



**LAFAYETTE**  
— LOUISIANA —  
[LafayetteTravel.com/Media](http://LafayetteTravel.com/Media)



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**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





## What's New!

- **Louisiana Civil Rights Trail:** The ninth marker along the Louisiana Civil Rights trail was unveiled at Lafayette's University of Louisiana campus. This marker honors four Black students who successfully sued in federal court during the civil rights movement after being denied admission to the university.
- **Downtown Lafayette All-Inclusive Park:** This is a new inclusive and accessible park for all children with equipment from Berliner Seilabrik, a Germany-based manufacturer of playgrounds worldwide.
- **Borderless Color:** Inclusive art space where people of any background and ability can feel welcome, learn about art, and create something meaningful.
- **16,000 sq. Ft. Skate Park:** Located at Thomas Park with beginner and advanced areas, a mini-ramp, and a 4.5- to 7-foot bowl, along with a street plaza for viewing.

## Up & Coming

- **Lafayette Set to Boost Sports Tourism with New State-of-the-Art Indoor Facility:** The proposed multi-purpose sports center will feature at least eight basketball and 16 volleyball courts. Its versatile design accommodates pickleball, wrestling, and other sporting events.
- **One of the oldest buildings in Lafayette could become a music museum by 2025:** The 10,000-square-foot, two-story historic building will undergo a series of renovations and showcase the music and sounds of local musicians. There will be permanent exhibitions, as well as some that rotate. In addition to exhibits, the museum will have gathering spaces to celebrate the region's culture.
- **Paul A. Doerle Sr. Farmers Market Pavilion at Moncus Park:** The new 3,000-square-foot covered ADA-accessible farmers market pavilion, designed by Lake | Flato, a well-known architectural firm that's big on innovation and sustainability, will feature an open-air design with restrooms, operable panels to open or close the space, a rain garden, a bosque tree courtyard, and a back porch overlooking the front 50 acres of Moncus Park.
- **Uncle Bob's Round-Up:** A new food truck park in Downtown Lafayette offers five vendor spaces, covered seating, and a restroom.
- **New Hotels Being Built:** The hotels include a new 83-room boutique hotel in Downtown Lafayette, 4-story, 95-room Home2 Suites, and a new 4-story, 80-room Hampton Inn & Suites.

## New Restaurants

- **Parc de Oaks:** This new family-owned and operated food truck park will feature a permanent bar that will offer a wide selection of local beer and a rotating selection of ciders, wines, and cocktails.
- **Whiskful Baking Co.:** Allergy-friendly bakery specializing in items free of gluten, dairy, egg, soy, & nuts.
- **Magnolia Pantry:** Joint business effort between two pop-ups, Magnolia Moon and Acadian Slice Pies, serving small-batch herbal tea, sweet and savory pies, organic cotton candy, snow cones, house-made ice cream, unique coffees, and a full cocktail menu.
- **The Yard Goat:** German-style beer garden with a pop-up kitchen serving up 50 beers, ten wines, five cocktails, and four frozen drinks, all on tap.
- **Jet Coffee:** Multiple locations with a roasting facility and Lafayette's first rooftop coffee bar.
- **Le Soleil Orleans:** a New Orleans-inspired restaurant & cocktail bar.



- **Oliver Lane Creative Studio:** Father-daughter-owned DIY studio offering 3D custom signs, canvas paintings, and paint-your-own ceramics.
- **Wanderlust Rentals:** Louisiana's first multi-point, self-service kayak rental company offering paddle therapy events.
- **Best Places to Live for Families by Fortune.com:** Lafayette is included in Fortune.com's Top 50 Places to Live for Families.
- **Chez La Fete:** Parisian-theme urban oasis resort open for stays, parties, and free concert series in downtown Lafayette.



- **UL Lafayette Cajun Field Renovation:** \$65 million project to renovate the west side of the football stadium with 34 suites, 40 loge boxes, 524 club seats, an indoor club, five new chairback sections in the lower west bowl, and enhanced amenities for all fans with a total capacity of more than 30,000
- **Reve Coffee Roasting Facility:** Large-scale roasting facility includes a coffee bar, office spaces for rent, and more.



- **Jim Deggy's Brick Oven Pizza:** Pineville, LA pizza and brewery concept opens second location in Lafayette with hand-tossed 10-inch pizzas cooked in a brick oven over a wood fire and ten in-house-brewed craft-style beers.
- **Dumpling Hour:** Asian fusion restaurant serving soup dumplings along with other Sichuan dishes.
- **Antique Alley's Bistro and Lounge:** Lafayette's newest venue brings jazz and blues to the downtown music scene with a full kitchen.
- **Le Grenadier:** New speakeasy concept brings stylish, palate-expanding drinks to downtown Lafayette.
- **Empanada Guy:** A locally owned business specializing in gourmet empanadas, will open its first full-service location.
- **Sarrica's Little Italy:** Food truck to open a full-service restaurant serving Neapolitan pizza, fresh pasta, paninis, and dessert.
- **Barry's 1965:** Adventurous and unique dishes, including rooster gumbo, po-girls, and BBQ-fried alligator legs with a smokey yum-yum Sauce.

## Festivals

- **Mardi Gras:** Celebrate Cajun Country Mardi Gras with a traditional Courir de Mardi Gras, parades, Mardi Gras Indians, king cake, or Mardi Gras balls.
- **Festival International de Louisiane:** The largest non-ticketed outdoor Francophone festival in the country, with hundreds of performing and visual artists from 30 countries on seven stages for five days of world music.
- **Festivals Acadiens et Creole:** Since 1974, this free festival has offered three days of nonstop music, dancing, food, and crafts, and a genuine Cajun and Creole experience like no other.
- **Boudin Cook-Off & Bacon Festival:** First dreamt up by University of Louisiana at Lafayette history professor Robert Carriker, Lafayette's Boudin Cook-Off showcases the talents of boudin makers from across the state.
- **Gulf Brew:** Acadiana's largest craft beer festival with over 200 beers from distributors and local homebrewers paired with live music, good food, and great company, all benefitting the Acadiana Center for the Arts.
- **Blackpot Festival & Cook-Off:** A unique festival celebrating Cajun culture and cooking with two days of great music, dancing, food, camping, and jamming.
- **Cajun & Creole Christmas:** Throughout November and December, Cajun & Creole Country is transformed into a family-friendly winter wonderland with light shows, parades, performances, Papa Noel, and much more.



## Food Trails

- **Cajun Boudin Trail:** With over 50 stops throughout the city and beyond, this trail puts you in the driver's seat when discovering the best boudin and other regional specialty items.
- **Plate Lunch Paradise:** This trail lets you sample over 50 of the area's iconic plate lunches that consist of meat, gravy-covered starch, a pair of vegetable sides, and a simple piece of bread.
- **Crawfish:** Sample over 70 boiled crawfish restaurants serving this seasonable crustacean or try the many variations like crawfish etouffee at Lafayette's local restaurants.
- **Gumbo:** From chicken and sausage to seafood and everything in between, there's a gumbo for everyone in Lafayette, with over 30 restaurants serving this culinary staple.
- **Po'boys:** Buttery, toasted French bread stuffed with fried shrimp, crawfish, oysters, and catfish, the po'boy has many variations, including pulled pork, roast beef, fried chicken, and Vietnamese bánh mì.



## Trails

- **Cajun Country Dancehalls:** Equal parts bar, performance hall, and community center, the traditional dancehall provides a space for much-needed recreation and dancing.
- **Ancient Oaks Tour:** Live oaks are part of the history, heritage, and heirlooms of South Louisiana, with more than a thousand ancient oaks in Lafayette.
- **Historic Lafayette:** Lafayette has a living and vibrant history that is evident whether you're grabbing a bite to eat, visiting a gallery or museum, or dancing to Cajun or zydeco music at a local dancehall.
- **Public Art:** The vibrancy of the Hub City can be felt through its public art. Some are relatively new, in progress, or have withstood the test of time for nearly 40 years, from murals to sculptures and everything in between.



## Trip Ideas

- **Foodie's Guide to Lafayette:** It's hard to go wrong in Lafayette when you're looking for great food. The biggest challenge is working out what not to eat. Leave the hard work to us with this comprehensive guide to the city's best culinary delights.
- **Two-Step Your Way Through Acadiana:** If you're an experienced dancer or want to learn the basic two-step, Lafayette has a dance floor just for you.
- **Lafayette en français:** Lafayette is known as the heart of French Louisiana, with over 140 area restaurants, attractions, and accommodations that speak French, along with many monthly French tables.
- **Hub City Day Trips:** We're known as "The Hub City" because of our proximity to smaller towns where a large portion of our rich culture lives, making it well worth the trip.
- **Mardi Gras Insider's Guide:** New immersive Cajun & Creole Country guide to Mardi Gras complete with 5-day itinerary.



## Adventure

- **Outdoor Adventure Guide:** Lafayette is known for its swampland dotted with moss-draped cypress trees teeming with wildlife making it the perfect destination for bird watching, paddling, fishing, camping, biking, and numerous other outdoor activities.
- **Vermilion Voyage:** An all-inclusive three-day, 50-mile, overnight paddle down the Bayou Vermilion with cultural and culinary stops.
- **Cycle Zydeco:** A four-day festival on wheels, this casual bike tour across South Louisiana includes great food, live music, and the most beautiful backroads Louisiana offers.
- **Zydeco Marathon:** This event combines the spirit of competition with the unique joie de vivre of Cajun culture, featuring a full marathon, half marathon, relay option, and kid's 1-mile and 5K.

