

Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana CVB 1205 N. Lakeshore Drive Lake Charles, LA 70601 1-800-456-SWLA www.visitlakecharles.org

## Lake Charles, Louisiana

Louisiana is known the world over for its culinary creations and Lake Charles, Louisiana is no exception. To showcase this delicious food culture, the Lake Charles CVB recently released a Cajun Fais Do Do video entitled "Cajun Fusion Cooking in Lake Charles, Louisiana" that showcases traditional and creative food prepared by local chefs. Take a "taste" here, then make plans to visit and explore Lake Charles' food, casinos, the Creole Nature Trail...and the list goes on and on!

And, it's no secret that Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana is also a premier casino gaming destination. Delta Downs Racetrack, Casino & Hotel in Vinton offers live thoroughbred and live quarter horse racing as well as off-track betting options. In an all-inclusive complex with restaurants and a food court, you can enjoy round the clock gaming action with slot machines and soak in concerts and performances by top entertainers.

On the shores of the lake sits the Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel, where you can melt into island time and lounge near an outdoor pool area, complete with a hot tub and rock slide. Entertainment options abound as well as concerts, gaming action, restaurants and more. L'Auberge du Lac Casino Resort in Lake Charles features Spa du Lac, the acclaimed Contraband Bayou Golf Course, games of chance, a lazy river and pool, headlining entertainers as well as an assortment of dining options from casual to elegant.

Historically speaking, step back in time and let Southern sunlight stream through sleepy oaks in the Charpentier Historic District. Here you will find Victorian mansions on National Register of Historic Places. The area is home to five museums and many art galleries. The Mardi Gras Museum houses the most Mardi Gras costumes of any museum in the world. The Imperial Calcasieu Museum has rotating exhibits as well as artifacts of historical significance to the area. At the DeQuincy Railroad Museum, visitors can learn about the roots of a railroad town. Other museums include the hands-on Children's Museum and the Brimstone Museum Complex, featuring rotating exhibits at the Henning Cultural Center.

After a day of cultural recreation, why not pamper yourself in our spa facilities or hit a hole in one on award winning golf courses? We have great greens in the area including Graywood, which is on the esteemed Audubon Golf Trail; L'Auberge du Lac Casino Resort's Contraband Bayou Golf Course, designed by the acclaimed Tom Fazio; Frasch Park in Sulphur; and Mallard Cove and Pine Shadows in Lake Charles. And new to the area, the National Golf Club of Louisiana in Westlake.

In the great outdoors, you can catch some of Louisiana's most striking natural offerings such as

attractions along the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road, also known as Louisiana's Outback. Visit the recently renovated Cameron Prairie Wildlife Refuge, the Wetland Walkway where visitors can walk out onto the marsh and see alligators and wildlife; and Gulf beaches offer a treasure trove of shells. You can also spend time hunting, fishing and crabbing in Louisiana's Outback.