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Visit Baton Rouge  
359 Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70801  
225.383.1825  
[www.visitbatonrouge.com](http://www.visitbatonrouge.com)



When you're planning your trip to Louisiana, check out the annual events in Baton Rouge for the opportunity to fully immerse yourself in the culture of the state. Favorites like Mardi Gras, ~~the~~ Baton Rouge Blues Festival, and the Soul Food Festival are great reasons for a trip to the Red Stick. Whether it's music festivals, art events, or Mardi Gras parades you're looking for, Baton Rouge has it all.

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## January

### [Louisiana Marathon and Finish Fest](#)

Kick off your new year with a run—choose from a full, half, or quarter marathon, or a 5K—at the Louisiana Marathon. One of the most popular annual events in Baton Rouge, this is much more than just a marathon. Finish Fest celebrates the crossing of the finish line, and the start of a new year, with food, music, dancing with the tens of thousands of runners and spectators.

800 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

### [Baton Rouge Restaurant Week](#)

Feast your way through Baton Rouge during this week-long culinary event, held twice a year! Enjoy a three-course meal of prix-fixe menu items at some of Baton Rouge's best restaurants, consisting of an appetizer, entrée, and dessert.

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|  | <b>February / March</b><br><br><a href="#">Baton Rouge Mardi Gras</a><br>Everyone knows Louisiana is the place to go to do Mardi Gras right. Multiple parades with over-the-top-floats are just part of the fun Mardi Gras in Louisiana's capital city has to offer!<br>Baton Rouge, LA 70802 |
|  | <b>March</b><br><br><a href="#">St. Patrick's Day</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Start your day early by running the Shamrock Run before donning your brightest green and celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Baton Rouge. Marching bands and bagpipers will have you dancing in the streets at the annual Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade.

3129 Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge, LA

### [Crawfete](#)

Presented by the Baton Rouge Epicurean Society, Crawfete serves as the official kickoff the crawfish season in Baton Rouge and is filled with good eats! Enjoy live music, as well as tastings of boiled crawfish and gourmet crawfish dishes from restaurants throughout Baton Rouge.

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## **April**

### [Baton Rouge Blues Festival](#)

Enjoy two full days of live blues by some of the biggest names in the business at the Baton Rouge Blues Festival. Take a break from all the music by browsing the art shops and getting something delicious to eat from the food vendors.

North Boulevard Town Square  
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

### [The Flower Fest](#)

Flower lovers and philanthropists, this festival is for you! This family-friendly festival has food trucks, beautiful backdrops, live music and of course, a flower market. Watch as floral installations by florists from throughout Louisiana come to life right before your eyes, with all proceeds benefitting St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

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## **May**

### [Hot Art Cool Nights](#)

Hot Art Cool Nights is an event hosted by over 40 independent businesses each spring in Baton Rouge's Mid City neighborhood. Local businesses lining Government Street open their doors and parking lots to musicians, performers, dancers and makers for a night of shopping, fun and community.

### Baton Rouge Soul Food Festival

Bring your appetite to the Baton Rouge Soul Food Festival, held in downtown Baton Rouge. This family-friendly event is free to the public and features blues, soul, R&B and gospel music; a vendor's village; and a judged soul food cooking competition. Bring your chairs for lawn seating and come ready for good food and incredible music!

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## **June**

### Baton Rouge Pride Fest

Baton Rouge Pride Fest is the largest family-friendly indoor LGBTQ+ pride celebration in the South and with good reason! This festival draws a crowd of more than 10,000 and includes a resource fair, children's play area, entertainment and blessings of relationships.

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## **July**

### Fireworks on the Mississippi

Most patriotic of all is the annual fireworks show in Downtown Baton Rouge over the Mississippi River! Baton Rouge's Fourth of July Spectacular welcomes thousands of guests from around the country dressed in their best red, white and blue for an evening-long event of fun, ending with a breathtaking fireworks display overlooking the mighty Mississippi, as well as celebrations happening all across the city!

### Baton Rouge Restaurant Week – Summer

Feast your way through Baton Rouge during this week-long culinary event, held twice a year! Enjoy a three-course meal of prix-fixe menu items at some of Baton Rouge's best restaurants, consisting of an appetizer, entrée, and dessert.

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## **August**

### Ultimate Tailgate

Nothing kicks off football season quite like the Sweet Baton Rouge® Ultimate Tailgate! Featuring tailgate activities, music, shopping and food, you can get gameday ready by shopping local boutiques, sampling food and drinks from restaurants throughout Baton Rouge and entering in a cornhole championship!

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## **September**

### Brew at the Zoo

Head to the Baton Rouge Zoo for an evening of beer, food and good music. Sample dozens of craft beers and indulge in pub favorites while listening to the sounds of local musicians and meeting some of the Zoo's animal ambassadors.

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## **October**

### Oktoberfest

Próst! This event, held every October, brings a little bit of Deutschland to Baton Rouge. Feast on German-inspired food and of course, beer, while listening to live music and participating in a costume contest.

### Boo at the Zoo

Held at the Baton Rouge Zoo, Boo at the Zoo offers festive Halloween fun, complete with games, fall and Halloween-themed structures perfect for photo ops, costumes and themed enrichments.

### Fifolet Festival

Halloween in Baton Rouge is a month-long celebration, and Fifolet Festival is at the center of it all! Featuring a Ghostly Gala, Zombie Pub Crawl, 5K, market and Halloween Parade, Fifolet has events for the whole family!

### Boo with the Krewe Festival

Boo with the Krewe Festival is a free, family-friendly Halloween festival with carnival-themed activities and entertainment. Held at Scotlandville Plaza, this event also features trick-or-treating for kids and vendors for all to shop from and enjoy.

### Spirits of Louisiana

Spirits of Louisiana is the Old State Capitol's signature fundraising event, featuring craft spirits by Louisiana distilleries, food by local caterers, music and an art auction – all held beneath the "Castle on the River's" stained-class dome.

### Louisiana Book Festival

Louisiana Book Festival is a bookworm's paradise! This festival, held in downtown Baton Rouge at the State Library and Capitol Park Museum, features authors and panelists for book discussions, activities for kids and teens, musical entertainment and food, of course!

### A Taste of the Deep South

A Taste of the Deep South takes place at the Riverfront Plaza in downtown Baton Rouge and features various genres of music and international cultural dances, as well as a vendor's village with arts and crafts, clothing and jewelry and an international food court with Southern and ethnic foods. This free event is family-friendly with a lineup filled with local and regional talent.

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## **October/November**

### [Greater Baton Rouge State Fair](#)

Dig into cotton candy and fried Oreos, ride a neon-lit Ferris Wheel, and take in all the old-fashioned fair fun of the Greater Baton Rouge State Fair. Pig races, a petting zoo, Midway games, and youth livestock shows; this 11-day festival has it all.

16072 Airline Highway  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

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## **November**

### Cap City Beer Fest

Taking place in the heart of downtown Baton Rouge, Cap City Beer Fest makes for a fun-filled afternoon that includes unlimited tastings of your local favorite and international beers. Take home a commemorative glass, enjoy cool tunes from local DJs and indulge in food from local food trucks, all while benefitting Companion Animal Alliance.

### BRTistic

BRTistic, held in the eclectic music venue, Beavoir Park, gathers artists and musicians together each fall to showcase the essence of Baton Rouge. This two-day event opens with a yoga session each day and live painters and music acts follow. This event also features food vendors, tarot readings and face painting.

### White Light Night

White Light Night is Baton Rouge's Mid City neighborhood's largest art festival, featuring Louisiana's best artists, makers and more. Kick off your holiday shopping as you revel under the white lights adorning the streets, meet local artists, enjoy live music and eat at Mid City's exceptional and unique dining options.

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## **November / December**

### Baton Rouge General Holiday Lights

Each year, the Baton Rouge General Medical Center – Bluebonnet proudly presents its holiday display. Located in South Baton Rouge, the lawn is transformed into a twinkling, singing and synchronized light display the whole family can enjoy.