“Southern Soul” is defined as a unique type of soul music that emerged from the Southern United States, incorporating elements of blues, country, rock n’ roll and gospel music. In the Southern Soul Capital of Shreveport, La., the sound and culture of Southern Soul influences every aspect of life – from the music played in night clubs to the food served in restaurants.

Shreveport’s connection to what would become known as Southern Soul dates back to the 1930s, as birthplace and home of blues legend Huddie “Lead Belly” Ledbetter. A popular tour stop among African American performers on the famed “Chitlin’ Circuit,” Shreveport’s night clubs served as a proving ground for such artists as James Brown, John Lee Hooker, Bobby Rush and more.

Many of the most revered record labels in Southern Soul history were based in Shreveport, including such labels as Jewel Records, Ronn Records and Paula Records.

The traditions of Southern Soul – a regional sound that shaped American popular culture – are alive and well in Shreveport.

Use this brochure to experience the sounds, tastes and sights of the Southern Soul Capital.
**Taste the Culture**

What is the taste of Southern Soul? Local restaurants offer their own unique versions of traditional soul food favorites, including a world-famous take on stuffed shrimp created by the Freeman and Harris Café. These enormous stuffed shrimp – packed with fiery Creole dressing, battered and deep fried – are an essential Southern Soul dining experience, along with many other unique, regional variations on classic soul food menu items.

Stop in at one of these local eateries to sample the unique flavors of Southern Soul!

- **Brother’s Seafood**
  4916 Monkhouse Drive, Shreveport
  (318) 635-1641
  Don’t Miss: Stuffed shrimp, gumbo

- **Cat Daddy’s Café**
  5714 Broadway Avenue, Shreveport
  (318) 631-0881
  Don’t Miss: Fried seafood platters

- **C&C Café**
  1765 Milam Street, Shreveport
  (318) 227-9071
  Don’t Miss: Sweet Lucy Kool-Aid, peanut butter cake, whole fried catfish

- **Eddie’s Seafood and Soul Food Restaurant**
  1965 Hollywood Avenue, Shreveport
  (318) 631-9082
  Don’t Miss: Stuffed shrimp, daily plate lunch specials

- **Sherry’s Diner**
  2715 Freewater Street, Shreveport
  (318) 675-0007
  Don’t Miss: Barbecue (Fridays), peanut butter cake, whole fried catfish

- **Taylor’s Catering and Restaurant**
  1136 N. Market Street, Shreveport
  (318) 675-0007
  Don’t Miss: Fried seafood platters, daily plate lunch specials

- **Krewe of Harambee Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Mardi Gras Parade**
  Held annually on MLK Day. Enormous Mardi Gras parade with marching bands, dance groups and more.

- **Krewe of Sobek Mardi Gras Parade**
  Held each February.
  Mardi Gras parade featuring floats, bands, marching groups, drill teams and more.

**Festivals & Events**

Catch the spirit of Southern Soul at one of these festive events, ranging from live music festivals to uniquely local twists on the traditions of Mardi Gras.

- **African American History Parade**
  Held each February. Parade honoring African American history with dance groups, marching bands and more.

- **Let the Good Times Roll Festival**
  Held each June. Annual festival featuring live Zydeco, hip-hop, soul and more, as well as fantastic food and drink.

- **C& C Café**
  1965 Hollywood Avenue, Shreveport
  (318) 631-0881
  Don’t Miss: Stuffed shrimp, gumbo

- **Taylor’s Catering and Restaurant**
  1136 N. Market Street, Shreveport
  (318) 675-0007
  Don’t Miss: Barbecue (Fridays), peanut butter cake, whole fried catfish

- **Krewe of Harambee Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Mardi Gras Parade**
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**Historic Sites & Landmarks**

- **Antioch Baptist Church**
  Est. 1920, historic home of Shreveport’s earliest African American Baptist congregation.
  National Register of Historic Places
  1057 Texas Avenue, Shreveport

- **Shreveport Labor Day Southern Soul Blues Fest**
  Held annually on Sunday before Labor Day. Live blues, soul, R&B and more.

- **Krewe of Harambee Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Mardi Gras Parade**
  Held each February. Parade honoring African American history with dance groups, marching bands and more.

- **C. C. Antoine House**
  Home of Louisiana’s 3rd black lieutenant governor, Reconstruction politician and Union Army captain.
  1941 Perin Street, Shreveport

- **Old Galilee Baptist Church**
  Est. 1917, site of two historic sermons by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
  National Register of Historic Places
  854 Williamson Street, Shreveport

- **Shreveport Municipal Auditorium**
  Site of many historic music performances.
  National Historic Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
  705 Elvis Presley Avenue, Shreveport

- **Southern University Museum of Art**
  Home to over 300 artifacts representing the African American experience.
  2010 Texas Street, Shreveport
  (318) 670-6631

- **Huddie “Lead Belly” Ledbetter Gravesite**
  Grave of legendary blues and folk singer who wrote such tunes as “Midnight Special,” “Goodnight Irene” and “House of the Rising Sun.”
  Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery
  10395 Blanchard-Latex Road, Mooringsport

**Explore Shreveport-Bossier’s African American Heritage**

Pick up a free copy of the Spice & Soul brochure at any Visitor Center.