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Creole Nature Trail | Top Ten Things to Do

There is no shortage of colorful adventures to be had in Southwest Louisiana from cultural events to the great outdoors, live entertainment and casino gaming. Check below for a list of the Top 10 Things to Do, listed in no particular order. So, what are you waiting for? Get out and explore! #VisitLakeCharles

Festivals & Fun

Mardi Gras, Black Heritage Festival, Iowa Rabbit Festival, Westlake Family Fun & Food Festival, Contraband Days Pirate Festival, Cajun Music & Food Festival, Cal-Cam Fair, and the Southwest Louisiana Christmas Lighting Festival are truly the tip of the festival iceberg.

Glitz & Gaming

Casino gaming in Southwest Louisiana includes two world-class casino resorts (yes, true resorts with all the amenities!) in L'Auberge Casino Resort and Golden Nugget Lake Charles, island time slots and table games at the Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel, and slots and horse racing at Delta Downs Racetrack Casino & Hotel.

Creole Nature Trail

Exploring the Creole Nature Trail, one of only 43 designated All-American Roads in the USA, where you can view birds, alligators and wildlife up close. Not to mention - Gulf beaches with excellent shelling and relaxation.

Just passing through

Culinary

Culinary delights are at every turn, so be sure to taste our FRESH Louisiana seafood. You can also experience stops along the Southwest Louisiana Boudin Trail.

Museums

From railroads to sulfur mining, pirate legends to Cajun/Creole roots, the area has 7 museums: Mardi Gras Museum, DeQuincy Railroad Museum, Brimstone Museum, Children's Museum, DeQuincy Town Hall Museum, Imperial Calcasieu Museum and the USS Orleck Naval Museum.

Arts & Culture 2

The area has a thriving arts scene with live music, galleries, art shows and events. The 1911 Historic City Hall brings in traveling exhibits from around the world. Also, the Henning Cultural Center has local art, and there are other galleries with displays year round.

Hunt & Fish

Sunrise at
Cameron

Prairie (credit:
BrendaLafleur.
com)

Parks & Rec

Nature's bounty is in full force in Southwest Louisiana. We have guides that can take you to the sweet spots and the honey holes so that you can hit your limit!

For the more adventurous souls who want to feel the wind on their face and get into the spirit of the great outdoors, you can explore fun options.

Shopping

The Charleston Cultural District and the Cottage Shop District are just two examples of places where you can find unique gift items in Southwest Louisiana. Many of our grocery stores also carry authentic Louisiana spices and products that you can rarely find outside the state.

Nightlife

There are several venues where you can relax and listen to great music, or get out and dance.

Plan your trip now at VisitLakeCharles.org