



Seasoned
to
Celebrate

Lafayette
LOUISIANA

LafayetteTravel.com/TravelTrade



Photos by Denny Culbert, Gary Knowles, Jamie Orillon, Mike Roebuck, and Lance LeBlanc. 2024/10

BRING YOUR KREWE



WE'LL BRING OURS!



Mardi Gras, in the heart of Louisiana's Cajun and Creole Country, is the family-friendly way to have fun. Enjoy nine parades, a festival with live music, fairground rides, and the traditional courir de Mardi Gras. There's something for everyone in your krewes.



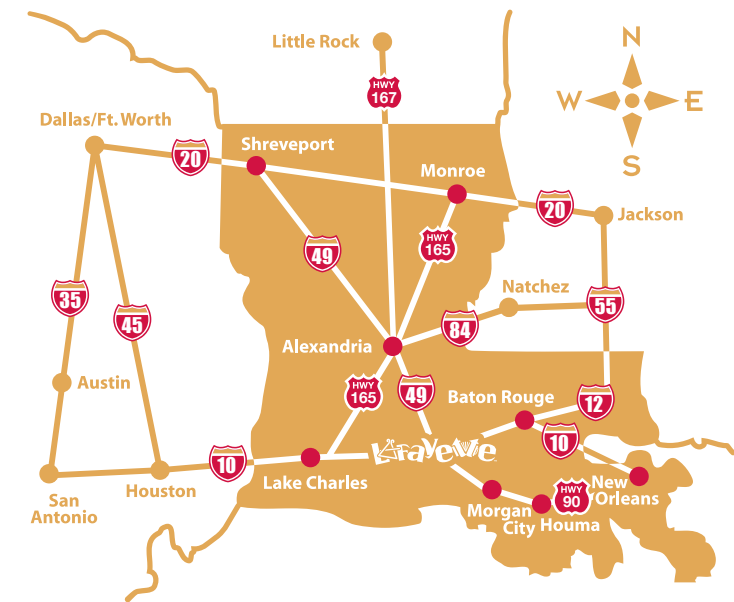
Mardi Gras March 1-4, 2025
February 14-17, 2026
February 6-9, 2027



LAFAYETTE
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LafayetteTravel.com/VIP-MardiGras

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



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



Irene Breaux
Tourism Sales Manager
irene@lafayettettravel.com
Direct: (337) 769-3813

FEATURED

FRIENDLIEST CITIES
IN THE SOUTH
Southern Living

- **SoKo Music:** Cajun Stories & Songs by Yvette Landry and Jourdan Thibodeaux.
- **Coffeeweed Cottage:** Dog-friendly, a community-bridging place designed to inspire gathering in an eclectic setting revolving around many of our favorite things in life like plants, books, home décor, coffee and good conversation.
- **Graze Oil:** Olive oil tasting bar where you sample ultra-premium olive oils and learn about their varying flavor profiles to pair them with their signature balsamic vinegar, imported from Modena, Italy.
- **Maison Freetown Museum:** A cultural museum focused on Lafayette's African American history to various civic entities.
- **VaCajun:** Specializing in Mardi Gras Costume designing, embroidery, vinyl, sublimation, rhinestone and screen printing.
- **Wildcat Brothers at Gator Cove, Inc.:** Acadiana's first distiller of craft sugarcane rum featuring rum school, tours and tastings, and special events.



DOWNTOWN

BEST SMALL CITY FOR
A WEEKEND GETAWAY
AAA Southern Traveler Magazine

- **ArtWalk:** Second Saturday of every month, each museum, gallery, or studio hosts their own unique event, featuring local artists & performers.
- **Borden's Ice Cream Shoppe:** The last retail Borden's Ice Cream Shoppe in the world in Lafayette, Louisiana where you can get a taste of ice cream done the "Old Fashioned Way".
- **Children's Museum of Acadiana:** Hands-on interactive exhibits, projects, and programs.
- **Lafayette Science Museum & Planetarium:** STEM Museum, exhibits, & Digital Planetarium.
- **Rock N Bowl de Lafayette:** One stop for dine & rock. Dance, dine, and bowl the night away with live music four nights a week.
- **San Souci Gallery:** Two hundred and twenty-five Louisiana Crafts Guild Artists featuring their works of jewelry, glass, fiber, ceramics, wood working, painting, photography, and furniture.
- **SOLA Violins:** Handmade Violin/Fiddles, Repairs, Building & Performances.
- **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.



OUTDOOR

BEST PLACES TO LIVE
FOR FAMILIES
Fortune Well

- **Swamp Tours:** Variety of guided tours on the Atchafalaya Basin & Lake Martin via Airboat, Canoe, Kayak, Large & Small Boat.
- **Birding & Photography Tours:** 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.
- **Kelly's Landing:** John Deere Toy Collection, Crawfish & Rice Farm Tours, Cajun Meal Available.
- **Jungle Gardens:** Bird City Located on Avery Island
- **Moncus Park with Farmers & Artisans Market:** Largest Green Space in Lafayette with outdoor amphitheater & Saturday Farmer's Market.
- **Rip Van Winkle Gardens:** Lush Gardens & the Unique Lake Peigneur.
- **Wanderlust Rentals:** Making kayaking accessible and enjoyable for everyone, fostering a love for nature and a commitment to preserving it.
- **Acadiana Adventure Guides:** Guided planning, outfitting, experiencing featuring kayaking, biking, and hiking tours (French & Spanish).



BEST PLACE TO
VISIT FOR FALL
USA Today

FESTIVALS

LafayetteTravel.com/Events/Festivals

Mardi Gras Season: March 1-4, 2025, February 14-17, 2026
Festival International: April 23-27, 2025, April 22-26, 2026
Festivals Acadiens et Créoles: 2nd Full weekend of October



MUSIC

FOR A WEEKLY CURATED
PLAYLIST VISIT
LafayetteWeekly.com

FAIS DO DO RESTAURANTS

- **Buck & Johnny's:** Zydeco Breakfast Saturdays
- **Bon Temp Grill:** Sunday Brunch with Live Music Daily
- **Prejean's Restaurant:** Live Cajun Music
- **Randol's Restaurant:** Live music every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- **Boutin's Cajun Seafood, Steakhouse & Oyster Bar:** Live music available for groups

VENUES

- **Blue Moon Saloon:** Hostel & Live Music Venue Wed-Sun
- **Hideaway Hall:** Recently remodeled historic building turned dancehall offering a great space with a stage for live music, a walk-up bar, and recessed seating nooks for visiting.
- **La Poussiere Cajun Dancehall:** Historic dancehall open since 1955. Live music on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons.
- **The Louisiana Music Museum:** Presenting the unique stories of all Louisiana music with accuracy, inclusivity, and innovation. **Coming in 2025!**

FREE CONCERT SERIES

- **Mercredi 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



LAFAYETTE'S AN
AFFORDABLE DISCOVERY
Lonely Planet

FREE ATTRACTIONS

Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center: National Park & Museum of history of the Acadians with Free film and Ranger talks can be scheduled.
St. John's Cathedral: Church Tour, Cemetery & 500-Year-Old Live Oak
French Tables: Speak Cajun French with locals from around Acadiana

FOOD

ONE OF FIVE "BEST FOOD
CITY IN THE U.S."
Escapism



TOURS

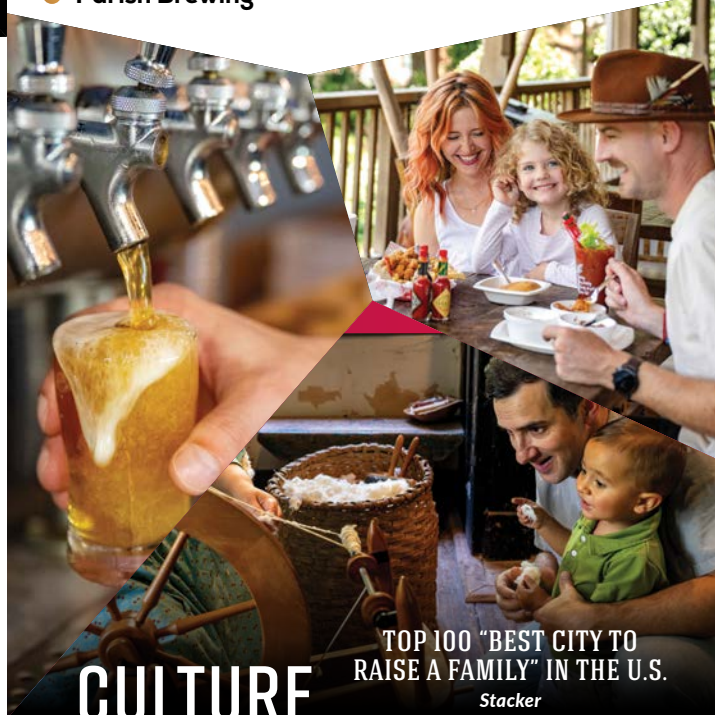
- **TABASCO® Factory:** Featuring Processing, Bottling, & TABASCO® Country Store
- **Cajun Boudin Trail:** The Cajun Boudin Trail puts you in the driver's seat when it comes to discovering Louisiana's best boudin.
- **Konriko Rice Mill:** Oldest Operating Rice Mill in the U.S.
- **Cajun Food Tours:** All-Day Cajun Experience Tour, Walking Food Tours, and Bites & Sites Tour with History and Local Flavor.

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

- **1868 at TABASCO®**
- **Vermilionville**
- **Ruffino's on the River**
- **Acadian Superette**

LOCAL BREWERIES

- **Adopted Dog Brewery**
- **Bayou Teche Brewing**
- **Parish Brewing**



CULTURE

TOP 100 "BEST CITY TO
RAISE A FAMILY" IN THE U.S.
Stacker

- **Acadiana Center for the Arts:** Fine Arts, Touring Exhibits & Theater.
- **Chubby Carrier:** Grammy Award Winning Zydeco band with over 26 years' experience offering Zydeco music education and presentation for groups.
- **Crawfish Haven:** Crawfish Farm tours, Crawfish boils, & Cajun Cooking Classes.
- **Hilliard University Art Museum:** Liberal Arts & Science Education.
- **LA Danser** Learn how to dance the Louisiana way with Cajun & Zydeco dance lessons. *Can host at local restaurants.
- **Lafayette Museum:** 1800s Historic Home with Period Furnishings, Memorabilia & Mardi Gras Costume Display.
- **LARC's Acadian Village:** Museum of Authentic Acadian Home & Christmas season light event Noel Acadien.
- **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:** Evangeline-Longfellow State Park, St. Martin de Tours Church, Acadian Memorial, and Evangeline Oak.
- **Vermilionville:** Cajun, Creole & Native American Living History Museum, Restaurant, Cooking School, Boat Tours, Watershed Exhibit, Dance Lessons, & Live Music on Weekends.