



Did you know?

1. The Vermilion River was formed between 25,000 and 125,000 years ago when the Mississippi shifted to the west cutting a new course and leaving a channel for the eventual Vermilion River.
2. The Old Spanish Trail reached the Vermilion where the Pinhook Bridge is located. The area was called Petit Manchac and served as a trading center for Native Americans, trappers, and colonists.
3. During low water periods, Petit Manchac was the farthest up the Vermilion River that anyone could deliver goods up to making the Pinhook Bridge point the traditional head of navigation for the waterway. Above the Pinhook Bridge, it was called Bayou Vermilion. Below Pinhook, it was called the Vermilion River.
4. In the midst of the Acadians' arrival to the area in 1765, smuggling along the Vermilion River was rampant and it became known as the smugglers' highway.
5. In 1984 the state of Louisiana created the Lafayette Parish Bayou Vermilion District with the mission of improving the water quality and beautifying the Vermilion in an effort to promote the bayou as a recreational and cultural asset.
6. The Vermilion River has 3 boat launches (North Landing, Beaver Park, and Rotary Point) and 4 canoe/kayak launches (Nature Station, Vermilionville, Camellia Bridge, Southside Park) throughout Lafayette Parish.

*Vermilion
River*

Lafayette
LOUISIANA

LafayetteTravel.com

2020. ©Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission