



Jefferson Convention and Visitors Bureau
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Jefferson Parish spans from the southern shore of Lake Pontchartrain to the Gulf of Mexico and includes the area surrounding New Orleans. It offers travelers looking for an authentic Louisiana experience room to roam to discover delicious cuisine, outdoor recreation, and festive celebrations throughout the year. Below are some of the annual events in Jefferson Parish you should check out when planning your trip.

February & March

[Family Gras](#)

Outdoor concerts, Art Market shopping, and fun activities like face painting and interactive games at the Kids Court all take place at the free Family Gras in Jefferson Parish. This family-friendly Mardi Gras celebration lasts all weekend and of course, the Flambeau Food Court will be serving up all kinds of Louisiana cuisine favorites like jambalaya, po-boys, crawfish pasta, and gator-on-a-stick.
Metairie, LA 70002

[Mardi Gras](#)

This festive, over-the-top celebration is marked by Mardi Gras events throughout Jefferson Parish. Enjoy remarkable pageantry, exciting parades, lots of food, and plenty of music cutting into the crisp air throughout the season.

[Metairie Road St. Patrick's Day Parade](#)

Celebrate the luck of the Irish at the Metairie Road St. Patrick's Day Parade, a local tradition since 1971. Dance to the beats of marching bands and catch heads of cabbage, potatoes, and carrots—along with the beads you expected—as the floats pass by.
1901 Severn Avenue
Metairie, LA 70001

[Pet Fest](#)

What would life be like without our furry friends? At Pet Fest, not only will there be local bites and beer with live music playing, but you can enter the free pet costume contest and snuggle with hundreds of adorable, adoptable pets.
3000 Downs Boulevard
Metairie, LA 70003

April

[Kenner Italian Heritage Festival](#)

Kenner, Louisiana, has a deep Italian history and the Kenner Italian Heritage Festival is your opportunity to partake in those traditions. Load up on authentic Italian dishes, dance to live music, and enjoy games, crafts, and rides.

400 Block of Williams Boulevard
Kenner, LA 70062

May

[Huey P. Long Bridge Run 5K](#)

Cross the Mighty Mississippi River and take in the stunning views from the historic bridge as you participate in the Huey P. Long Bridge Run 5K, always on Mother's Day Weekend. After you cross the finish line, bowls fill up with plenty of hot gumbo and homemade jambalaya paired with Abita beers on tap at the Abita After Party.

1701 Bridge City Avenue
Bridge City, LA 70094

July

[Uncle Sam Jam](#)

Grab your lawn chairs and head to Lafreniere Park in Metairie for a day full of dancing, great food, and drinks at the Uncle Sam Jam, a favorite Fourth of July celebration in Louisiana. Even better, admission is free, and the day ends with a festive fireworks show.

3000 Downs Boulevard
Metairie, LA 70003

[Grand Isle International Tarpon Rodeo](#)

Head to the Louisiana coast for the Grand Isle International Tarpon Rodeo, the oldest fishing tournament in the country. Held in the last weekend of July that includes a Sunday, the tournament (which has been around since 1928) features some of the best anglers around vying for the top prize in a range of categories by species, including hardhead catfish, redfish, and speckled trout. If you aren't competing, partake in the live music, contests, arts, crafts, and crab racing for the younger spectators that make this a favorite event in Jefferson Parish.

Grand Isle, LA 70358

September

[Freedom Fest at the Lake](#)

Spend Labor Day in Louisiana at Freedom Fest at the Lake on the shores of Lake Pontchartrain. There will be live music, food, arts, and crafts, with a finale of fireworks.

Kenner, LA 70065

[Gretna Heritage Festival](#)

The Gretna Heritage Festival is three days of live entertainment by Louisiana and national favorites in historic Gretna. Past lineups have included Foreigner, Kiss, Gin Blossoms, and Montgomery Gentry. At this popular Louisiana music festival, there's more than just music. Come early and stay late for fun like a classic car show, Italian Village, German Beer Garden, carnival rides and games, arts and crafts.

327 Huey P Long Avenue
Gretna, LA 70053

October

[Bridge City Gumbo Festival](#)

What better place for a Gumbo Festival than "The Gumbo Capital of the World?" The Bridge City Gumbo Festival in Jefferson Parish is a weekend-long party with live zydeco, jazz, blues,

Cajun, country and rock music, a gumbo cooking contest, arts and crafts, and the crowning of Miss Creole Gumbo and King Creole Gumbo. Of course, there will be *lots* of that delicious gumbo Louisiana is famous for—seafood, chicken, and sausage, alongside jambalaya, red beans and rice, and other fair foods.

1701 Bridge City Avenue
Bridge City, LA 70094

November

[Bucktown Seafood Festival](#)

If you enjoy family-friendly fun, live music, and delicious seafood, the Bucktown Seafood Festival is your place. This weekend Jefferson Parish event has rides, games, auctions, raffles, entertainment, and all the seafood you want.

1600 Lake Avenue
Metairie, LA 70005

December

[Christmas in the Park](#)

Thousands of twinkling lights illuminate Lafreniere Park during Christmas in the Park, held throughout the holiday season. Write and mail your letters to Santa, decorate ornaments for the tree, and on weekends, special guests make appearances.

3000 Downs Boulevard
Metairie, LA 70003

[Kenner Christmas Village](#)

Step into a winter wonderland at the annual Kenner Christmas Village for ice skating, live entertainment, food, shopping, and the Biergarten. Visit Santa's Workshop among the animated scenery.

3800 Loyola Avenue
Kenner, LA 70065