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### PARADE DATES & ROUTES

02/03

11 AM: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

**PARADE** 

2:45 PM: KREWE OF CENTAUR PARADE

02/04

**SUN** 

11 AM: KREWE OF BARKUS & MEOUX

**PET PARADE** 

02/09

7 PM: KREWE OF OCEANUS PARADE

FRI

02/10

SAT

2:45 PM: KREWE OF GEMINI PARADE

02/11 SUN

1 PM: KREWE OF HIGHLAND PARADE

02/11

**TUE** 

6 PM: FAT TUESDAY CHILDREN'S

**PARADE** 



# HISTORY OF MARDI GRAS

Historical Beginnings in Shreveport: The first Mardi Gras celebration in Shreveport was recorded in 1874.

**Early Celebrations:** The 1876 Mardi Gras in Shreveport included a range of activities, from masquerades to musical performances. The celebrations were characterized by a spirit of fun and merriment, with parades featuring diverse characters and representations.

King Rex and the Tradition of Secrecy: A unique feature of these celebrations was the selection of a king, known as Rex, who would reign over the Mardi Gras Day. The identity of the king was kept secret, adding to the festival's mystique.

Significant Years in History: Notable years like 1880, where King Rex arrived by steamboat, and 1899, known for its grand parades and elaborate floats. The onset of World War I brought a temporary halt to the festivities, but the spirit of Mardi Gras resurged in 1926, adapting and evolving with time, but always retaining its core - a celebration of community and joy.

**Economic and Cultural Impact:** Mardi Gras has had a substantial impact on Shreveport's economy and culture, drawing visitors and participants from various regions.



## MARDI GRAS EATS



### BEIGNETS

RALPH'S PLACE

**GUMBO** 

HERBY K'S





### KING CAKE

LOWDER BAKING CO



#### **BALL**

Formal affair where the King and Queen of that Krewe is made public.

#### **DOUBLOON**

Most cherished and oldest throw, is a specialty coin. Each Krewe has their face on the coin.

#### KING CAKE

The King Cake is circular, filled with fruit, and baked with a small plastic baby hidden inside. The person who gets the baby hosts the next party.

#### **KREWE**

Consists of a King, Queen and a Court who work all year for Mardi Gras season.

### LAISSEZ LES BON TEMPS ROULEZ

"Let the good times roll": A French saying associated with Mardi Gras.

### **THROWS**

A throw can be a doubloon, toys, cups, beads, trinkets, and more which are thrown to the crowd from the float during the parade.

### THROW ME SOMETHING MISTER

A saying when one wants a throw from the King, Queen or Court on the float during a parade.

