

LAFAYETTE · LOUISIANA

po-boy trail



History

The po-boy is Louisiana's most widely eaten homegrown sandwich. Similar to the hoagie or submarine, the po-boy – variously spelled poboy, po'boy, or poor boy – is culturally representative of its city of birth, New Orleans, and the regions where it is most commonly consumed: southern Louisiana and the greater Gulf Coast.

The beauty of the po-boy is its malleability, the ability of the French loaf to envelope a diversity of fillings. The most popular stuffings are roast beef with gravy and fried seafood, most notably: shrimp, oyster, catfish, and soft-shell crab. Sliced cold cuts – turkey, ham, and the requisite cheese pairings – are available at every classic and contemporary po-boy counter.

French bread, sometimes referred to as a “loaf,” is the go-to vehicle for getting po-boy fillings to mouth. The bread's brittle-crisp exterior beautifully complements its airy-light interior. This contrast is due to a recipe that calls for more water and less flour than a traditional French baguette.

Today, the po-boy is a staple of Lafayette lunch counters and dining rooms. There are po-boy-centric lunch spots that serve familiar versions of the New Orleans sandwich, while others innovate on the po-boy's familiar fillings to arguably outshine anything the Crescent City serves up. Menus at seafood restaurants almost always have a listing of po-boys, with several places seeking to outdo the others, overstuffing their loaves with creative ingredients. The po-boy is anything but static.

Featured Restaurants

BJ'S POOR BOYS & PLATE LUNCHES



107 N. Morgan Ave., Broussard, LA 70518 • (337) 839-8300

Over the past century-plus, the building in Broussard that houses this po-boy shop has been a drugstore, post office, grocery, furniture warehouse, dance studio, and finally, in the early 1970s, a sandwich shop known as Jo's before becoming BJ's. Olde Tyme Grocery owner Glenn Murphree bought the sandwich business in 1995. It's safe to think of BJ's Poor Boys & Plate Lunches as Olde Tyme on the parish's south side, with shrimp, roast beef, and hamburger po-boys made just like they do in Murphree's storied sandwich shop. Weekly plate lunch specials sate eaters not hungry for a sandwich. Look out for the shrimp and egg stew, fried frog legs with shrimp fried rice, crawfish étouffée, and crawfish fettuccine. BJ's sets a course of its own while serving po-boys, as they like to say, "in the Olde Tyme tradition."

BROWN SKILLET

OrderBrownSkillet.com



519 S. Pierce St., Lafayette, LA 70501 • (337) 636-3225

The Brown Skillet is one of the many Lafayette-area sandwich shops that surf the po-boy-meets-plate-lunch continuum. There's the standard — and standout — fried catfish, shrimp, and oyster po-boys (also all available as burgers, baskets, and platters). But the menu also carries an array of daily lunch plates and specials. Red and white beans, rice and gravy, rice dressing, crawfish étouffée, hamburger steak, fried chicken, and fried pork chops (there's also plenty of breakfast combos, sandwiches, and sides to explore). The creamy macaroni and cheese has quickly found a dedicated local fanbase since the Brown Skillet relocated from St. Martinville to Lafayette in 2019. Owner and New Orleans-native Earnest Brown brings a taste of the Crescent City's po-boy culture to the Hub City while operating one of the region's few Black-owned po-boy establishments.

JULIEN'S POBOYS

Juliens.com



1900 W. University Ave., Lafayette, LA 70506 • (337) 232-5168

Back in 1985, Louis Dupuis opened a pair of adjoining businesses in an empty University Avenue storefront — a liquor store and a po-boy shop — with the idea of keeping whichever of the two attracted the most customers. The po-boys easily won out. Today, Julien's Poboys serves up more than twenty po-boys, including alligator sausage, prime rib, shrimp en brochette (fried and bacon wrapped), and grilled Ahi tuna. In the mood for something overstuffed? Try the Ragin Cajun: sliced ham, simmered in crab boil seasoning, daubed with melted jalapeño cheese. The Real Jule: roast beef topped with chili, onions, and cheddar. Or the Italian Stallion: ham and provolone smothered in olive salad. Every po-boy pairs beautifully with a side of onion strings.

THE CAJUN TABLE

TheCajunTableLLC.com



4510 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy. Ste. C & D, Lafayette, LA 70508 • (337) 806-9565

Despite the po-boy's inherent flexibility — you can stuff most anything between the bread — rarely does the sandwich deviate from the norm. Not so at The Cajun Table. Here, there's fried catfish and fried shrimp po-boys, both served alongside the restaurant's signature Table Dip. But look to the Pirogue Party, a fried shrimp po-boy smothered in what they call Maw's crawfish dip. Maw, is the grandma of Sean Suire, who opened The Cajun Table with his wife, Lauren Liner, in 2017, after a couple years of operating a food truck around town. Before that, the couple — she's from New Orleans, he's a former crawfish farmer from Cow Island — gained a following from throwing backyard parties at their Azalea Street home for in-the-know eaters. The Cajun Table offers a little bit of everything Acadiana: seasonal boiled seafood, daily plate lunch specials, and fried seafood platters. But don't skip on that po-boy, so order a Pirogue for the table and make your meal a party.

CHRIS' POBOYS

ChrisPoboys.com



930 W. Pinhook Rd., Lafayette, LA 70508 • (337) 234-6333
703 Robley Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503 • (337) 981-1818

Open since 1978, making it Lafayette's oldest continually operating po-boy shop, Chris' is a local classic. Their slogan, "For A Taste As Natural As New Orleans," spells out what this sandwich shop does right: fried shrimp, oyster, and catfish; dripping slices of roast beef; loaf-busting smoked sausage; sliced deli meats. But there are also nods to southwest Louisiana flavors, like the Cajun pork roast and barbecue beef po-boys. Splurge, forgo the bun, and order a fried seafood combination platter or, if you must, a fried or boiled shrimp salad. The rich, dark-roux, much-loved chicken and sausage gumbo — or seasonal seafood gumbo — begs for the dunking of any sandwich remnants. With two locations on opposite sides of town, there's always a Chris' po-boy within reach.

LOGAN FARMS HONEY GLAZED HAMS

LoganFarms.com



2817-A Johnston St., Lafayette, LA 70503 • (337) 233-2493

You might not think of ordering a po-boy at this smoked and spiral-sliced ham emporium, but hear us out. The Lafayette location of Logan Farms Honey Glazed Hams is one of the Hub City's premier sandwich spots. Logan Farms's po-boy menu specializes in the basics: ham, turkey, and roast beef. There's a club sandwich, a Cuban smeared with pesto, and even a take on a New Orleans muffaletta. Skip these and order up a shrimp po-boy, which comes overstuffed with golden-crisp fried wonders doused in a garlic butter sauce. When that garlic butter melds with the classic swipe of mayonnaise, this po-boy rises above its humble ranks to become a truly transcendental sandwich.

OLDE TYME GROCERY

OldeTymeGrocery.com



218 W. Saint Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70506 · (337) 235-8165

There are few more iconic Louisiana restaurants than Olde Tyme Grocery. Opened in 1982 by New Orleans transplant Glenn Murphree, Olde Tyme quietly transformed from a former cornerstone named St. Mary's Grocery into one of Lafayette's most storied dining rooms. It's a place where weekly regulars, college students, and tourists mingle. Where the walls run chockablock with USL-turned-ULL memorabilia. Where the menu hardly ever changes. In the days of experimental eats, Olde Tyme's po-boy offerings are, well, old-timey, with an eye toward deli meats: ham, turkey, roast beef, barbecue ham and beef, pastrami, and corn beef. There's sausage and meatball sandwiches, as well as the fried standards: shrimp, oyster, and Friday-only catfish. There's the occasional Lenten special, sure, but there's something about that simple sandwich and these surroundings. This is a place where, despite the po-boy's portability, it's best to grab a cold beer or soft drink and a seat.

POOR BOY'S RIVERSIDE INN

PoorBoysRiversideInn.com



240 Tubing Rd., Broussard, LA 70518 · (337) 837-4011

The history of Poor Boy's Riverside Inn dates back to 1932 when Hulo Landry left his job at the Evangeline Bread factory after developing an allergy to flour. Looking to make a buck, he began pushing a cart up and down the streets of downtown Lafayette, selling snowballs and the occasional po-boy sandwich. Customers nicknamed him Poor Boy, a name which he bestowed upon his first restaurant. In 1939, Poor Boy's moved to a riverside location along Pinhook Road, where it would remain for the next four decades before moving to Broussard. Today, Poor Boy's Riverside Inn is owned and operated by Hulo Landry's grandson Richard Hurst and his wife, Lori. The restaurant specializes in gumbos and fresh oysters, crawfish, crab, and flounder. And though the menu's po-boy section can be easily overlooked, do not miss the crawfish étouffée po-boy.

PHO HOME

PhoHome.com



120 Curran Ln., Lafayette, LA 70506 · (337) 412-6195

South Louisiana has been home to a large Vietnamese population since the 1970s when the greater Gulf of Mexico region enticed immigrants looking for a similar climate and environment. The two regions — South Louisiana and Vietnam — share a familiar French colonial history and culinary culture. The French-loved po-boy shares affinities with Vietnam's favorite sandwich, the bánh mì. Literally translated as 'bread made from wheat,' the bánh mì, like the po-boy, is most often overstuffed with meat and veggies (pickled veggies, wheels of fresh jalapeño, cucumber spears, and cilantro) and slathered with mayo. Transplanted to Louisiana, the sandwich has long been sold under the moniker "Vietnamese po-boy." The bánh mì is listed as such on the menu at Pho Home, where po-boys arrive filled with chargrilled, Vietnamese-spiced pork, chicken, or beef. The sandwich pairs well with a bowl of traditional Vietnamese pho.

POP'S POBOYS

PopsPoboy.com



740 Jefferson St., Lafayette, LA 70501 · (337) 534-0621

At Pop's, located in downtown Lafayette, owner Collin Cormier melds po-boy history with a contemporary, chef-centric vision. There's a crawfish boil-seasoned sausage sandwich and a terrific meatball po-boy, The Darlene. The Delcambre Dandy rewrites the fried shrimp po-boy with arugula, tomato, and a tart lemon caper sauce. While the Boudreaux builds upon the tried-and-true fried catfish sandwich by adding blue cheese coleslaw and pickled okra tartar sauce. For vegetarians — or those looking to try something new to the po-boy wheelhouse — there's the superb Red Bean Falafel. Pop's also might be the only place in Lafayette to serve a version of New Orleans's french fried potato po-boy; the fries in the Big "frite-a" — note the punny name — come smothered in gravy and smoked gouda. The sides are just as thoughtful, tasty, and fun. Try the fried pickled okra, Fire Crackers with pimento cheese, or hush puppies with cane butter. Pop's continues to stake a claim as Louisiana's most innovative po-boy shop.

UNCLE T'S OYSTER BAR

UncleTsOysterBar.com



1001 St. Mary St., Scott, LA 70583 · (337) 504-2285

Uncle T's of Scott is a restaurant not content with offering the same old dishes. Sure, you can get the po-boy classics here: fried shrimp, fried oyster, and roast beef. But why not indulge with any of Uncle T's specialty po-boys, like The Landry, which piles high the trifecta of fried shrimp, oyster, and crawfish. Or try the Swamp Thing, with fried alligator and candied jalapeños. The Nonc T Special stacks roast beef, ham, turkey, provolone, and American cheese, dressed with jalapeño mayo. Opened in 2016 by Anthony and Lexi Hebert, in a building that originally housed the town post office and then a bustling billiards hall, Uncle T's offers oysters (raw and charbroiled four ways), boiled and fried seafood platters, and a full bar. Even the burgers are served on Langlais French bread. This newcomer on the scene has quickly become a big and buzzy restaurant, a place well worth the short drive.

VILLAGER'S CAFE

VillagersCafe.net



8400 Maurice Ave., Maurice, LA 70555 · (337) 898-1554

Villager's Cafe looks and feels like a place that's been there for several generations but opened just back in 1997. Despite being relatively new, as things go, this po-boy shop has reached destination status. Located along the town of Maurice's main drag, Highway 167, a visit to Villager's pairs nicely with a visit to the adjacent City Bar, the nearly century-old "World Famous Saloon." Try the slow-cooked pot roast po-boy, or the Villager: ham, roast beef, and pepper jack cheese topped with au jus gravy. Or stop in for the daily specials; Wednesday's fried catfish is a deal that cannot be beaten. The fried red potatoes, little triangular nuggets of crisped magnificence, justly received a rave in National Geographic. Grab a seat, sandwich, and cold drink on the screened front porch and watch the town drive by.

- 1. Acadiana PoBoys**
2848 Verot School Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 856-2511
- 2. Acadian Superette**
600 Lamar St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 534-4406
AcadianSuperette.com
- 3. Bon Temps Grill**
1211 W. Pinhook Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 706-8850
BonTempsGrill.com
- 4. Boutin's Cajun Seafood Steakhouse & Oyster Bar**
114 Derek Plaza Dr.
Carencro, LA 70520
(337) 886-6888
BoutinsCajun.com
- 5. Burgersmith**
1314 Camellia Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 504-5015
Burgersmith.com
- 6. Burgersmith (BROUSSARD)**
224 Saint Nazaire Rd.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 252-7220
BurgerSmith.com
- 7. Café Lola**
1155 Coolidge St.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 235-4566
CafeLolaLafayette.com
- 8. Cajan's Eatery**
5802 Cameron St.
Scott, LA 70583
(337) 266-8480
CajansEatery.com
- 9. Chops Specialty Meats Inc**
1019 Albertson Pkwy.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 837-6446
ChopSpecialtyMeats.com
- 10. Dean-O's**
305 Bertrand Dr.
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 233-5446
DeanosPizza.com
- 11. Dean-O's (SOUTH)**
2312 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 534-8092
DeanosPizza.com
- 12. Don's Seafood**
4309 Johnston St.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 981-1141
DonsSeafoodOnline.com
- 13. Dwyer's Cafe**
323 Jefferson St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 235-9364
- 14. Ema's Restaurant**
5520B Johnston St.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 981-4849
- 15. Fat Pat's**
3900 NE Evangeline Thwy., Ste. 100
Carencro, LA 70520
(337) 886-6886
FatPatsBarAndGrill.com
- 16. Fat Pat's (VEROT)**
626 Verot School Rd., Ste. J
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 504-4288
FatPatsBarAndGrill.com
- 17. Fat Pat's (WESTMARK)**
117 Westmark Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 706-8882
FatPatsBarAndGrill.com
- 18. Fezzo's Seafood, Steakhouse & Oyster Bar**
6701 Ambassador Caffrey Pkwy.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 330-2302
Fezzos.com
- 19. Fezzo's Seafood, Steakhouse & Oyster Bar (SCOTT)**
720 Frontage Rd.
Scott, LA 70583
(337) 261-2464
Fezzos.com
- 20. Half Shell Oyster House**
109 Old Camp Rd., Ste. 114
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 484-1120
HalfshellOysterHouse.com
- 21. Joey's**
503 Bertrand Dr.
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 237-3661
JoeyLafayette.com
- 22. Johnson's Boucaniere**
1111 Saint John St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 269-8878
JohnsonsBoucaniere.com
- 23. La Cuisine de Maman**
300 Fisher Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 233-4077 ext. 212
BayouVermillionDistrict.org/dine
- 24. Louisiana Crawfish Time**
2019 Verot School Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 988-2645
LACrawfishTime.com
- 25. Louisiana Poboys**
5445 Johnston St.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 984-4191
LouisianaPoboys.com
- 26. Mandez's Seafood Bar & Grill**
110 Doucet Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70503
MandezsGrill.com
- 27. Mandez's Seafood Bar & Grill (YOUNGSVILLE)**
1821 Chemin Metairie Rd.
Youngsville, LA 70592
(337) 769-3917
MandezsGrill.com
- 28. Mel's Diner (BROUSSARD)**
1225 Evangeline Thwy.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 367-6357
TheMelsDiner.com
- 29. Mel's Diner**
2956 Johnston St.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 235-6219
TheMelsDiner.com
- 30. Morvant's Bar & Grill**
200 Lafayette St.
Youngsville, LA 70592
(337) 856-7469
MorvantsBarGrill.com
- 31. Naq's N Duson**
207 N. A St.
Duson, LA 70529
(337) 561-5032
NaqsnDuson.com
- 32. Noah's Cafe**
2310 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy., Ste. B
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 406-2440
- 33. Office Hours Sandwich Shop**
2303 W. Pinhook Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 237-4181
OfficeHoursLafayette.com
- 34. Pat's Downtown**
107 E. Main St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 289-5270
PatsDowntown.com
- 35. Pizza Village**
1935 Moss St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 232-1418
PizzaVillage.com/
- 36. Pizza Village (SOUTH)**
2340 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 706-8644
PizzaVillage.com/
- 37. Poupart Bakery, Inc.**
1902 W. Pinhook Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 232-7921
PoupartsBakery.com
- 38. Prejean's Restaurant**
3480 NE Evangeline Thwy.
Lafayette, LA 70507
(337) 896-3247
Prejeans.com
- 39. Prejean's (BROUSSARD)**
209 N. Morgan Ave.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 330-8982
Prejeans.com
- 40. Rachael's Cafe**
104 Republic Ave.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 504-4625
RachaelLafayette.com
- 41. Riche's Y-Not Stop**
6920 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 837-1896
YNotStop.com
- 42. The Acadiana Bar and Grill**
327 Iberia St.
Youngsville, LA 70592
(337) 856-2448
- 43. The Lunch Box**
3909 Moss St.
Lafayette, LA 70507
(337) 233-8298
LunchBoxMenu.com
- 44. The Potato Place**
3803 Moss St., Ste. A
Lafayette, LA 70507
(337) 261-1199
ThePotatoPlaceLafayette.com
- 45. Ton's Drive-In**
101 W. Main St.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 837-6684
TonsDriveIn.com
- 46. Ton's Downtown**
500 Jefferson St., Ste. C
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 769-3404
TonsDowntown.com
- 47. Walk-On's Sports Bistreaux**
2336 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 706-7433
Walk-Ons.com
- 48. Yabbos Drive Thru**
226 St. Nazaire Rd.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 330-2504
YabbosDriveThru.com
- 49. Young's Sports Grill**
305 E. Main St.
Broussard, LA 70518
(337) 330-2900

ACADIANA AREA

- 50. Bon Creole**
1409 E. St. Peter St.
New Iberia, LA 70560
(337) 367-6181
Bon-Creole.com
- 51. Cafe Jefferson at Rip Van Winkle Gardens**
5505 Rip Van Winkle Rd.
New Iberia, LA 70560
(337) 359-8525
RipVanWinkleGardens.com/dine
- 52. Cafe Josephine**
818 Napoleon Ave.
Sunset, LA 70584
(337) 662-0008
CafeJosephineSunset.com
- 53. Crawfish Town USA**
2815 Grand Point Hwy.
Henderson, LA 70517
(337) 667-6148
CrawfishTownUSA.com
- 54. Fezzo's (CROWLEY)**
2439 Rice Capital Pkwy.
Crowley, LA 70526
(337) 783-5515
Fezzos.com
- 55. Le Cafe**
124 Rees St.
Breau Bridge, LA 70517
(337) 332-2500
- 56. Mama's Fried Chicken**
508 E. Landry St.
Opelousas, LA 70570
(337) 948-6262
EatMamasFriedChicken.com
- 57. R & M's Boiling Point**
6308 Hwy 90 W.
New Iberia, LA 70560
(337) 365-7596
RAndMsBoilingPoint.com



PO-BOY ADJACENT

CUBANOS

- 58. Cafe Habana City**
911 Bertrand Dr.
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 267-3060
CafeHabanaCity.com

MUFFALATA

- 59. Cedar Grocery**
1115 Jefferson St.
Lafayette, LA 70501
(337) 233-5460
- 60. Whiskey & Vine**
507 W Pinhook Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 534-0662
WVLounge.com

BÁNH MÌ

- 61. Five Mile Eatery**
317 Heymann Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 806-9891
FiveMileEatery.com
- 62. Saigon Noodles**
2865 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy.
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 456-3317
SaigonNoodlesLafayette.com



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VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

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1400 NW Evangeline Thruway
I-10 Exit 103-A I-49 South of I-10

HOURS OF OPERATION

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