

Louisiana: Possibilities Made-to-Order 2021 Group Itinerary

Safety protocols (including wearing masks in public) are in place for the safety of all. Times noted below are the minimum times that should be allowed for a group to tour and do not include travel time between stops. Rates subject to change.



Baton Rouge to Mandeville74 miles
Lake Charles to Baton Rouge127 miles
Lake Charles to Mandeville.....198 miles

Day One – Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana

2-4 hours

Kick off your Creole Nature Trail journey at [Creole Nature Trail Adventure Point](#)—a free, fun attraction that immerses you in nature and Louisiana's unique culture, 2740 Ruth St., Sulphur, LA 70665, 337-502-4358.

[Creole Nature Trail All-American Road](#), 337-436-9588

One of only designated 57 All-American Roads in the United States, the Creole Nature Trail is a journey into an untamed wilderness known as Louisiana's Outback™. Right from the vehicle, you will see alligators, multiple birds and waterfowl (over 400 species spotted each year), and other marsh wildlife in their natural habitat. 26 miles of accessible Gulf of Mexico beaches and several over-water boardwalks also provide opportunities where you can stretch your legs and get up close and personal with your nature. (Step-on tour guides available thru the CVB)

- 2-hours [Pujo St. Café](#) - 901 Ryan St, Lake Charles, 337-439-2054. Sometimes, there's nothing better than visiting your favorite restaurant with friends. For 25 years, Pujo St. Cafe has been a local favorite, serving up an eclectic menu of Southern comfort food, classic American fare and cocktails.
- 30 minutes [Gator Chateau](#) - 100 Rue de l' Acadie, (I-10 Park Exit 64), Jennings, LA, 337-821-5521. A Rescue, Educate, Release program that fosters orphaned baby alligators until they can be released back into their natural habitat. Docents will educate you in all things alligator. The babies are hand fed and don't bite. You can hold them and take your picture.

Optional Add-ons:

1-1/2 hours [Crawfish Farm Tour in Jeff Davis Parish](#) - Learn everything about Louisiana's favorite food. Guests will experience the habitat, harvesting process, biology of the species, pond ecology, and harvesting equipment during this pond-side tour, followed by how the crawfish are cleaned, graded, and distributed. (Seasonal: March-May)

*Or, if it is not crawfish season, **W. H. Tupper General Merchandise Museum**, Jennings - Visit an authentic country store operated in rural Jeff Davis Parish from 1910-1949. The store opened during the Great Depression to serve the large number of farmworkers in the area. A capsule of early 20th-century lifestyle, the museum features antique toys, newspapers, games, hats, fashions, sewing notions, fabric, patent medicine, school supplies, and hardware.*

- 1-hour Distillery tour and tasting at [Louisiana Spirits](#), home of Bayou Rum - 20909 South I-10 Frontage Rd, Lacassine, LA, 337-588-5800. Bayou® Rum is distilled from locally grown sugarcane in southern Louisiana, USA. Our signature "sugarhouse" recipe uses a blend of 100% natural, unrefined Louisiana sugarcane and molasses. Every batch of Bayou Rum is copper pot-distilled and bottled by hand. Tours, tastings, and a great gift shop.
- 1-hour Experience the state-of-the-art [Crying Eagle Brewing](#) - 1165 E. McNeese St., Lake Charles, 337-990-4871. Constructed from the ground up to produce great craft beer and be a place to enjoy it. Features a custom 30-barrel brewhouse for our large distributed brews while the "Brewer's Playground" pilot system is for taproom-exclusive brews along with a taproom with plenty of comfortable indoor seating. Or, step outside to the beer garden to relax and enjoy Louisiana's beautiful outdoors while playing a game of washers or bean bag toss. Hungry? Enjoy a hand-rolled artisan pizza or sandwich. Offering tours, tastings, and dining.
- 1-1/2 hours [Steamboat Bills Original Seafood Warehouse- Broad Street](#) - 732 S Martin Luther King Hwy, Lake Charles, 337-494-1700. Cajun/Creole, seafood. Boiled crawfish (hot & spicy, in season), crabs, seafood dinners, crawfish and shrimp pisettoles, gumbo, etouffee, po-boys & stuffed potatoes. Fast full-service restaurant.

Optional Add-on:

Enjoy dining, shopping, nightlife, gaming, and so much more at Lake Charles' world-class gaming resorts. Located side by side on the water, you can walk to the waterfront boardwalk or take the free trolley between the properties

[L'Auberge Casino Resort](#)

[Golden Nugget Lake Charles](#)

Overnight Lake Charles or Sulphur

Contact: Kaitlyn Gallegos, Community Development Officer/Tourism Sales Manager, Visit Lake Charles, kgallegos@visitlakecharles.org, 337-436-9588

Day Two – Baton Rouge/Plantation Country

- 1-1/2 hours [Louisiana's Old State Capitol](#) - 100 North Boulevard At River Road Baton Rouge, LA, 225-342-0500. Enjoy downtown Baton Rouge, a city center full of rich cultural influence and political history. Amongst the many one-of-a-kind landmarks is Louisiana's Old State Capitol, a castle-like structure perched along the Mississippi River. Climb the cast-iron staircase, and don't forget to look up at the stained-glass cathedral dome!
- 1-1/2 hours [The Myrtles Plantation](#) - 7747 US Highway 61 St. Francisville, 225- 635-6277. Experience antebellum splendor in The Myrtles Plantation, one of America's most haunted homes. It is surrounded by centuries-old live oak trees, a 125-foot veranda, crystal chandeliers, a fresh Southern dining experience at *Restaurant 1796*, and GHOSTS! The Myrtles Plantation is a fun, entertaining attraction for any age guest.
- 1-1/2 hours [Capital City Grill](#) – 100 Lafayette Street Baton Rouge, LA 225-381-8140. Capital City Grill focuses on the freshest ingredients, generous portions, reasonable prices, and an inviting ambiance. Enjoy fresh seafood selections, hand-cut steaks, homemade soups, and outstanding desserts all made from scratch! Guests can choose South Louisiana seafood entrees and all-American favorites.
- 2 hours [LSU Rural Life Museum](#) – 4560 Essen Lane Baton Rouge, LA, 225- 765-2437. Named one of the "Top 10 Outdoor Museums in the World" by the British Museum, the LSU Rural Life Museum transports you back to 19th century Louisiana with an immense collection of artifacts from farms and plantations. The open-air museum features more than 30 unique, historic buildings. It boasts a beautiful 20,000-square-foot visitor center with a gift shop and multi-use interpretive movie room where guests can watch a short intro film before touring the museum, and groups can enjoy docent prepared meals of gumbo or jambalaya.

Optional Add-ons:

- 1 hour [The River Road African American Museum](#) - 406 Charles Street, Donaldsonville, LA, 225-474-5553 captures the spirit, soul, and significance of the people who thrived and enriched south Louisiana's sugarcane country. Receive a rare glimpse into the lives of the enslaved and free people of color who lived in this region's rural communities. Exhibits reflect the grit and achievements birthed by a generation of artists, educators, physicians, artisans, politicians, inventors, and musicians.
- 1-1/2 hours [Rosedown Plantation & Gardens](#) - 12501 Highway 10 St. Francisville, LA, 225-635-3332. One of the most intact, documented examples of a domestic plantation complex in the South. Its 1835 plantation house has made it one of the South's most distinguished houses with all of its original contents. Rosedown's 28-acre garden is one of the nation's five most important historic gardens.
- 1-1/2 hours [Houmas House Estate & Gardens](#) – 40136 LA-942 Darrow, LA, 225-473-9380. Once known as the "Sugar Palace," this Greek revival mansion and historic estate boast 38 acres of the South's most beautiful gardens, three restaurants, a luxurious Inn, and The Great River Road Steamboat Museum, which educates about life on the Mississippi.
- 1 hour [Capitol Park Museum](#) – 660 N 4th Street Baton Rouge, LA 225-342-5428. Experience authentic Louisiana at this Louisiana State Museum. From Louis Armstrong to Huey P. Long, from Mardi Gras to fais-do-do, and from the nation-building commerce of the Mississippi River to the life-sustaining bounty of the Gulf of Mexico, the Capitol Park Museum provides a panoramic exploration of the most vibrant state in America.

2 hours [TJ Ribs](#) - 2324 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, 225-383-7427. A Baton Rouge original serving up Legendary Louisiana BBQ for over 30 years. Authentic Cajun and Creole-inspired food, a local favorite for sports, and the world's most extensive LSU sports memorabilia collection.

Overnight Baton Rouge

Contact: Tracy Francis, TMP, National Sales Manager, Tourism, [Visit Baton Rouge](#), Tracy@visitbatonrouge.com, 225.382.3573

Day Three – Covington/Louisiana Northshore

2 hours [Global Wildlife Center](#) - 26389 Hwy. 40, Folsom, LA, 985- 796-3585. Feel the woolly fur of bison, get eye to eye with a giraffe or one of more than 4,000 exotic or endangered animals from around the world. Take an exciting, 75-minute, guided safari wagon tour. Feed and touch the animals in a free-roaming, 900-acre wildlife preserve.

2 hours [Cajun Encounters Swamp Tour](#) - 55345 US-90, Slidell, LA, 504- 834-1770. See the Honey Island Swamp - Louisiana's 1st nature conservancy area. Venture into untouched bayous with a native tour guide and see nesting grounds for wild animals like alligators, wild boar & more! Groups with a flexible schedule may add 1 ½ hours for an authentic seafood boil or cochon de lait at the onsite Cajun pavilion.

2-1/2 hours [Passionate Platter](#) - 2104 First Street, Slidell, LA, 985-781-4372. Stroll through this urban herb garden as you learn about medicinal remedies and gardening tips. Then head inside the quaint cottage to treat yourself to delicious "Garden to Table" fare. Chef and owner Linda Franzo will provide cooking demonstrations with seasonal produce, new cooking techniques, and scrumptious recipes.

1 hour [Sightseeing Carriage Tours of Covington by Royal Carriages](#) - 316 E. Gibson St., Marsolan Feed & Seed - Pickup Location, Covington, LA, 985- 788-0425. America's oldest sightseeing carriage company, Royal Carriages, has expanded from New Orleans into St. Tammany Parish, bringing their generations-long New Orleans carriage tour to the Northshore. Sightseeing historical tours of charming Covington take visitors through Old Covington with an expert guide to narrate the area's history.

Optional Add-ons:

[Downtown Covington](#) - Browse the boutique and antique shops and galleries on Lee Lane and Columbia Street. Have a spot of tea at The English Tea Room. Step back in time at the H.J. Smith's Son General Store & Museum. Or take in a flight of homemade ice creams at Hoodoo Ice Cream Parlor.

[Historic Mandeville Marker Tour](#) - Drive, stroll, or cycle as you learn about the rich history of Mandeville through this QR code tour. From historic homes and hotels to a jazz club and benevolent society, this tour includes 41 marker sites.

2 hours [Middendorf's Slidell](#) - 1951 Oak Harbor Blvd., Slidell, LA, 985- 771-7777. The original Middendorf's is a longstanding seafood restaurant in Manchac, LA, best known for its "World Famous Original Thin Fried Catfish®." Now owned by Karen & Horst Pfeifer, the restaurant is still using the same mouthwatering recipe that Josie Middendorf introduced back in 1934. In 2019, its 85th anniversary, the restaurant opened its second location in Slidell. While catfish is the star of the menu, entrees include whole grilled or fried fish; shrimp served a dozen different ways, soft-shell, or stuffed crab. Venture outside, and you'll find an open-air porch overlooking an inviting sand/play area for the kids with fountains, palm trees, and tiki huts.

Optional Add-on:

Enjoy al fresco dining options throughout Louisiana's Northshore with waterfront views and exquisite sunsets.

Overnight in Covington or Slidell

Contact: Tanya Leader, Vice President of Sales, [St. Tammany Parish Tourist and Convention Commission](#),
Tanya@louisiananorthshore.com, 985-892-0520