



**Lafayette**  
LOUISIANA

**HAPPIEST CITY IN AMERICA**  
Wall Street Journal's MARKETWATCH.COM

Visit [LafayetteTravel.com/Groups](http://LafayetteTravel.com/Groups)



Photos by Ellen Clark, Denny Culbert, Travis Gauthier, Philip Gould, Kent Hutalar, Gary Knowles, Eric Lindberg, Tim Mueller and Jamie O'Hallion.

- ABA TOP 100 EVENT FOR 2016
- FREE GROUP & FIT SEATING
- FAMILY & GROUP FRIENDLY



**CAJUN COUNTRY**

# Mardi Gras

All the revelry of Mardi Gras in a family friendly atmosphere.

Visit [LafayetteTravel.com/VIP-MardiGras](http://LafayetteTravel.com/VIP-MardiGras)

**February 22-25, 2020**

**February 13-16, 2021**

**February 26-March 1, 2022**

❄️ Ask about Courir de Mardi Gras Mask & Capuchon Workshops. ❄️

**DISTANCES - FEEDER CITIES**

Alexandria	89 mi. / 143 km
Atlanta	580 mi. / 933 km
Baton Rouge	59 mi. / 98 km
Dallas	391 mi. / 629 km
Houma	102 mi. / 164 km
Lake Charles	75 mi. / 121 km
Memphis	438 mi. / 705 km
Monroe	184 mi. / 296 km
Morgan City	68 mi. / 109 km
Natchez	134 mi. / 216 km
New Orleans (via I-10)	135 mi. / 217 km
New Orleans (via Hwy.90)	153 mi. / 246 km
Shreveport	212 mi. / 341 km
Houston	217 mi. / 349 km



**Benjamin J. Berthelot**  
President & CEO  
[ben@lafayettettravel.com](mailto:ben@lafayettettravel.com)



**Eugénie Mitchell**  
Vice President of Tourism Sales  
[eugenie@lafayettettravel.com](mailto:eugenie@lafayettettravel.com)  
Direct: (337) 769-3805



**Kaylie LeBlanc**  
Tourism Sales Director  
[kaylie@lafayettettravel.com](mailto:kaylie@lafayettettravel.com)  
Direct: (337) 769-3809

Lafayette Convention & Visitors Commission | 1400 N.W. Evangeline Thrwy. • Lafayette, LA 70501

337.232.3737 • 337.232.0161 fax • 800.346.1958 U.S. • 800.543.5340 Canada • [info@lafayettettravel.com](mailto:info@lafayettettravel.com) • [LafayetteTravel.com](http://LafayetteTravel.com)





## What's New!

- **Bike Rentals:** Looking to see the city from a different view? Rent a bike and tour the backroads and explore the Downtown area.
- **Cajun Food Tours:** All-Day Cajun Experience Tour, Walking Food Tours, and Bites & Sites Tour with History and Local Flavor.
- **Crawfish Haven:** Crawfish Farm tours, Crawfish boils, & Cajun Cooking Classes
- **Rock N Bowl de Lafayette:** One stop for dine & rock. Dance, dine, and bowl the night away with live music four nights a week.
- **New Hotels:** Courtyard by Marriott (Southside), La Quinta (Oil Center), Townplace Suites by Marriott (River Ranch), TRU by Hilton (River Ranch).

## Downtown

- **Basin Arts:** Center that creates opportunity for artistic expression across generations through dance classes, art classes, visual arts residencies, gallery programming and special events.
- **Gilde Studios:** Cajun & Zydeco Dance Lessons with Live Music by request
- **San Souci Gallery:** Oldest commercial building downtown featuring traditional and contemporary art such as sculptures, baskets, dyed silk, jewelry, recycled art.
- **SOLA Violins:** Handmade Violin/Fiddles, Repairs, Building & Performances
- **Wurst Biergarten:** Beer Garden, Retail & Performance Space, Pop Up Dinners for groups
- **Explore:** Downtown Lafayette provides rich and unique experiences for groups and individuals. Whether your interest is to visit, shop, dine, play Downtown has something for everyone from galleries to restaurants and everything in between. Come be the "Y" in Lafayette.

For more information, visit  
[LafayetteTravel.com/Groups/Downtown](http://LafayetteTravel.com/Groups/Downtown)

## Outdoor

- **Swamp Tours:** Variety of guided tours via Airboat, Canoe, Kayak, Large & Small boat
- **Bayou Teche Experience:** Self & Guided Kayaking in the Swamps Available in German & French
- **Birding Photography:** Situated on the Mississippi Flyway and the Atchafalaya Loop of America's Wetland Birding Trail the area is perfect for bird photography and watching with over 240 species at last count.
- **Kelly's Landing:** John Deere Toy Collection, Crawfish & Rice Farm Tours, Cajun Meal Available
- **Jungle Gardens:** Bird City Located on Avery Island
- **Rip Van Winkle Gardens:** Lush Gardens & the Unique Lake Peigneur
- **Lafayette Azalea Trail:** Free Driving Trail



## Festivals

- **Mardi Gras Season:** February 22-25, 2020; February 13-16, 2021
- **Festival International:** April 22-26, 2020; April 21-25, 2021
- **Festivals Acadiens et Créoles:** 2nd Full weekend of October
- **Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival:** First Weekend in May
- **Cajun & Creole Christmas:** November & December

For more information on Annual Festivals, visit  
[LafayetteTravel.com/Events/Festivals](http://LafayetteTravel.com/Events/Festivals)

## Free Attractions

- **Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center:** Museum & Free Film on Deportation of Acadians
- **St. John's Cathedral:** Church Tour, Cemetery & 500-Year-Old Live Oak
- **French Tables:** Speak Cajun French with locals from around Acadiana [LafayetteTravel.com/french-tables](http://LafayetteTravel.com/french-tables)
- **Lafayette Central Park & Artisans Market:** Largest Green Space in Lafayette & Saturday Farmer's Market
- **La Maison de Begnaud:** Tourist attraction, information center, and souvenir shop with free French class every Wednesday and live music Friday nights.
- **Local Breweries:** Bayou Teche Brewing and Parish Brewing
- **Rank Wildcat Spirits:** Distillery, Tap Room & Guided Tours

## Food



### TOURS

- **TABASCO® Factory:** Featuring Processing, Bottling, & TABASCO® Country Store
- **Cajun Boudin Trail:** The Cajun Boudin Trail puts you in the driver's seat when it comes to discovering Louisiana's best boudin.
- **Konriko Rice Mill:** Oldest Operating Rice Mill in the U.S.

### COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

- **1868 at TABASCO®** ■ **Vermillionville**

## Music

ONE OF AMERICA'S  
 BEST MUSIC TOWNS  
 Oakland Tribune

### FAIS DO DO RESTAURANTS

- **Buck & Johnny's:** Zydeco Breakfast Saturdays
- **Blue Dog Cafe:** Sunday Brunch with Live Music
- **Prejean's Restaurant:** Open 7 Days with Live Music
- **Randol's Restaurant & Cajun Dancehall:** Open 7 Days with Live Music

### VENUES

- **Blue Moon Saloon:** Hostel & Live Music Venue Wed-Sun
- **Grouse Room:** Live Music Venue Wed-Sat
- **Warehouse 535:** Live Music Venue & Reception Hall
- **Feed & Seed:** Live Music Venue Fri-Sun & Dance Lessons Thursday

### CONCERT SERIES

- **Mecredi Show:** Wednesday evenings Spring & Fall
- **Rhythms on the River:** Thursday evenings Spring & Fall
- **Bach Lunch:** Friday Lunchtime in Spring & Fall
- **Downtown Alive!** : Friday evenings Spring & Fall

For more information, visit our Dancehalls Brochure  
[LafayetteTravel.com/Groups/Brochures](http://LafayetteTravel.com/Groups/Brochures)

## Culture

BEST SMALL CITY FOR  
 A WEEKEND GETAWAY  
 AAA Southern Traveler Magazine

- **Acadiana Byways:** Authentic House Dance, Cajun Christmas, & Rural Mardi Gras with Mask Making
- **Acadiana Center for the Arts:** Fine Arts, Touring Exhibits & Theater
- **Alexandre Mouton House:** 1800s Historic Home with Period Furnishings, Memorabilia & Seasonal Collections
- **Hilliard University Art Museum:** Liberal Arts & Science Education
- **Lafayette Science Museum & Planetarium:** Exhibits & Digital Planetarium
- **LARC's Acadian Village:** Museum of Authentic Acadian Homes & Guided Group Tours
- **Martin Accordions:** Accordion Building & Cajun/Zydeco Music Played by the Martin Family
- **Shadows on the Teche:** National Trust Historic Site and authentically restored to tell the story of life on a 19th century sugar plantation.
- **St. Martinville:** Home of Evangeline & St. Martin de Tours Church
- **Vermillionville:** Cajun, Creole & Native American Living History Museum, Restaurant, Cooking School, Boat Tours, Watershed Exhibit, Dance Lessons, & Live Music on Weekends