


Arrive on The Northshore


Begin your tour on The Northshore to learn about African American and Indigenous People, their contributions & heritage.



VISIT THE NORTHSHORE
LOUISIANA'S Easy ESCAPE




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The Soul of South Louisiana

DISCOVER THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF CREOLE AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AFRICAN AMERICANS IN SOUTH LOUISIANA

Day 1

CAJUN ENCOUNTERS SWAMP TOUR
Visit Louisiana's first nature conservancy area. Learn about the history, culture and way of life of the indigenous people that lived on The Northshore. Groups with a flexible schedule may add 1.5 hours for an authentic seafood boil at the onsite Cajun pavilion.

BAYOU LACOMBE MUSEUM
Tour St. Tammany Parish's oldest wooden schoolhouse and learn about Choctaw history. Groups visiting on November 1st can observe the tradition of La Toussaint, All Saints' Day, an annual Lacombe celebration combining French Catholic and Choctaw traditions honoring their ancestors.

MADISONVILLE HISTORIC MUSEUM
Visit one of the most diverse towns in Louisiana during the early 20th century. Tour the former 1911 courthouse and jail with displays featuring Native American artifacts and shipbuilding history.

MEAL SUGGESTIONS
Middendorf's Restaurant, Palmettos on the Bayou and Pat's Rest Awhile

ADD-ON
Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum
Opened in 2007, groups can visit the comprehensive collection of African-American murals, artifacts, photographs and artwork.

Day 2

FONTAINEBLEAU STATE PARK
Tour the remains of the former sugar plantation and historical markers for both the 153 enslaved people who comprised the skilled workforce of the plantation and lived at the Alley of Oaks as well as the indigenous people of the area.

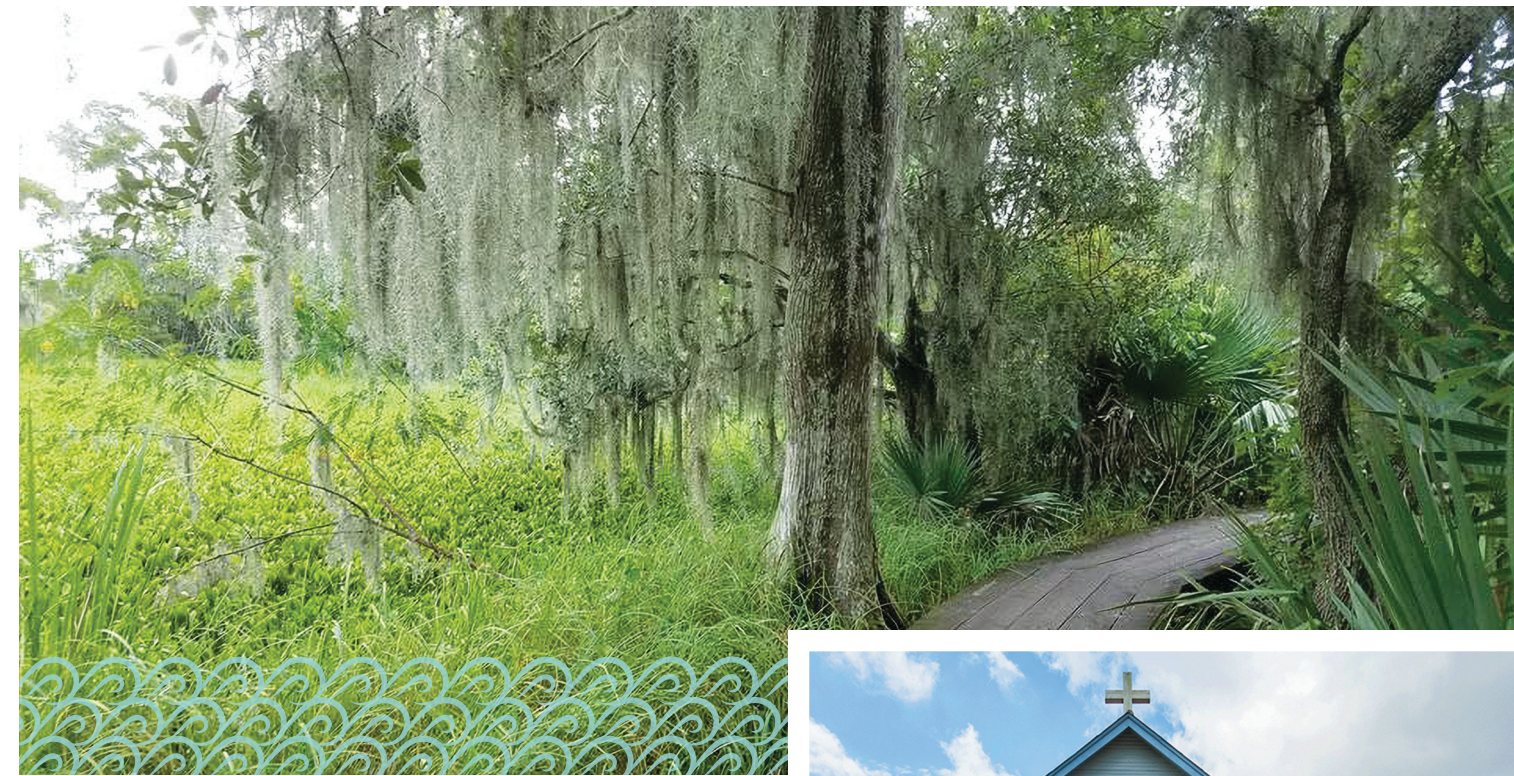
HISTORIC MANDEVILLE MARKER TOUR
Drive, stroll or cycle as you absorb the rich history of Mandeville through this QR code tour. The tour includes 41 marker sites; including nine Indigenous Peoples and African American Markers.

THE JEAN BAPTISTE LANG CREOLE HOUSE
Learn about the architectural significance of this Anglo-Creole summer cottage built for the affluent tobacco merchant Jean Baptiste Lang, as well as the history of Mandeville as a getaway destination for wealthy New Orleanians.

THE DEW DROP JAZZ AND BENEVOLENT HALL
Established in 1895, "The Dew Drop" is the oldest unaltered jazz hall in the world. Noted musicians that have graced the stage include Bunk Johnson, Buddy Petit and Papa Celestin.

Depart for Louisiana's River Parishes

Follow the "River Road" along the Mississippi River to learn the history of the enslaved, their rebellion and the contributions they made to create the distinct cultures of the region.



Day 5

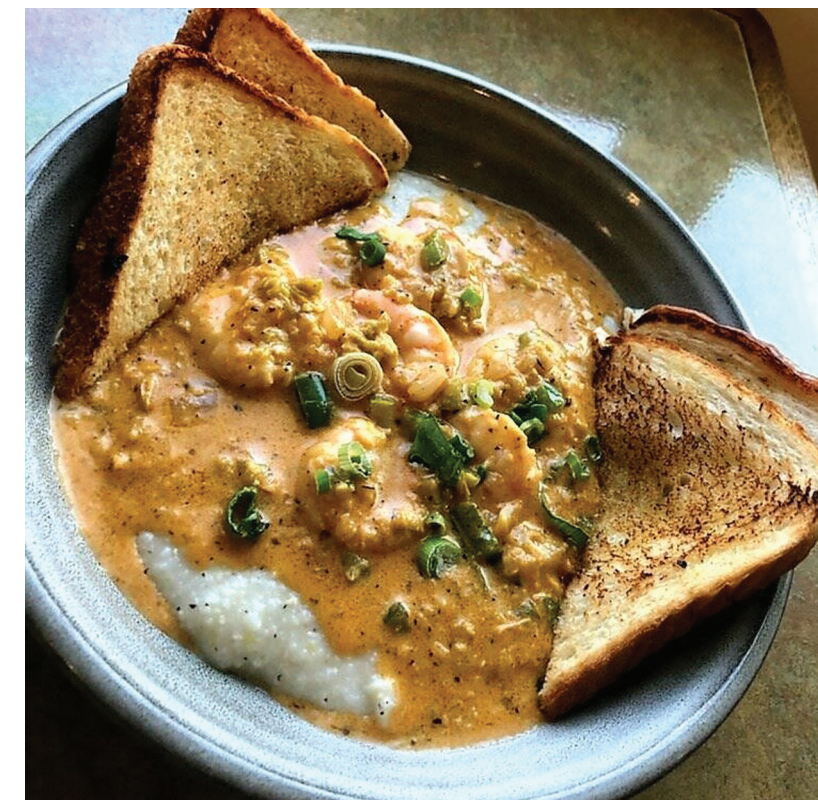
TRUE VINE BAPTIST CHURCH
Make a stop at the oldest black church that still holds services for its congregation in Jefferson Parish on the West Bank of the Mississippi. The first True Vine Baptist Church was founded on September 27, 1865, in the slave quarters of the Zeringue Plantation. In July 1898, the church purchased lots from Pablo Sala who was developing Salaville. It became True Vine Baptist Church. Once the railroad came and established itself across the Zeringue land, the congregation built a church at the plantation's lower boundary, later known as Red Bean Row. The church was established at 249 Sala Avenue in 1897. It was rebuilt following fires on March 13, 1926 and another on February 19, 1961.

BARATARIA PRESERVE OF JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND PRESERVE
Around 1807 when importing slaves became illegal, the infamous pirate Jean Lafitte began smuggling goods and slaves through its hidden bayous and waterways. Today, take a stroll through the Preserve which features beautiful walking and birding trails, a kids activity center and more.

JEAN LAFITTE HARBOR
Located on the smuggling route of the pirate, Jean Lafitte, take a ride to the past on one of the private tour boats, book a private fishing charter with a local grown fishing guide or rent a kayak and experience the beautiful winding swamps at your own pace.

MEAL SUGGESTIONS

3 Southern Girls and Le Brane's Creole Cuisine



Day 4

CAJUN PRIDE SWAMP TOURS
Cajun Pride Swamp Tours features the legend of Julia Brown, the prominent African American woman who owned several acres of land and was a local physician (traiteur) in Frenier, a small town located along Lake Pontchartrain. The swamp tour features a replica of the home of Julia Brown, surrounded by the primitive beauty of moss-draped Cypress trees and sights of alligators.

DESTREHAN PLANTATION
Destrehan Plantation offers "The Unheard Voices of the German Coast" tour, featuring an inventory of enslaved persons that lived on the plantation, the craftsmanship of Charles Paquet, the master builder of the main house, an exhibit of the 1811 Slave Revolt journey, and the Rost Home colony exhibit that explains the plantation's transformation into a colony to help newly freed enslaved persons to assimilate into society.

ADD-ON

Finding Our Roots African American Museum
Tour the museum's galleries centered on such subjects as the reconstruction era, elected officials, slavery, segregation, the civil rights movement and leadership, family and community, educators and clergy, sugar cane workers, doctors and businessmen, inventors, musicians, and writers.



Day 3

LAURA PLANTATION: LOUISIANA'S CRÉOLE HERITAGE SITE
A tour at Laura Plantation: Louisiana's Creole Heritage Site begins with its "From the Big House to the Quarters: Slavery on Laura Plantation" self-guided tour, followed by a guided tour of the plantation presenting the lives of enslaved Creoles that the families of Laura LaCoul owned.

WHITNEY PLANTATION
Whitney Plantation describes the harsh labor enslaved Creoles endured living and working on sugarcane plantations. The Wall of Honor is a memorial dedicated to enslaved persons of Whitney Plantation, and the 1811 Slave Revolt Memorial displays the slain revolutionaries who initiated and participated in the German Coast slave uprising in 1811.

HISTORIC RIVERLANDS SOUL RIVER MUSICAL JOURNEY
Historic Riverlands takes you on a journey through a procession of music genres and musical themes that depict and illustrate the lives of African Americans during Segregation in the United States, the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Lives Matter Movement.

MEAL SUGGESTIONS

Mama's Kitchen, Legends Sports Bar & Grill and The Salad Depot

Depart for Jefferson Parish

Join us to experience the east and west banks of the Mississippi River which acted as both liberator and oppressor.

CAMP PARAPET
Only open once each year, Camp Parapet features a tour of a powder magazine, a flag raising ceremony and a highly detailed diorama with soldiers and artillery figures. Camp Parapet was a safe haven for escaped slaves.

MARSALIS MANSION MOTEL MARKER
The motel was a luxury accommodation safe for African American travelers during the civil rights movement. It attracted guests like Martin Luther King, Jr., Ray Charles, Thurgood Marshall, and Etta James who were not allowed to stay where they were performing.

MAHALIA JACKSON'S GRAVESITE
Famous for our above ground tombs, visit Mahalia Jackson's final resting place. As the granddaughter of slaves, Mahalia Jackson was an American gospel singer who, over her 40-year career, played a major role in the creation and spread of gospel blues throughout black churches across the US. She was the first gospel artist to be inducted on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

