

VISIT  
THE NORTSHORE  
LOUISIANA'S *Easy* ESCAPE  


WE'VE GOT A  
*Story*  
FOR YOU







## Points of Interest

Northshore towns offer great getaway opportunities. **Historic downtown Covington** is home to numerous fine arts galleries, shops, restaurants, the boutique **Southern Hotel**, B&Bs and music venues. The quaint **Olde Towne Slidell** boasts an array of public murals, eateries, art galleries and antique shops. Dine with a view along the **Mandeville** lakefront or the banks of the Tchefuncte River in **Madisonville**. The wacky **Abita Mystery House**, live music at the **Abita Opry** and fun festivals delight visitors to **Abita Springs**. Beer lovers will enjoy visits to the tap room of the **Abita Brewing Company** and **Chafunkta Brewing Company**, while wine enthusiasts will want to visit **Wild Bush Farm & Vineyard**.

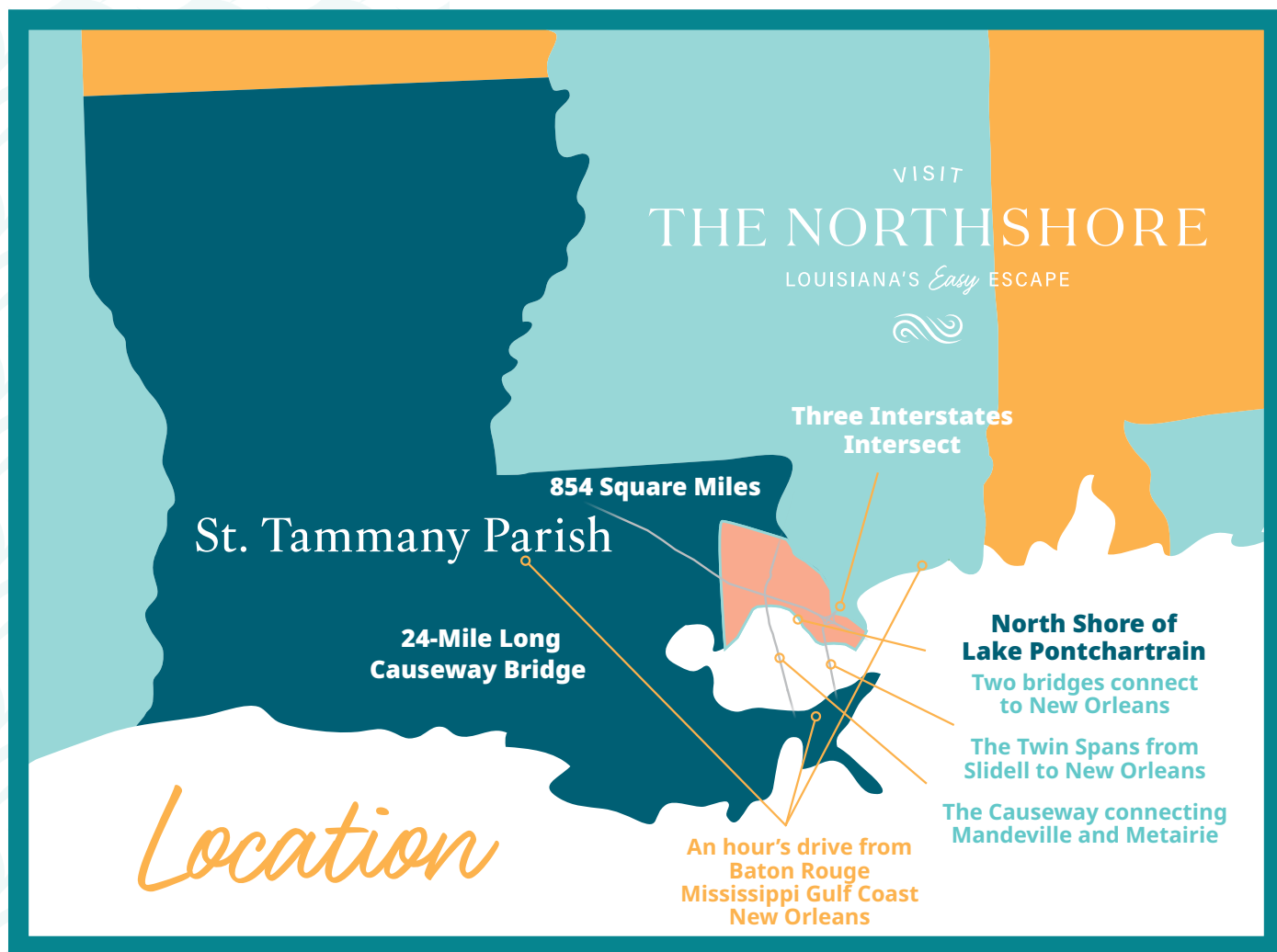
The **Honey Island Swamp** can be explored via several tour operators who take the curious on a deep dive into this unique and pristine environment. Visitors observe alligators in their natural habitat, as well as a wide variety of bird life, deer and wild boar from the safety of large, covered boats. Native guides share swamp lore, history and ecological information.

History can be explored in the ruins of an 1829 sugar mill at **Fontainebleau State Park**, at the **Otis House** at **Fairview-Riverside State Park**, **Maritime Museum Louisiana**, **Mandeville's Historic Marker Tour** and **HJ Smith's Son General Store and Museum** in downtown Covington.

Kids and their parents will love **Global Wildlife Center**, the largest free-roaming wildlife park of its kind in the country, featuring 2,500 exotic and endangered animals on 900 savanna-like acres. Other kid-friendly venues include **Insta-Gator Ranch**, where you can learn about and even touch alligators; swamp tours; nature trails and boardwalks; splash pads and playgrounds; and a skateboard park.







## *Climate*

Average annual temperature in St. Tammany Parish is 67 ° F, 50° F in January and 81 °F in July.

## *Airport*

The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY) is the closest major airport to St. Tammany Parish. Major carriers that fly to the area include American Airlines, United, Delta Airlines and others.

## *Annual Events*

### **SPRING**

Crawfish Festival  
Louisiana Bicycle Festival  
Great Louisiana Bird Festival

### **SUMMER**

Tammany Taste of Summer  
Heritage Festival  
Crab Festival

### **FALL**

Three Rivers Art Festival  
Wooden Boat Festival  
Bluesberry Festival  
St. Tammany Parish Fair

### **WINTER**

Christmas Festivals  
Mardi Gras

## New and Noteworthy

**Dining Establishments:** The Dakota Restaurant reopened with great anticipation in Downtown Covington, as did the Israeli cuisine hot spot Tavi and the eclectic Valencia, with its Spanish-Cajun fusion cuisine. Covington welcomed New Orleans' popular confectionery Sucre for its first Northshore location, Covington Beer Garden opened across from Covington Trailhead, Sushi Saigon opened in the Village Walk, Uno Dos Tacos opened near Goodbee, and Red Bird Fried Chicken, awarded Best Fried Chicken at the New Orleans National Fried Chicken Festival in October, opened on Highway 21. Also, Crazy Pig Southern Kitchen also added another location in Covington.

Mandeville saw the opening of Parish Tacos, Desi Vega's Smokehouse & Tavern, the elegant Odelia Café and Croissant French Bakery & Lagniappe, and Slidell had numerous new dining options with Bistro 55, Donuts, Brunch & Such, H&H Brazilian Acai Bowls, La Michoacana Plus, and Pho Hanoi Asian Cuisine, among others.

**Accommodations:** Southern Hotel began its expansion project along New Hampshire Street and added The Greenwood event venue to its family of properties. Homewood Suites in Slidell has begun a \$2.5M renovation and both Courtyard by Marriott in Covington and Holiday Inn Slidell completed their \$2M+ renovations. A new boutique hotel is anticipated for Mandeville, and unique Air BnB options are available in various locations, such as Casa Verde in Covington or The Stables at The Giddy Up in Folsom.

**Attractions:** Bayou Adventure in Lacombe became the second location for Bayou Stuf, but Bayou Adventure paddling rentals live on through an easy-to-book rental kiosk inside Fontainebleau State Park. You can also rent from Kayaks to Geaux, who will deliver fully equipped vessels to any spot in St. Tammany. Loft 18 indoor golf experience opened in Slidell, and Olde Towne welcomed the whimsical, vibrant art installation Antique Umbrella Alley, hovering above First Street. Chafunkta Brewing Company is now available at local bars and restaurants, Dane Books & Gifts quickly became a popular hangout in downtown Covington, and fans of Latin dance have a new place to kick up their heels at Full Moon Latino Bar, Grill & Entertainment.

## Lake Life

Discover a peaceful getaway by Lake Pontchartrain on the Northshore. Along Lakeshore Drive, magnificent mansions and restored treasures line the shore. Enjoy leisurely walks, lakeside playgrounds, and sun-soaked beaches. Relax under ancient oak trees with lakeside swings and watch sailboats and paddleboarders on the water. Savor fresh seafood at lakefront restaurants and unwind at historic Mandeville with charming shops and eateries. Stay at places like De La Bleau for the full lake life experience. Escape and embrace the tranquility of Northshore's lake life.

## Tammany Taste

The Northshore has a rich and diverse culinary scene, ranging from restaurants to farmers' markets, pick-your-own blueberry farms, cheesemakers and breweries. The parish is home to award-winning chefs like Pat Gallagher, who operates three eponymous restaurants in Slidell, Covington and Mandeville as well as **Pat's Rest Awhile** on the Mandeville lakefront. Other fine dining restaurants such as **The Gloriette**, **Tchefuncte's**, **Dakota**, **Sal & Judy's**, **Del Porto** and **Lola** delight. Louisiana comfort food – poboys, boiled and fried seafood, Cajun, Creole and Italian specialties – is everywhere, served in family-run joints like **Middendorf's**, rich in heritage. Dine al fresco with a view of the lake, bayou or river at plenty of places including **The Anchor**, **The Chimes**, **Palmettos on the Bayou**, **The Blue Crab**, or **Rips on the Lake**.

## Olde Towne, New Feel

Olde Towne Slidell is a recently revitalized area, home to public murals, restaurants, galleries, antiques and gift shops, and hosts semi-annual antique fairs. They're not stopping there. They have big plans on the horizon, including redevelopment of the waterfront, Heritage Park and Main Street areas to better connect the community for pedestrians and cyclists to enjoy. There's more than ever to explore in Olde Towne including the **Old Town Soda Shop** and their new miniature golf adventure area, **Olde Towne Hatchet House Axe Throwing**, **Green Oaks Apothecary**, **Whiskey & Ashe**, and **Olde Towne Pizza Company**.

## Soft Outdoor Adventure

Soft adventure is plentiful in the parish, with opportunities for kayaking, tubing, fishing, paddleboarding, birdwatching and hiking. From **Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge** to **Northlake Nature Center** to the Nature Conservancy's **Abita Creek Flatwoods Preserve**, nature is pristine and accessible on the Northshore. Gear – including bicycles, kayaks, paddleboards and fishing equipment – can be rented in several locations.

# St. Tammany Parish



St. Tammany Parish, draped across the northern shore of Lake Pontchartrain, is just 45 minutes from New Orleans' French Quarter. The Northshore is an easy escape where visitors enjoy soft adventure on 80,000 acres of green spaces and waterways, a thriving culinary scene and cultural experiences. Picturesque towns, quirky festivals, lively music venues and one-of-a-kind shopping give the parish an overall feel-good vibe.



## Fun Facts

- The Northshore has been shaped by geography and by the diverse peoples who have called it home, including mound-building Native Americans; Europeans who came in the 1700s; and African Americans, many of them free people of color.
- The parish passed between French, Spanish and British governments and was, for 74 eventful days, part of the rebellious Republic of West Florida until Louisiana became a state in 1812.
- New Orleanians have considered the Northshore a getaway since the 1880s, when steamboats brought them across the lake to stay in resorts where the deep-spring water was reputed to cure ills and calm nerves. Today, that spring water still is the source for the area's best-known product, Abita Beer.
- The Northshore is home to the Dew Drop Jazz Hall, the oldest unaltered jazz hall in the world.
- The 24-mile-long Causeway is the world's longest continuously over-water bridge.
- Louisiana's first rails-to-trails hike/bike path, the **Tammany Trace**, is a 31-mile paved path through the Northshore, connecting five towns and scenic green spaces.





## CONTACT

### **Erica Glory**

Communications Manager  
[Erica@VisitTheNorthshore.com](mailto:Erica@VisitTheNorthshore.com)

For more information, visit  
[www.VisitTheNorthshore.com](http://www.VisitTheNorthshore.com)

