the state, and includes the Museum of the New Llano Colony, which tells the one-of-a-kind story of the nation's longest living utopian experiment.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

#1 Bass Lake in the United States: Toledo Bend!

Mayfest: This annual must-visit festival is held in historic downtown Leesville the first weekend of May with regional music, foods made from scratch and fun for all ages. Mayfest was recognized as the 2012 Louisiana State Festival of the Year by the Louisiana Travel Promotion Association.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

New Hotels and Bed-and-Breakfasts: Allen Acres Bed-and-Breakfast in Pitkin is a 26-acre wooded paradise near Fort Polk and adjacent to the Kisatchie National Forest. Developed gardens for butterflies and hummingbirds, the national forest, and labeled trails are available for visitors to explore. Dr. Charles Allen, an accomplished authority on the native plants of Louisiana can provide tours. Four rooms are available at the bed-and-breakfast.

New Restaurants: Hazel's Tea Parlor, located in the Leesville historic district offers a unique and relaxing atmosphere where family and friends can enjoy breakfast and lunch. They host special events in the evening and on the weekend. Pak-a-Pig BBQ, a tradition in Leesville since the 1960s, has moved to a new location in New Llano, along Hwy 171. Known for their ribs, chipped beef brisket sandwiches and special BBQ sauce, this local favorite is a must-visit for every visitor.

New Retail and Galleries: Visit Eve & Dee Boutique, a shop in the Leesville historic district, for trendy women's apparel, one-of-a-kind accessories, and amazing personal service.

Twitter: @VERNONPARISH Facebook: VPTOURISM

VISIT BATON ROUGE®

www.VisitBatonRouge.com

359 Third St., Baton Rouge, LA
P.O. Box 4149, Baton Rouge, LA 70821



BATON ROUGE

TRAVEL TRADE CONTACT

Tracy Francis, CTIS, CSTP, TMP
225.382.3573
tracy@visitbatonrouge.com

MEDIA CONTACT

Christy Chachere Lohmann, TMP
225.382.3577
christy@visitbatonrouge.com

Welcome to Louisiana's capital city, where the sounds of rich southern soul burst from the streets to harmonize with a medley of art, community, and natural beauty. From the steps of the State Capitol, to the hidden gems of Spanish Town, there's plenty to see and do, with an authenticity that runs as deep as the South. Discover the adventures that lie just down the river at VisitBatonRouge.com.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Hands-On Culinary Experiences:** Get into the kitchen. Sign up for professional instruction during a leisure cooking class at the world-class Louisiana Culinary Institute or Red Stick Spice. Get a taste of some of the freshest local flavors by stopping in at the Red Stick Farmers Market held each Saturday downtown.
- **Family-Friendly, Group-Friendly, Student-Friendly, We've got it:** With amusement attractions, political landmarks and plantation homes, Baton Rouge has something for all ages. Mardi Gras is also very family-friendly in the capital city with parades the two weekends prior to Fat Tuesday.
- **Endless Shopping:** Baton Rouge shopping starts at the Mall of Louisiana—the largest mall in the state—with 175 retail stores. Next, head over to Perkins Rowe, a unique residential area where you can eat, shop and play! Head to Towne Center at Cedar Lodge where you will find upscale shopping and restaurants. Antique lovers will enjoy a mix of new and old treasures at shops such as Circa 1857 located in mid-city. A short drive down the road is Tanger Outlet Mall where you will shop til you drop, as it is home to more than 60 brand name outlets. A Louisiana Tax Free Shopping Refund Center is available for international visitors inside Macy's at the Mall of Louisiana for cash back on the spot.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Free Live Music: Baton Rouge offers several free, outdoor concert series throughout the year such as the Live After Five Concert Series, Sunday in the Park and Rock 'n' Rowe. Each series offers a variety of music genres for about six weeks each spring and fall.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Baton Rouge Hotels: Downtown Baton Rouge has been bustling with the opening of the Watermark Baton Rouge, a Marriott Autograph Collection property nestled inside a 1920s State Office Building. The hotel is home to two restaurants - The Gregory and Milford's on Third. The Baton Rouge Marriott is close to finishing a \$23 million renovation, complete with a new restaurant on the ground level - Stinky's Fish Camp.

Awards: Visit Baton Rouge was recently named a Reaccredited DMO by Destinations International; One of Five Underrated Food Cities by USA Today; 2017; Top 10 Digital City in America by the Center for Digital Government in 2016; America's Top 10 College Tailgate Cities by Livability 2016; America's Best Tailgating Cities by Food & Wine

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WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

WashingtonParishTourism.com

1950 Washington St.,
Franklinton, LA 70438

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Kathi Mayor
985.839.5228 | wptour@bellsouth.net

Washington Parish is one of the most scenic rural parishes in Louisiana. Enjoy rolling hills, piney woods, farms and small towns. Come fish, hunt, canoe, tube and drive the parish's back roads. Fun, food, festivals and the largest free fair are just some of the offerings in Washington Parish's corner of the state, the toe of the boot.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Bogalusa Krewe of MCCA Mardi Gras Parade:** Held the Saturday before Fat Tuesday, it is reputedly the largest parade in the area.
- **Outdoors:** Recreation abounds with hunting, fishing, birding and boating. Thriving watermelon patches, you-pick blueberry farms, dairy farms and homegrown produce are all in Washington Parish. Anytime is a great time to be on our scenic rivers, the Pearl and Bogue Chitto.
- **Music:** Local music includes blues, bluegrass, country, or gospel. Musical options are bountiful and can be heard at our newest festival, or our more than 100-year-old fair. The Bogalusa Blues and Heritage Festival is the newest offering, held the last Friday and Saturday in September. The inaugural event was held in 2012. The Bogalusa Blues and Heritage Festival, taking place Sept. 28 - 29, 2018, has garnered rave reviews and continues to grow. The Great Southern Blue Grass Event in Angie occurs in spring and fall near the third weekend of April and fourth weekend of September.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Washington Parish Free Fair: Held the third week in October, enthusiastic crowds come to enjoy the Washington Parish Free Fair and Mile Branch Settlement. Enjoy flowers, homemaking, livestock and agricultural exhibits, midway rides, stage entertainment, professional rodeo and many pioneer activities typical of the 1800s Louisiana piney woods.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Bogue Chitto State Park: Opened in 2010, Bogue Chitto State Park has become one of Louisiana's premier parks. Visitors can tube or canoe within park property, and nature trails abound throughout the park. You can even bring your horse for the riding trail.

First Quilt Block Trail: Washington Parish joined four neighboring Northshore parishes in establishing the first quilt block trail in the state, the Louisiana Northshore Quilt Trail. These are painted blocks that grace buildings or yards and highlight family or local history, business enterprises, professions, churches and more. There are now six blocks in Franklinton and three in Bogalusa with plans for more.

Twitter: [@WP_TOUR](https://twitter.com/WP_TOUR) Facebook: [WASHINGTON.P.TOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/WASHINGTON.P.TOURISM)

WEBSTER PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

VisitWebster.net

110 Sibley Road, Minden, LA 71055
P.O. Box 1528, Minden, LA 71058

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Johnnye Kennon
318.377.4240 | Johnnye.kennon@att.net



WEBSTER

Webster Parish is located in the piney hills of northwest Louisiana 30 miles east of Shreveport off Interstate 20. Minden, the parish seat, is known for its charm. Historic downtown Minden was featured in Southern Living's article "Roadside Treasure Hunt."

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Minden:** Minden, known for its historic downtown, boasts its original brick streets, 10 antique shops, boutiques and quaint restaurants. Nearby, the beautiful historic residential district features more than 70 historic properties within walking distance of downtown, and many are on the National Register of Historic Places Districts.
- **See Why the Movies Love Minden:** The Northwest Louisiana Film Trail offers a walking tour of historic downtown Minden. Its small town charm and original red brick streets have been attracting moviemakers to the area. Webster Parish boasts 24 major movies filmed in the parish in the last ten years including: The Guardian, Premonition, Blonde Ambition, Year One, Drive Angry, Season of the Witch, Trespass, and Olympus Has Fallen. Signage installed in downtown Minden, identifies a numbered location of a movie corresponding to the map in a free brochure. Each sign gives a brief write-up about the movie and has a QR code. When scanned with a QR reader application—available for free from the App Store—a film clip will be downloaded on your mobile phone or iPad showing the movie trailer and a scene from the movie filmed at that location. This is a first in Louisiana and perhaps the U.S.
- **The Germantown Colony State Museum:** One of three sites founded by the Utopian Movement or Harmonist Society in the early 19th century is located just seven miles north of Minden. Established in 1835, the colony operated on a communal basis for 37 years, finally dispersing in 1871. The colony was placed on the official list of the Nation's Cultural Resources Worthy of Preservation by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service in 1979. A newly constructed welcome center houses exhibits of historical artifacts, a gift shop and restrooms. Admission is free.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

Festivals: The Scottish Tartan Festival held on April 7, 2018, at the Scotland Farms celebrates Scottish culture and heritage of Northwest Louisiana through living history exhibits, live Scottish music and dancing, demonstrations of Scottish cattle herding and Highland games, a Scottish bagpipe and drum parade and more.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

The new "Gone with the Wind" historic tour: This private tour located at the Bates-Irving home in the historic residential district of Minden, Louisiana features owner, Mrs. Frances Irving, a direct descendent of Margaret Mitchell, author of the American fiction bestseller, "Gone with the Wind." Mrs. Irving shares insights into the life of the famous author during the tour of her private residence. This beautiful plantation home is one of the oldest in North Louisiana and more than 170 years old. During the tour, guests are treated to an authentic taste of the South with mint juleps and other southern delights. Private tours are available for groups of 10 or more with reservations. Admission is \$20.00 per person. Contact Mrs. Frances Irving at 318.377.7092.

Twitter: [@WEBSTERTOURISM](https://twitter.com/WEBSTERTOURISM) Instagram: [@VISITWEBSTERPARISH](https://www.instagram.com/VISITWEBSTERPARISH) Facebook: [WEBSTERPARISHTOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/WEBSTERPARISHTOURISM)



WEST BATON ROUGE

WEST BATON ROUGE CONVENTION & VISITORS

WestBatonRouge.net

2750 N. Westport Drive,
Port Allen, LA 70767

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Kathy Gautreau

225.344.2920 or 800.654.9701 or 225.393.6711

KGautreau@westbatonrouge.net

West Baton Rouge is “On the River, On the Way” to adventure. Let our family-friendly, conveniently located hotels be your home while you experience an Atchafalaya swamp tour, majestic plantations, the capital city, museums, shopping and golf, or attend one of our award-winning festivals. Visit Moby, the 13-foot 4-inch alligator at the West Baton Rouge Tourist Center. Stay in West Baton Rouge and be on your way to all points anywhere in Louisiana.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Location:** West Baton Rouge offers easy access to all Louisiana destinations.
- **Small-Town Atmosphere with Big-City Amenities:** : This town offers family-friendly moderately-priced accommodations.
- **Family-Friendly Activities:** West Baton Rouge has award-winning festivals, top-rated attractions and a breathtaking view of the mighty Mississippi River.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

West Baton Rouge Museum: This is the only museum in the nation that features the history of sugar agriculture from the slavery period through the civil rights era. The 4-acre campus includes seven structures depicting life on a sugar cane plantation with special hands on activities for groups.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Kite Capital of Louisiana: West Baton Rouge recently received designation as the Kite Capital of Louisiana because of the award-winning Kite Fest Louisiane, the only festival of its kind in the state held the first week in April.

Reflections of the Season: This December holiday festival on the West Baton Rouge Tourist Center grounds was rated a Top 20 Event for December 2014 by the Southwest Tourism Society. It includes thousands of lights, wagon rides, ice fishing, snow nights, crafters, vendors, decorated display rooms, a talking reindeer, Santa Claus, carnival rides and much more.

Twitter + Instagram: [@WESTBATONROUGE](#) Facebook: [WBRCVB](#)

WEST FELICIANA PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

StFrancisville.us

11757 Ferdinand St., St Francisville, LA 70775
P.O. Box 1548, St. Francisville, LA

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Laurie Walsh
225.635.4224 or 800.789.4221
westfelicianatourism@gmail.com



WEST FELICIANA

Soothing to the soul, St. Francisville is the perfect getaway just north of Baton Rouge along Highway 61. Visit antebellum homes, gardens, galleries, antique and local shops. Enjoy the abundant nature, wildlife and rolling hills in the picturesque countryside. Relax after a full day in one of our bed-and-breakfasts, inns or hotels.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **Plantations:** Five plantation homes are open for touring, and two are state historic sites. Plantation life began here in the 1790s with The Cottage and The Myrtles (One of America's Most Haunted Houses). In the early 1800s came Greenwood, Rosedown and Oakley plantations. Each home is unique with original parlor furnishings, original outbuildings, ghosts and formal gardens. Oakley Plantation became home to John James Audubon, where he began his Birds of America series.
- **Outdoors:** Abundant with wildlife, St. Francisville is located in the rolling Tunica Hills and offers hiking at Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge, home to the largest bald cypress tree in the U.S. Biking is also a favorite—enjoy a leisurely ride along our roads or the challenging off-road trail, The Beast. Rent a kayak and paddle into Bayou Sara or a bike and peddle through the Historic District, play golf at The Bluffs, an Arnold Palmer design or stroll through one of our many gardens.
- **History:** West Feliciana is where history comes alive. The Mississippi River borders St. Francisville's Downtown Historic District where you can stroll the walking tour, shop or dine. Civil War sites, historic churches and cemeteries will bring you back in time. The West Feliciana Historical Society Museum will take you on a journey from Bayou Sara to St. Francisville.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

St. Francisville's Annual Audubon Pilgrimage: Proudly preserving its sense of place, St. Francisville's Annual Audubon Pilgrimage in March proves history can be fun. Enjoy lively re-creation of old-time skills, historic homes, colorful gardens and exciting nighttime activities for the whole family.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Bikes at The Conundrum: Explore downtown St. Francisville or drop into one of our many shops on a cruiser-style bicycle. Feeling adventurous? Ride down to the Mississippi River and Bayou Sara. The bicycles are rented by the hour and can be kept out all day.

West Feliciana Historical Society Museum and Visitor Center: Meet some of the strong pioneer women who managed plantations in the 19th century and learn how they survived in a new exhibit at the West Feliciana Historical Society Museum. Find out how the community came together when the Rosedown Baptist Church was threatened. See some great artifacts from St. Francisville's past. Open a drawer full of history and discover something new in West Feliciana Parish.

Awards: Chosen as one of the "Best Tiny Towns" by MSN.com and "One of the Most Beautiful Small Towns" by HouseBeautiful.com

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WINN

WINN PARISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM

WinnChamber.com

P.O. Box 565, Winnfield, LA 71483

TRAVEL TRADE AND MEDIA CONTACT

Laurinda Crenshaw

318-680-1091 | Laurindacrenshaw@yahoo.com

Surrounded by The Kisatchie National Forest, Winn Parish and Winnfield have a rich, colorful and diverse history. Known as the Home of Three Governors (Earl and Huey P. Long and O.K. Allen). Winn Parish's political history is rich and its town folk are friendly. With two major highways (84 and 167) intersecting in Winnfield and the close proximity to Natchitoches, Ruston and Alexandria, Winnfield is the perfect addition to your Louisiana travel plans.

THREE REASONS TO VISIT

- **History:** Winnfield is home to the Louisiana Political Museum as well as the gravesites of O.K. Allen, on the side of the Winnfield public cemetery, and Earl K. Long, located inside Earl K. Long Memorial Park. You can also see a statue of Earl K. Long downtown and grab a bowl of peas and cornbread at Uncle Earl's Pea Patch Café.
- **Forests:** Winn Parish is located in the heart of Louisiana's only National Forest. With more than 604,000 acres including the Gum Springs Walking Trail, Kisatchie National Forest offers dozens of camping sites and opportunities for hunting, fishing, sightseeing and nature study. The forestry industry is celebrated each year on the 4th weekend in April with the Louisiana Forest Festival.
- **Uncle Earl's Hog Dog Trials:** The world's largest hog baying competition takes place the 3rd week of March each year. Competitors travel internationally to compete in this unique event. You will also want to travel around town and check out the whimsically decorated concrete pigs that local businesses display during the month of March.

BE SURE TO EXPERIENCE

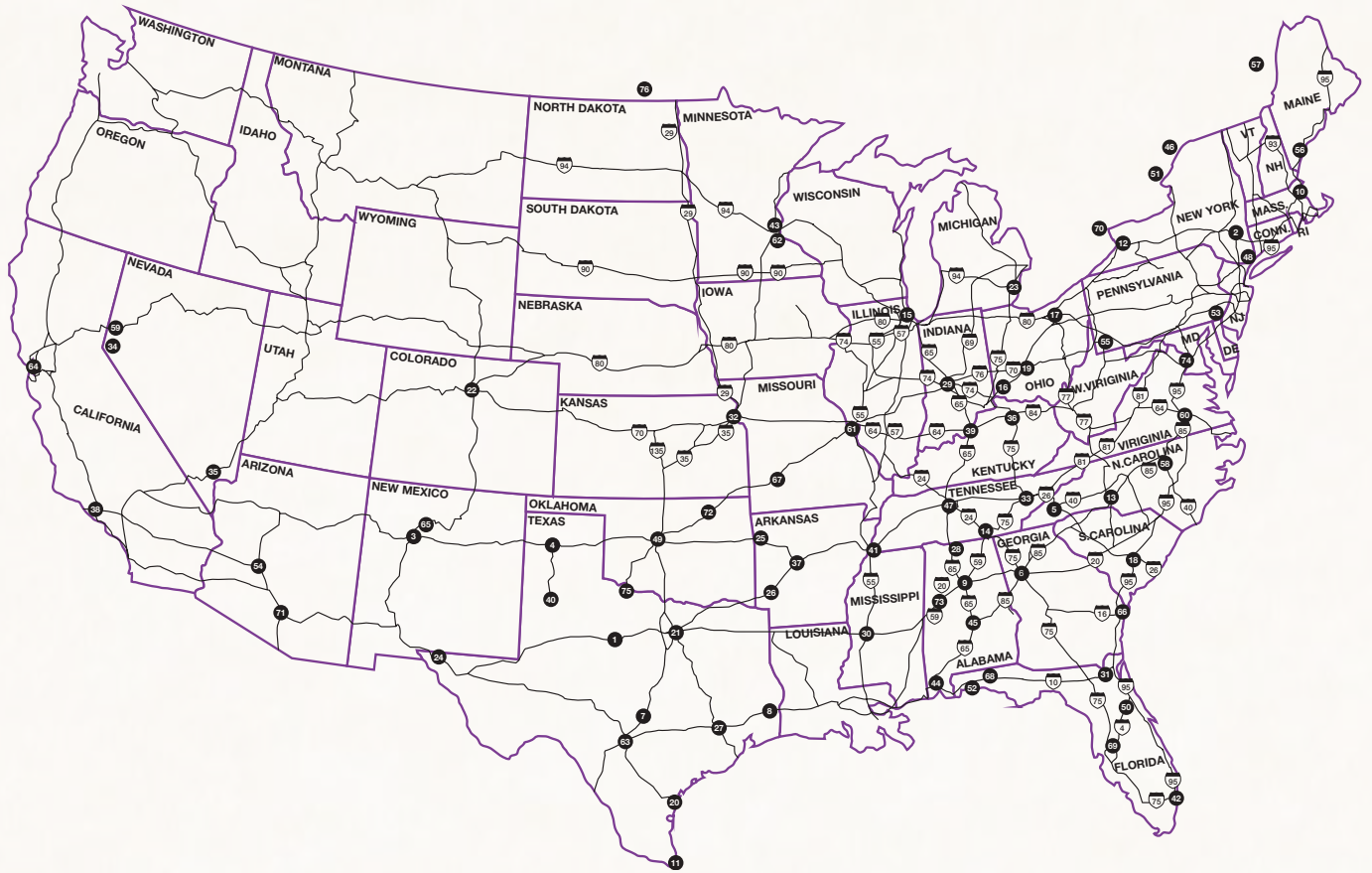
Christmas Open House: Downtown Winnfield lights up to welcome in shoppers and the holiday season on the 2nd Thursday in November. The entire town and outlying businesses join in the celebration. Shop for designer clothing, one of a kind jewelry, art and handpoured candles. Our small town charm means you will hear the high school band or church hand bells playing Christmas carols and have the opportunity to purchase homemade goodies and handmade crafts.

OPENINGS AND ACCOLADES

Dugdemonia Summer Fest: The first Dugdemonia Summer Fest was held in 2016 and will be held each year on the 2nd Saturday in July. The Dugdemonia Swamp House (a Halloween experience) and Fais-Do-Do on the Dug (a Mardi Gras Celebration) are also annual events that bring visitors and the community together while highlighting the Dugdemonia River that runs through the area.

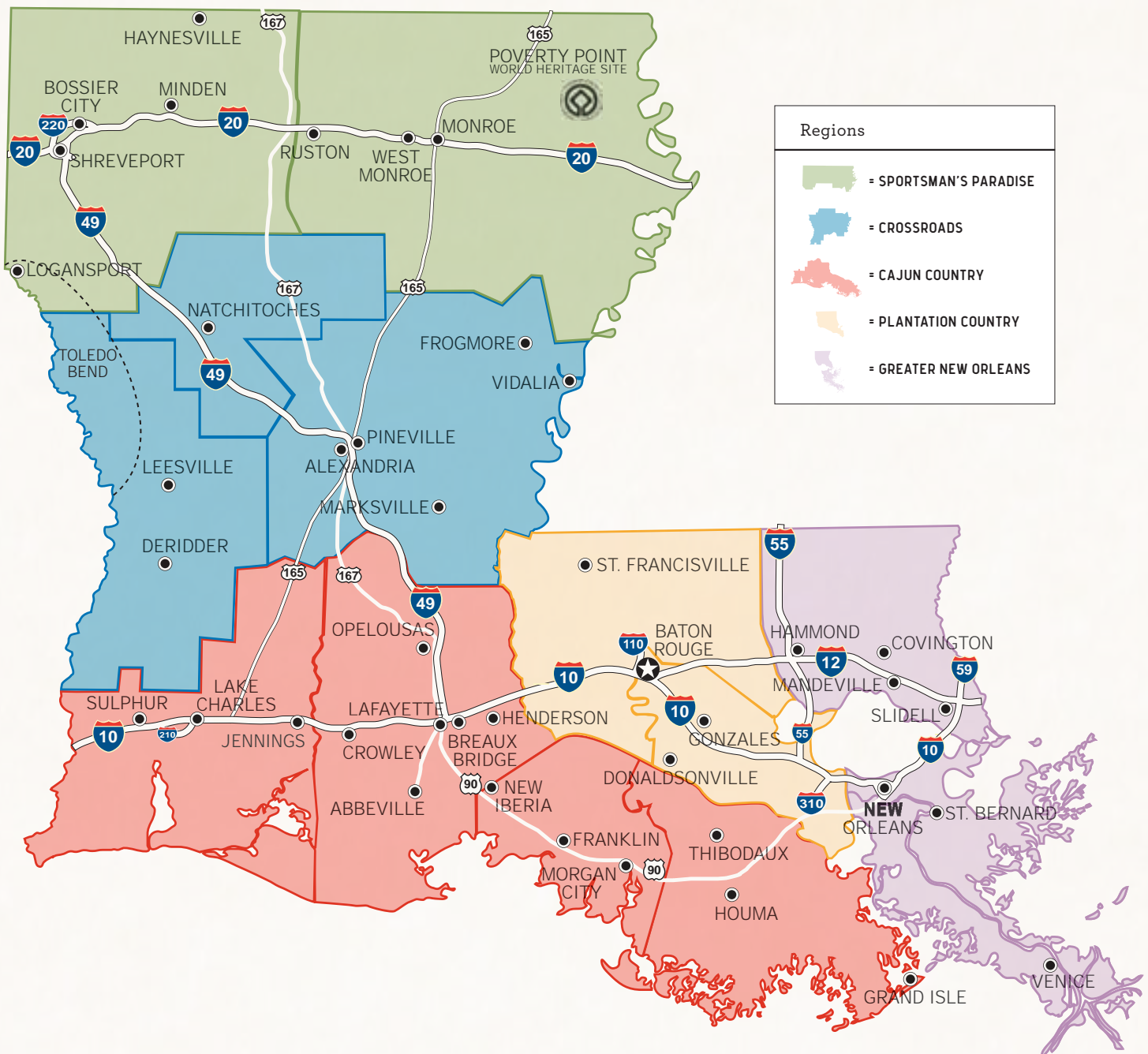
Instagram: [@WINNFIELDLouisiana](https://www.instagram.com/WINNFIELDLouisiana)

MILEAGE MAP



		Alexandria	Baton Rouge	Lafayette	Lake Charles	Monroe	New Orleans	Shreveport
1	Abilene, Texas	495	613	583	510	469	692	371
2	Albany, New York	1463	1421	1475	1547	1406	1392	1505
3	Albuquerque, New Mexico	980	1098	1068	855	954	1178	855
4	Amarillo, Texas	697	814	784	723	670	894	572
5	Asheville, North Carolina	772	730	785	856	702	672	801
6	Atlanta, Georgia	556	514	568	640	499	470	598
7	Austin, Texas	358	428	376	302	407	508	308
8	Beaumont, Texas	163	191	136	63	264	268	210
9	Birmingham, Alabama	430	406	462	533	360	350	459
10	Boston, Massachusetts	1564	1522	1576	1648	1507	1493	1606
11	Brownsville, Texas	618	646	591	521	720	724	625
12	Buffalo, New York	1297	1288	1351	1445	1252	1261	1271
13	Charlotte, North Carolina	814	773	828	898	744	715	843
14	Chattanooga, Tennessee	577	553	608	680	507	497	606
15	Chicago, Illinois	901	909	972	1042	857	928	858
16	Cincinnati, Ohio	856	847	909	1003	811	820	830
17	Cleveland, Ohio	1105	1096	1159	1253	1060	1069	1079
18	Columbia, South Carolina	765	723	777	849	708	671	807
19	Columbus, Ohio	922	917	971	1020	832	903	904
20	Corpus Christi, Texas	468	497	441	371	569	574	474
21	Dallas, Texas	314	432	402	359	288	531	191
22	Denver, Colorado	1078	1189	1156	1085	1048	1269	956
23	Detroit, Michigan	1111	1103	1165	1259	1066	1076	1086
24	El Paso, Texas	950	1013	958	902	925	1105	828
25	Fort Smith, Arkansas	390	510	480	465	348	597	266
26	Hope, Arkansas	214	335	305	290	156	443	92
27	Houston, Texas	244	272	217	146	345	350	250
28	Huntsville, Alabama	527	504	559	632	459	448	558
29	Indianapolis, Indiana	772	792	846	870	682	805	749
30	Jackson, Mississippi	177	151	205	275	120	179	219
31	Jacksonville, Florida	727	610	665	735	720	552	818
32	Kansas City, Kansas	687	788	777	800	623	924	607
33	Knoxville, Tennessee	686	662	718	790	617	607	716
34	Lake Tahoe, Nevada	2059	2177	2147	2121	2030	2256	1935
35	Las Vegas, Nevada	1558	1676	1646	1636	1613	1857	1517
36	Lexington, Kentucky	793	785	847	941	748	758	768
37	Little Rock, Arkansas	263	348	354	361	180	418	196
38	Los Angeles, California	1754	1817	1762	1707	1729	1910	1632

		Alexandria	Baton Rouge	Lafayette	Lake Charles	Monroe	New Orleans	Shreveport
39	Louisville, Kentucky	749	740	803	897	704	713	723
40	Lubbock, Texas	667	785	755	710	641	885	544
41	Memphis, Tennessee	368	379	441	512	327	398	343
42	Miami, Florida	1062	945	1000	1070	1055	887	1154
43	Minneapolis, Minnesota	1106	1224	1197	1240	1051	1318	1058
44	Mobile, Alabama	319	202	257	327	311	144	410
45	Montgomery, Alabama	417	361	415	487	360	306	459
46	Montreal, Canada	1726	1702	1757	1846	1673	1663	1693
47	Nashville, Tennessee	549	534	588	647	459	520	531
48	New York, New York	1384	1360	1415	1487	1314	1304	1413
49	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	476	587	567	515	442	667	354
50	Orlando, Florida	824	707	762	832	816	649	915
51	Ottawa, Canada	1669	1645	1700	1772	1599	1588	1622
52	Pensacola, Florida	378	261	316	386	370	203	469
53	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1308	1284	1339	1411	1238	1228	1337
54	Phoenix, Arizona	1302	1402	1350	1276	1279	1482	1180
55	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	1142	1140	1196	1290	1097	1106	1116
56	Portland, Maine	1709	1686	1741	1816	1643	1632	1742
57	Quebec City, Canada	1901	1877	1932	2021	1848	1837	1867
58	Raleigh, North Carolina	928	886	940	1012	871	846	970
59	Reno, Nevada	2005	2123	2093	2032	1979	2202	1880
60	Richmond, Virginia	1065	1023	1077	1149	1008	983	1107
62	St. Louis, Missouri	654	662	725	754	554	681	570
62	St. Paul, Minnesota	1065	1149	1156	1150	981	1201	968
63	San Antonio, Texas	444	473	418	347	514	550	415
64	San Francisco, California	2076	2195	2140	2069	2050	2272	1951
65	Santa Fe, New Mexico	931	1042	1006	935	908	1122	809
66	Savannah, Georgia	817	703	758	829	747	645	846
67	Springfield, Missouri	503	605	593	603	415	662	409
68	Tallahassee, Florida	548	436	490	562	545	381	644
69	Tampa, Florida	836	718	773	844	827	660	926
70	Toronto, Canada	1366	1357	1419	1490	1266	1328	1340
71	Tucson, Arizona	1264	1327	1272	1201	1238	1405	1139
72	Tulsa, Oklahoma	492	610	579	546	457	689	360
73	Tuscaloosa, Alabama	376	352	407	478	306	294	405
74	Washington, D.C.	1169	1145	1200	1270	1099	1087	1198
75	Wichita Falls, Texas	457	575	545	484	431	654	332
76	Winnipeg, Canada	1528	1629	1618	1615	1440	1687	1420



P.O. BOX 94291 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

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