

Visit Shreveport-Bossier:  
Louisiana's Other Side

# FOLLOW THE HISTORIC TRAIL

## Group Itinerary



**Erica Telsee**  
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**Duration:** 2 Days

**Walking:** Moderate

**Booking:** Year-round

Travel around northwest Louisiana to learn about the culture through its historic places. Shreveport was originally occupied by Caddo Native Americans and later settled in the early 1800s by pioneers from the Carolinas. The town became prosperous in 1836 after Captain Henry Miller Shreve and his men removed a 165-mile logjam that had formed along the Red River. The settlement was incorporated into Shreve Town Company, which was officially renamed to Shreveport in 1837. Bossier City, located across the river, dates back to 1843 when General Pierre Evariste John Baptist Bossier, a famous Creole general, was instrumental in forming the parish across the Red River from Shreveport. The town was officially incorporated in 1907 after a fire destroyed most of Bossier City's downtown, that is today a group-friendly entertainment district called the East Bank District.

From the stage that Elvis Presley performed his radio debut to pioneer settlements and historic homes, Shreveport-Bossier is brimming with history. The scenic backroads, Boom or Bust Byway, is a great way to see historic places like the Caddo Lake Drawbridge and Louisiana State Oil and Gas Museum that tell the story of Caddo Parish's history. In addition to the many historical attractions, your group will also love Shreveport-Bossier's 24-hour gaming, riverfront entertainment, shopping at Louisiana Boardwalk Outlets, year-round festivals, and mouthwatering cuisine.

## Day 1

**FREE** Free Admission



Food Available for Purchase

### Backstage Music Tour at Shreveport Municipal Auditorium

Groups can walk in the footsteps of music legends and stand on the stage where idols like Elvis Presley, Hank Williams and Johnny Cash got their start on the Louisiana Hayride radio program.

### **FREE** Holy Trinity Catholic Church

The oldest church in Shreveport, this Romanesque revival design features more than 60 stained glass windows and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Lunch at Fertitta's Delicatessen

Opened in 1927 as Shreveport's first imported foods store, this small Italian deli and sandwich shop is well-known for their trademarked "Muffy" sandwich, a handheld version of the classic Italian muffaletta.

### **FREE** Shreveport Water Works Museum and Shreveport Railroad Museum

The Shreveport Water Works Museum is a rare, intact steam-powered water works and is a National Historic Landmark. Railroad enthusiasts will enjoy this showcase of the history of railroads in and around Shreveport since 1860.

### **FREE** Barksdale Global Power Museum

See vintage aircraft like the B-17 and B-24 bombers of World War II and U. S. Air Force memorabilia.

### Davis Homeplace

Built in 1916 when Line Avenue was still a dirt road, Davis Homeplace has stood the test of time. Guests can tour the historic home.



### Dinner at Ernest's Orleans Restaurant

Ernest's Orleans Restaurant has been a part of Shreveport's history for over 60 years! The restaurant serves up marinated crab claws, prime steaks, fresh seafood, and Italian dishes.



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## Day 2

**FREE** Free Admission

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### Southern Maid Donuts

Among the many country legends who were said to have loved the donuts from this shop are Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley, both of whom recorded endorsements for Southern Maid.

### **FREE** Louisiana State Exhibit Museum

Open since 1939, Louisiana State Exhibit Museum is noted for its architecture and displays more than 20 unique dioramas, Caddo Native American artifacts, a monumental fresco, dugout canoe, and more.

### **Pioneer Heritage Center**

Learn about the early pioneers of Shreveport-Bossier by touring the plantation homes, blacksmith shop and medical office built in the early 19th Century.

### Lunch at Ralph and Kacoo's

Enjoy a variety of Cajun cuisines such as Gulf Coast seafood, shrimp, crab, crawfish platters, charbroiled fish, and steaks.

### **FREE** Historic Caddo Lake Drawbridge

The Historic Caddo Lake Drawbridge at Mooringsport was built originally to replace the ferry. This 100-year-old landmark is the last surviving Waddell vertical-lift bridge in Louisiana.

### **FREE** Louisiana State Oil and Gas Museum

Learn how the discovery of oil shaped the history of Caddo Parish through photographs, films and life-size dioramas at Louisiana State Oil & Gas Museum.

### Us Up North Dining Experience

You're invited to a special cooking demo and tasting with Chef Hardette Harris, the founder of the Official Meal of North Louisiana. Guests will learn firsthand about North Louisiana's cooking traditions.

### Entertainment and Dining at Riverboat Casinos and Horse Racing Track

Shreveport-Bossier's six riverboat casinos and horse racing track are a gateway to adventures ranging from Vegas-style gaming and nightlife to decadent dining and posh accommodations.

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