



What to do in Baton Rouge?
We've got the best 225 ways to pass a good time
from the people who know best, the locals.

Downtown Farmer's Market

1] “We’re so lucky to have such a great farmers market downtown every weekend. Nothing beats actually meeting the people who make that goat cheese ravioli by hand, cultivate those exquisite herbs and houseplants, and grow the freshest sweet potatoes and oranges.” —Emily Erickson, assistant professor, LSU Manship School of Mass Communication [Click here for more on the Downtown Farmer's Market.](#)

The Wearin' of the Green Parade

2] “The St. Patrick's Day Parade, The Wearin' of the Green, that we began in 1986. Our day begins with breakfast with dignitaries from Ireland. The parade runs until 1 p.m. and we head to Ivar’s after that.” —Pat Shingleton, chief forecaster, WBRZ. [Click here for more on the Irish Parade.](#)

Old State Capitol

3] Don’t go all the way to Europe to see a castle; Baton Rouge boasts its own version of a medieval fortress in the Old State Capitol. Decide for yourself if Mark Twain was unfair to scoff at its architecture, and why international tourists seek it out. [Click here for more on the Old State Capitol.](#)

LSU Rural Life Museum

4] Stop and smell the roses at the LSU Rural Life Museum off Essen Lane, where you’ll see everything from creepy antique dental hardware to re-enactments of daily life in centuries past. [Click here for more.](#)

Shaw Center for the Arts

5] The Shaw Center for the Arts offers a feast for stomachs, eyes and ears, and as lagniappe, The Shaw Center offers one of the best Mississippi River views in town. [Click here for more on the Shaw Center.](#)

Tsunami at the Shaw Center for the Arts

6] Tsunami at the Shaw Center for the Arts serves sushi on the roof. [Click here for more on Tsunami.](#)

Manship Theater at the Shaw Center for the Arts

7] Top-notch entertainers perform in the intimate and modern Manship Theatre at The Shaw Center for the Arts. [Click here for more on the Manship Theater.](#)

Pastime Restaurant and Lounge

8] Try to eavesdrop on legislators over lunch at the Pastime Restaurant and Lounge. May we recommend the roast beef or oyster po-boy, or the zesty boudin pizza.

LSU Tailgate Parties

9] Tailgate all day before an LSU football game, literally. Wake up early for ESPN’s Gameday broadcast, barbecue around the Indian Mounds. [Click here for more on LSU.](#)

Pub Crawl: Wine Loft

10] Pub crawl through downtown, hitting spots such as the Wine Loft Wine Loft. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: Happy's Irish Pub

11] Pub Crawl Downtown: Happy's Irish Pub. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: Red Star

12] Pub Crawl Downtown: Red Star. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: The Vault

13] Pub Crawl Downtown: The Vault. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: The M Bar

14] Pub Crawl Downtown: The M Bar. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: Boudreaux & Thibodeaux

15] Pub Crawl Downtown: Boudreaux & Thibodeaux [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: the Roux House

16] Pub Crawl Downtown: the Roux House. [Click here for more.](#)

Pub Crawl: Hound Dog's

17] Pub Crawl Downtown: Hound Dog's.

Chelsea's Café

18] Get to Chelsea's Café before 10 p.m. on a Wednesday, order their decadent chicken-fried chicken and groove to the Michael Foster Project. Chelsea's remains true to its humble promise, "Good food, good music, good beer." [Click here for more.](#)

Live Music: Michael Foster Project

19] The Michael Foster Project plays at Chelsea's and other local spots. [Click here for more.](#)

Nottoway Historic Inn

20] Visit the largest plantation home in the South - Nottoway, just a short drive down LA 1 from Baton Rouge in White Castle. A recent, multi-million-dollar renovation has returned this White Castle to its former splendor. [Click here for more on Nottoway.](#)

The Chimes Bar

21] Stake out a stool at the bar at LSU institution The Chimes, order a tall beer on tap from the nation of your choice, feed your hunger with their unique blackened alligator and a cup of duck and sausage gumbo. The benediction served for brunch on Sunday mornings is a true blessing. [Click here for more on The Chimes.](#)

Highland Road Park

22] Looking for an adventure? Explore the rambling, rolling hills of Highland Road Park. Watch out for unidentified flying objects (courtesy of the Frisbee golfers), and the occasional cross-country runner in training. [Click here for Highland Road Park.](#)

Sports at Highland Road Park

23] At Highland Road Park you'll also find regular pick-up soccer games, and Baton Rouge's adult kickball league dusts up the diamonds on weeknights. [Click here for more.](#)

Louisiana State Museum

24] The Louisiana State Museum downtown highlights the state's unique culture and heritage. Free on the first Sunday of each month. [Click here for more.](#)

Pennington Balloon Championships

25] For high-flying family fun, visit the annual Pennington Balloon Championships in August. Pennington Balloon Championships. [Click here for more.](#)

Alligator Bayou

26] “When my family visits, I take them to see my friends at Alligator Bayou, in my opinion the best swamp tour around. It’s just across the East Baton Rouge Parish line in Ascension.” —Greg Meriwether, anchor, WAFB

LSU Museum of Art

27] Art galleries and the world-class LSU museum offer rotating glimpses of art and history. [LSU Art Gallery](#) [LSU Art Gallery](#), [Brunner Gallery](#), [LSU Museum of Art](#).

Breakfast at Frank's

28] Breakfast at Frank’s on Airline Highway ought to be an Olympic event. It’s worth the trip just for the biscuits. [Click here for more.](#)

Zeeland Street Market

29] Steal away for lunch at Zeeland Street Market and order Mama’s pot roast.

Vinh Phat Oriental Market

30] Spice up your pantry with a visit to Vinh Phat Oriental Market on Florida Boulevard, offering everything from Asian snacks to exotic produce, fish and meats. [Click here for more.](#)

Pho Quynh Vietnamese Restaurant

31] If you’re looking for some authentic and surprisingly inexpensive Asian gourmet cuisine, pop across the street for a steaming bowl of pho at Pho Quynh Vietnamese Restaurant.

Perkins Road dining & shopping

32] Shop, eat and be merry at the mom-and-pop businesses around the Perkins Road area.

Cottonwood Books

33] Browse first editions at Cottonwood Books.

Dine at Pinetta's

34] Dine in romantic seclusion at Pinetta’s.

Bolton's and Living Foods

35] Pick up your prescription at one of the last local drug stores, Bolton’s. Also grab some health food at Living Foods.

Martinis at Duvic's

36] Cap off the evening with a chocolate martini at Duvic’s.

Battle of Jackson Crossroads

37] Ride the historic train—but watch out for Yankee spies—and behold more than 500 volunteers reenacting the Battle of Jackson Crossroads. Held the last weekend of April in Jackson, the annual Civil War weekend includes cavalry and infantry competitions plus an interactive 1860s camp and market. [Click here for more.](#)

Shopping at Time Warp and Honeymoon Bungalow

38] Government Street offers the chance to rediscover forgotten fashions at Time Warp Time Warp and classic house wares at Honeymoon Bungalow. [Click here for more.](#)

Crawfish Boil

39] Spread a bunch of newspaper across a picnic table, get a large pot, the "right" seasoning, several bags of crawfish and an ice-chest of beer and cold drinks, and you have the makings of a great spring party. There are many different opinions of the exact seasonings and what vegetables to throw in the pot, but throughout the spring there are a lot of opportunities to try out the different methods.

Southern University Museum of Art

40] Brush up on your knowledge of African and African-American art with a visit to the Southern University Museum of Art. [Click here for more.](#)

Southern University live mascot

41] After visiting the Southern University of Art, peel off for a side trip to see Lacumba, Southern's live jaguar mascot. If it's late in the afternoon, treat yourself to sunset on Scott's Bluff, the best natural view of the Mississippi River in all of Baton Rouge. [Click here for more.](#)

Bistro Byronz

42] Shake up your dinner routine and order decadent blue cheese chips and a bottle of Bordeaux at Bistro Byronz. If you can snag seats on the patio, you've got it made in the shade. [Click here for more.](#)

Radio jazz show

43] It's the longest-running jazz show in Baton Rouge for a reason. Zia "The Cat" Tammami's Spontaneous Combustion on KLSU 91.1 FM is the perfect soundtrack to easy Sunday mornings, since 1975. [Click here for more.](#)

St. Francisville

44] Explore St. Francisville. [Click here for more.](#)

Haunted Myrtles Plantation

45] Take the edge off a trip to the uber-haunted Myrtles Plantation with a sandwich from Magnolia Café. [Click here for more.](#)

Downtown holiday festivities

46] Join in on the holiday festivities downtown. Watch Mayor Kip Holden light the city's Christmas tree during the annual Festival of Lights, and enjoy the parade. [Click here for more.](#)

The Nutcracker at the River Center

47] Catch the Baton Rouge Ballet's performance of The Nutcracker at the River Center. [Click here for more.](#)

Shopping at Imelda's

48] Behold as grown women wrangle over leather sling backs at the semi-annual tent sales at Imelda's Fine Shoes. Deep discounts on designer shoes always attract a crowd. [Click here for more.](#)

Greek and Lebanese dining

49] Baton Rouge is a veritable mecca of Greek and Lebanese restaurants. So if you're jonesing for gyros and hummus, your choices abound: Albasha, Atcha, Akasha, Almaza, Arzi's, Serop's, to name a few. Albasha, [click here.](#) Arzi's, [click here.](#) Serop's, [click here.](#)

BREC Baton Rouge Zoo

50] The BREC Baton Rouge Zoo offers seasonal family packages and hosts special events such as Halloween's Boo at the Zoo. [Click here for more.](#)

Live After 5

51] Skip out early from work on Friday afternoon and head downtown for Baton Rouge's official street party, Live After Five. These fall and spring concerts are free and feature some of the area's best live music. [Live After Five, click for more.](#)

Highland Cemetery

52] Just outside the south gates of LSU on Oxford Street lies Highland Cemetery, the city's oldest resting place. Don't get spooked. It's a great place to practice your photography skills and pay your respects to those lost in the war—the Revolutionary War, that is.

Raising Cane's

53] Order a box of Raising Cane's chicken fingers, no slaw, extra toast with an ice-cold Barq's root beer at the site that started it all on Highland Road just outside the north gates of LSU. [Click here for more.](#)

Great Wall of China

54] Test the limits of a Styrofoam container by cramming in as much sweet and sour chicken and fried rice as you possibly can at Great Wall Chinese Restaurant.

Cake Palace

55] Eat a sweet and inexpensive breakfast at the Cake Palace. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at George's

56] Order a burger at George's under the Perkins Road Overpass, and spend an hour counting the dollar bills on the ceiling. [Click here for more.](#)

State Capitol Dragway

57] Catch the exciting drag races at State Capitol Dragway in Port Allen. [Click here for more.](#)

Amusement Parks

58] Douse the summer's heat at Blue Bayou Water Park, or brave the roller coasters at Dixie Landing. [Click here for more.](#)

Old and New State Capitol

59] "For things to do and see there is the spiral staircase in the Old State Capitol, the huge Chambered Nautilus fossil in the new State Capitol, the old doctor's building where Carl Weiss—alleged assassin of Huey Long—had his office on Third Street." —Terry Kennedy, professor of mass communication, Southern University [Click here for more.](#)

Craigslist

60] Check out the local missed connection section on Craigslist and see if that person you saw at the grocery store noticed you, too. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Galatoire's Bistro

61] Get a taste of New Orleans without making the drive at Galatoire's Bistro. We also hear it's a great place for stargazing—Susan Sarandon is a big fan of the crabmeat sardou. [Click here for more.](#)

Live Music: David St. Romain

62] Catch Baton Rouge's own "Nashville Star," David St. Romain David St. Romain- [click here](#), at The Varsity.

Live Music at The Varsity

63] The Varsity hosts a variety of local favorites. [Click here for more.](#)

Local Chef - Holly Clegg

64] Pick up an award-winning cookbook by local chef Holly Clegg. [Click here for more.](#)

Local Chef - John Folse

65] Pick up an award-winning cookbook by local chef John Folse. [Click here for more.](#)

Thee Heavenly Donut

66] For the most decadent donuts south of the Pearly Gates, take the sojourn to Thee Heavenly Donut for a chocolate-filled. But get there early because they will sell out of these babies. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Louis DeAngelo's

67] The 24 handmade, oven-baked calzones at Louis DeAngelo's restaurants are legendary. Be a "Picasso" and create your own, too. [Click here for more.](#)

Mid City shopping

68] Shop with the merchants of Mid City and check out some great local art during the annual Art Hop or White Light Night. Well-known artists and newcomers offer the perfect blend of local talent. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Heads and Tails

69] Sample some of the best gumbo at Heads and Tails. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Mike Anderson's

70] Go old school with the fresh and crispy fried seafood platter at Mike Anderson's. [Click here for more.](#)

Laser Light Show - Irene W. Pennington Planetarium

71] Check out the Cosmic Rock Hall of Fame laser light show at the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium at LASM. Totally far out, man. [Click here for more.](#)

Now & Then Museum

72] Get a refresher on how far we've come at the Odell S. Williams Now & Then Museum. [Click here for more.](#)

Dance - Of Moving Colors Productions

73] Watch some modern dance performances by Of Moving Colors Productionst. [Click here for more.](#)

Dance - Cangelosi Dance Project

74] Watch some modern dance performances by the Cangelosi Dance Project. [Click here for more.](#)

History at Port Hudson

75] Site of the longest siege in American history, Port Hudson pays homage to the 7,500 Confederate soldiers who held off some 40,000 Union soldiers for more than two months. Learn about the siege at the Port Hudson Commemorative Area. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Beach

76] Watch the waves come in or skip rocks at Baton Rouge Beach on the LSU lakes. [Click here for more.](#)

WordPlay Teen Poetry

77] Teens, stop telling your muse to be quiet and get in on the WordPlay Teen Poetry Slam Festival at the Shaw Center. [Click here for more.](#)

Soccer

78] Soccer, you know that game the rest of the world is crazy about? Baton Rouge has its own competitive adult team now, the Capitals. Drop by a game at Olympia Stadium in the summer and watch tomorrow's stars. And join in the chant: Caaaaaaa-pitals! [Click here for more.](#)

Velodrome Skate Park

79] Grab a Mountain Dew and your blades and hit the Velodrome Skate Park for an extreme afternoon.

Louisiana Book Festival

80] Put on your tweed jacket and get literary at the annual Louisiana Book Festival on the grounds of the State Capitol. Talk to authors about their works, and stop by the 225 tent. [Click here for more.](#)

Highland Coffees

81] Take your laptop along for an afternoon of Web surfing, people watching and java sipping at Highland Coffees. For a change of scenery step out onto the patio. [Click here for more.](#)

Sunday in the Park

82] "I love to go to Sunday in the Park. It's Baton Rouge at its finest." —Heather Day, owner, Red Cake Event Planning. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Symphony

83] Splurge on good tickets so you sit close to the stage for a rousing performance by the Baton Rouge Symphony. [Click here for more.](#)

Skate Galaxy

84] Skate Galaxy on Old Jefferson has skating, laser tag, rock climbing and an arcade—the perfect place for a birthday party. [Click here for more.](#)

Radio Show - Murphy, Sam & Jodi

85] Tune into a morning show that the whole family can listen to without earmuffs with the Murphy, Sam and Jodi show on The River 96.1 FM. [Click here for more.](#)

USS Kidd & Veterans Memorial

86] Pay your respects to the American armed forces at the USS Kidd & Veterans Memorial. You can explore the ship from bow to stern and learn about the men who served on the ship, including a handful who gave their lives in a deadly attack on the ship. [Click here for more.](#)

Fourth of July Fireworks

87] Ring in the Fourth of July by watching fireworks on the levee. When they reflect off the river, it's like getting two shows in one. [Click here for more.](#)

Cigars

88] Choose from Havana House of Cigars, Churchill's or Don Juan Cigar Co., all within a few miles on Jefferson and puff a super-premium Davidoff or Arturo Fuente. [Click here for more.](#)
Churchill's, [click here.](#)

North Gate Tavern

89] Mosey down Chimes Street for campus counter-culture and rock out to local noise at North Gate Tavern. [Click here for more.](#)

Louisiana Art & Science Museum

90] Take the kids to the LASM for a blast touring the Discovery Depot. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Louie's Café

91] Do late night at Louie's Café, the venerable LSU short-order all-night grill. A decadent omelet at 1 a.m., washed down with an ice-cold longneck, and super hash browns for dessert!

Louisiana State Capitol and Grounds

92] Stick your finger in the bullet holes in the wall of the State Capitol where Huey P. Long was shot. For a more serene experience, stroll the hedged gardens or explore Armory Park. [Click here for more.](#)

Radio Show - Tabby Thomas

93] Take a Saturday afternoon drive toward Plank Road and tune your radio to Tabby Thomas' blues show on WBRH 90.3 FM. [Click here for more.](#) Tabby Thomas', [click here.](#)

Krispy Kreme donuts

94] Grab some freshly made Krispy Kreme donuts at the Plank Road bakery. [Click here for more.](#)

Tony's Seafood

95] Finish up your afternoon drive picking up some spicy boiled crawfish for dinner at Tony's Seafood. [Click here for more.](#)

Downtown Hotels

96] With new hotels in the area, taking in events and exploring downtown is even easier.

Abita Brewery

97] Mark the passing of the seasons with a tall, frosty Abita seasonal brew, the nearest thing to a Baton Rouge hometown brewery. [Click here for more about Abita.](#)

Superior Grill

98] Mingle with some singles Thursday nights at Superior Grill. People-watching with one of the best margaritas in town adds to the fiesta. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Gallery

99] On the first Wednesday of every month the Baton Rouge Gallery holds its opening receptions, a good chance to enjoy great local art with free food and wine. [Click here for more.](#)

Old Governor's Mansion Tour

100] Tour the Old Governor's Mansion, the "house that Huey built." [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Fleur de Lis Pizza

101] It may take more than an hour if they're busy, but a pie at Fleur de Lis Pizza is a tradition worth the wait. Pass the time by sipping a beer from the tiny glasses that accompany every bottle. [Click here for more.](#)

Walking around the LSU lakes

102] "Walking the dogs around the LSU lakes." —Leanne McClurg Cambric, artist

Hiking at Tunica Hills

103] Dust off your hiking boots and give your legs a good stretch on the Tunica Hills' hiking trails, 45 minutes north of the city. If you go in the rainy months you can see a half-dozen natural waterfalls. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Observatory

104] Get starry-eyed at the Baton Rouge observatory off Highland Road on clear Friday nights with an expert on hand to answer all your galactic questions. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Poor Boy Lloyd's

105] Tuck in to Poor Boy Lloyd's downtown for a shrimp po-boy. They'll fix you right up.

Spanish Town Mardi Gras parade

106] Get in touch with your inner "flamingeaux" at the Spanish Town Mardi Gras parade. [Click here for more.](#)

Picnic on the Levee

107] Head south on River Road at sunset with your sweetheart, set up a picnic and watch the cows on the levee doing whatever it is that cows do. [Click here for more.](#)

Horseback Riding at Farr Park

108] Saddle up for a horseback ride at Farr Park on River Road. Yee-haw! [Click here for more.](#)

Dining and live music at Teddy's Juke Joint

109] Head to Teddy's Juke Joint on a Sunday afternoon for a little soul food and a lot of live blues music. You never know who might show up. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Blues Week

110] Baton Rouge Blues Week is the real deal. With legends like Buddy Guy and Henry Gray getting their start in local clubs across the Capital City, it's no surprise Baton Rouge is still singing the blues. [Click here for more.](#)

Angola Prison Rodeo

111] Scratch your honky-tonk itch and watch inmates nearly kill themselves at the Angola Prison Rodeo, just an hour from Baton Rouge. [Click here for more.](#)

Kenilworth Neighborhood Luminaires

112] Pile the family into the car and take a slow tour at dusk of the glowing luminaires in the Kenilworth neighborhood. It's a long-standing Christmas season tradition. [Click here for more.](#)

BabelCon

113] Dress in costume at the BabelCon science fiction convention across the river in West Baton Rouge Parish. [Click here for more.](#)

Baton Rouge Azaleas

114] Stop and smell the flowers—literally. Few blossoms are more resplendent than Baton Rouge’s azaleas in spring.

Baton Rouge Casinos

115] Roll the dice at one of Baton Rouge’s riverboat casinos.

American Market

116] Eat what the students eat—pop in to American Market on Nicholson (LSU students call it “AM Mart”) for the closest thing to an official Tiger sandwich, AM Mart’s spicy Cajun turkey sandwich.

Dining at Brandt's Maisonette

117] For some upscale French cuisine, duck into the cozy cottage on Government Street known as Brandt’s Maisonette. Speaking of duck, theirs is divine, as are the sweetbreads.

Juban's Bar

118] Meet that special someone after work at Juban’s for romantic conversation over a key lime martini in the atrium bar. If you stick around for dinner try a bison ribeye topped with anything from crawfish to lobster tail, or Juban’s new dish, “two birds,” roasted muscovy duck and boneless, stuffed quail.

[Click here for more about Juban's.](#)

Baton Rouge Little Theater

119] Buy season tickets for the Baton Rouge Little Theater, and you’ll always have plans. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at The Cabin

120] Head out to Burnside and have dinner at The Cabin. Sample some traditional River Road fare and fun Cajun kitsch. [Click here for more.](#)

Calandro's Market

121] Before Whole Foods, Fresh or Maxwell’s markets, Calandro’s brought gourmet groceries to Baton Rouge. They still offer an impressive selection of fine wines, imported cheeses and gourmet items. [Click here for more.](#)

LSU Parade Grounds

122] Grab your Frisbee and a bottle of water and stake out a spot on the LSU Parade Grounds for a great afternoon. Bring a friend, unless you plan to toss a boomerang. [Click here for more.](#)

Magnolia Mound

123] “Learn a little Baton Rouge history while strolling through the exquisite historic grounds at Magnolia Mound Plantation. It’s a great place with a lot of history.” —Mary Frey Eaton, philanthropist. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining at Coffee Call

124] Warning to out-of-towners: Leave your black shirt at home if you plan on biting into one of Coffee Call's powdered sugar-dusted beignets. Oh, and don’t inhale.

Inga's Subs

125] Inga's subs is an LSU North Gate legend, serving students and the rest of the community for the past 25 years. Go by for lunch at Inga's on Chimes Street, and you are likely to have your sub made by Inga herself. [Click here for more.](#)

Ambrosia Bakery

126] Be the hero of any birthday party by showing up with a strawberry cake from Ambrosia Bakery. [Click here for more.](#)

The Cateria

127] The Foghorn Leghorn at The Cateria is quite possibly the best chicken sandwich in the city, and on Friday afternoons enjoy live entertainment as Jimmy Ott broadcasts his local sports show from the Perkins Road eatery. If you're lucky, Mike from Plaquemine might call in. [Click here for more about The Cateria.](#)

Art Melt

128] A feast for the senses and the city's most popular art show, the annual Art Melt has everything from music to food to visual and performance art. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - TJ Ribs

129] The countless LSU memorabilia at TJ Ribs will keep the kiddies busy while you savor succulent ribs. And the wait staff is so smart they can write upside down.

LSU Swine Palace

130] Take in a play or performance at LSU Swine Palace for a little culture in an old pig barn. [Click here for more.](#)

Monjunis Italian Café & Grocery

131] The lasagna at Monjunis Italian Café & Grocery is to die for. The meatballs are full of flavor and come in one size: large. [Click here for more.](#)

Garden District

132] Take a leisurely drive through the Garden District and enjoy the cool old homes beneath the stately oaks. [Click here for more.](#)

Downtown

133] "I definitely couldn't pass on bringing out-of-town guests to George's for a shrimp po-boy, to CC's Coffee House for their coffee, or to Frostop for one of their root beer floats and some onion rings. As for nightlife, '80s night at Spanish Moon is a must, and Red Star for its inviting jukebox and eclectic patrons, or Duvic's for the stiff drinks and relaxing atmosphere." —Chris Culotta (aka DJ Bird), host, Star 80 at Spanish Moon. [Click for more.](#)

Houmas House

134] A mint julep and a promenade through the grounds of Houmas House along the banks of the Mississippi in Ascension Parish are enough to make anyone feel classic Southern. The plantation's renovation is tasteful and beautifully done, and the food is even better. [Click here for more.](#)

Live Music - Southern University

135] Catch a performance by some of Southern University music students. It doesn't cost much, if anything. [Click here for more.](#)

Cycle the City

136] Hit the streets—even the busy ones—and cycle the city the last Friday of every month with fellow cyclists as they raise awareness and teach others how to share the road during the city’s version of Critical Mass. Listen for shouts of “Yeah bike!”

Red Stick Thunder competition

137] Cheer on your favorite local high school marching band as the best in Baton Rouge battle it out for bragging rights at the annual Red Stick Thunder competition.

Ann Connelly Fine Art

138] Ann Connelly Fine Art is a great place to see the best in contemporary art by some of the city’s more progressive artists. [Click here for more on Ann.](#)

LSU School of Art Gallery

139] See various student exhibits at the LSU School of Art Gallery at Foster Hall. These budding artists put on a heck of a show, and it’s free. [Click here for more.](#)

Hill Memorial Library

140] Delve into first-hand accounts of the state’s history at Hill Memorial Library on the LSU campus. [Click here for more.](#)

Varsity Sports

141] Show off your outdoor prowess with a “Run Hard, Live Easy” T-shirt from Varsity Sports and join a running group. [Click here for more.](#)

Botanic Gardens

142] Let your love of flowers blossom at Independence Park's botanic gardens. [Click here for more.](#)

Leo's Iceland Skating

143] Strap on a pair of ice skates at Leo’s Iceland.

Oak Alley Plantation

144] Step back in time at Oak Alley Plantation in St. James Parish. You can even rent a cabin and stay the night. [Click here for more.](#)

Music Treasure Chest

145] Stop in to the Music Treasure Chest on Acadian at Government. Be sure your turntable and needle are in good shape because with thousands of albums to choose from, you’re going home with something. [Click here for more.](#)

Downtown Arts Market

146] Peruse local art outside at the downtown Arts Market, the first Saturday of every month next to the Red Stick Farmers Market. [Click here for more.](#)

Baum's Fine Pastries

147] Bite into LSU pride with some purple and gold petit fours from Baum’s Fine Pastries. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Voodoo BBQ

148] It's hard to get excited about eating your greens, but the bewitching mustard greens at Voodoo BBQ are out of this world. The tender, smoked meats aren't bad either. [Click here for more.](#)

Pentagon Barracks

149] See what drew historic figures like Robert E. Lee, George Custer, Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln to visit the historic Pentagon Barracks on State Capitol Drive. [Click here for more.](#)

BREC Golf Courses

150] Hit the links at one of BREC's many public courses such as Webb Park Golf Course, which underwent a major overhaul. [Click here for more.](#)

Mellow Mushroom Trivia Night

151] Put those useless facts you picked up from Seinfeld to good use at trivia night Wednesdays at Mellow Mushroom. [Click here for more about Mellow.](#)

Dining - The Silver Spoon

152] Join the "ladies who lunch" at The Silver Spoon.

Daiquiri Café

153] Knock that chip off your shoulder with an icy attitude adjustment from Daiquiri Café.

Santa Maria Golf Course

154] "A solitary round of golf at Santa Maria near dusk in autumn. I actually prefer to play alone." —Brace Godfrey Jr., chairman, Cyntreniks Santa Maria. [Click here for more.](#)

The Happy Note

155] Start the evening off on the right note with a stiff drink from the Happy Note.

Live Music - Phil Brady's

156] They've heard of the blues jam at Phil Brady's in Europe. It's featured the likes of Oscar Davis, James Johnson, Larry Garner, Elvin Killerbee and Rudy Richard. Come on—it's world famous. [Click here for more.](#)

Live Music - Benjy Davis Project

157] See local Southern rock outfit Benjy Davis Project live. [Click here for more.](#)

Paris Parker's Aveda Salon

158] Relax after a tough week with a massage from Paris Parker's Aveda salon. [Click here for more.](#)

Radio Show - Walton & Johnson

159] Listen to unabashed LSU fans Walton & Johnson during your morning commute on Eagle 98.1 FM. [Click here for more.](#)

Laser Tag of Baton Rouge

160] Remember laser tag? Heck yes, you do. Laser Tag of Baton Rouge is still rocking, baby. [Click here for more.](#)

Race for the Cure

161] Get a workout for a good cause at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Mestizo Louisiana-Mexican Restaurant

162] Whatever they do at Mestizo Louisiana-Mexican Restaurant seems to be working. Order either of their twin seafood quesos and you'll see what we mean. [Click here for more.](#)

River Center Broadway Shows

163] Get a taste of Broadway without traveling to the Big Apple by catching one of the touring shows at the River Center Theatre for Performing Arts. [Click here for more.](#)

Bonfires on the Levee

164] Watch the bonfires on the levee in St. James Parish, a Christmastime family tradition. bonfires on the levee- <http://www.stjamesparish.com/local/localinfo/BONFIRES/Bonfir1.htm>

Dining - DiGiulio Brothers

165] Join your friends for a bottle of Chianti and make sure one of you orders the veal avezzano at DiGiulio Brothers, one of our original authentic neighborhood Italian restaurants. [Click here for more.](#)

Outdoor Film Viewing

166] The way silent films were always meant to be viewed—outdoors on a giant screen in City Park with an accompanying band. We think so, at least. [Click here for more.](#)

Old Bogan Fire Station

167] Light your fire for local history by touring the Old Bogan Fire Station downtown on Laurel Street, home of the Arts Council community gallery. [Click here for more.](#)

State Archives

168] Climb your family tree among the records in the State Archives. [Click here for more.](#)

Amite River Tubing

169] Tubing along the Amite River is the ultimate way to chill out during the humid Louisiana summer.

LSU Dairy Store

170] Treat your sweet tooth with a cup of purple and gold-swirled “tigerbite” ice cream at the LSU Dairy Store. [Click here for more.](#)

Fluker's Cricket Farm

171] Ever wonder where those crickets you use for bait come from? Tour Fluker's Cricket Farm in Port Allen and find out. [Click here for more.](#)

Poplar Grove Plantation

172] Poplar Grove Plantation was moved 200 miles by barge on the Mississippi River. Once a pavilion at the World's Fair, this stately home is furnished with museum-quality antiques and art. [Click here for more.](#)

Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

173] Visit Huey Long's old haunt the Hotel Heidelberg, now known as the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center. Order a Ramos Gin Fizz and live as though every man were a king. [Click here for more.](#)

Bowling at Don Carter's

174] Make like The Dude and head to Don Carter's for a couple of frames of bowling. Wednesday nights offers low prices—perfect for a cheap date. [Click here for more.](#)

Greenwood Park Disc Golf

175] Pick up a few discs and make it out to Greenwood Park in Baker for 18 holes of disc golf. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Hello Sushi

176] Jump continents and step into the world of Japanese pop culture at Hello Sushi. Try a decadent paradise roll—avocado, coconut fried shrimp topped with mango. [Click here for more.](#)

Pick-Your-Own Produce

177] Pick your own vegetables and herbs at Port Hudson Organics in Zachary. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining: Jay's BBQ

178] A Baton Rouge institution, Jay's BBQ has been family-owned and operated since 1954. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining: Snowflake Bar-B-Que

179] “Walk up and order some ribs from Snowflake Bar-B-Que” —Julie Baxter, attorney, Moore, Walters & Thompson. [Click here for more.](#)

Kleinpeter Farm Dairy Tour

180] Tour the Kleinpeter Dairy and farm. You can probably milk them for some free samples, plus they're making ice cream now.

CC's Community Coffee House

181] Pick up a Mochasippi at CC's Community Coffee House and stick around while you read a magazine. Hey wait a minute—you could read 225! [Click here for more about CC's.](#)

Dining - Parrain's

182] Order the thinly sliced catfish at Parrain's. Crisp, crunchy and delicious. [Click here for more.](#)

Bouncing Tigers

183] Hop over to Bouncing Tigers and let the kids go wild on 11,000 square feet of inflatable fun. [Click here for more.](#)

Krewe of Orion Parade

184] Catch the Krewe of Orion, the first traditional nighttime Mardi Gras parade in the city, as it rolls through downtown. [Click here for more about the Krewe.](#)

Dining - Louisiana Lagniappe

185] Louisiana Lagniappe offers a little flair to classic Cajun food. Order the Louisianne. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Maison Lacour

186] For a cozy atmosphere and fine French dining, make a reservation at Maison Lacour and savor Chef Michael Jetty's phenomenal Soupe Jacqueline, a velouté of brie cheese, jumbo lump crab and asparagus. Délicieux! [Click here for more.](#)

Live Music - Tabby Thomas

187] Tabby's Blues Box may have closed, but if you're lucky you might get to see Tabby Thomas rockin' the local club scene.

Calvin's Bocage Supermarket

188] Pick up the popular chicken salad at Calvin's Bocage Supermarket. [Click here for more.](#)

Matherne's Supermarket

189] Wine dinners at Matherne's Supermarket are a well-kept secret. A gourmet meal, sumptuous wines at affordable prices. And it's locally owned. [Click here for more on Matherne's.](#)

Dining - Piccadilly

190] Hop in line at the Piccadilly on Sunday afternoons and join the dolled-up church-goers for carrot souffle.

Radio Show - Jim Engster

191] Hold your talk radio to a higher standard, the kind host Jim Engster can live up to with his morning show that airs on WRKF 89.3 FM. Call in and test his steel-trap memory for birthdates. [Click here for more.](#)

Bill Evans' grave

192] Play Live at the Village Vanguard in the car and make a peaceful pilgrimage to Roselawn Cemetery, the final resting place of jazz pianist Bill Evans. He was one of America's most original and important musicians, and his humble North Street grave is this city's small sliver of jazz greatness. While you're there you can pay your respects to the late U.S. Sen. Russell Long. [Click here for more about Bill.](#)

River Center Broadway Shows

193] Splurge on good seats for a big-name act at the River Center. [Click here for more.](#)

Memorial Tower

194] Bring your sweetheart to Memorial Tower at midnight for a romantic kiss. [Click here for more.](#)

Story Time at the Library

195] Parents, give your kids' imagination a thorough workout during story time once a week at an East Baton Rouge Parish Library branch. [Click here for more about Story Time.](#)

Louisiana Earth Day

196] Actually, it is pretty easy—and fun—being green. Join the Louisiana Earth Day festivities. [Click here for more.](#)

Mount Hope Plantation

197] The only remaining farm house of its kind in the Baton Rouge area, Mount Hope Plantation is a superb example of 19th century architecture. [Click here for more.](#)

Casa De Sue Winery Tour

198] About 45 minutes out of Baton Rouge, Casa De Sue Winery and Vineyard offers a tour. [Click here for more.](#)

Atchafalaya Basin Tour

199] In White Castle, take a tour of the Atchafalaya Basin from the comfort of a covered boat.

Louisiana Mud Paintings

200] Remember when Mom told you not to play in the dirt? Henry Neubig has turned playing with mud into an art form that captures the beauty of South Louisiana at Louisiana Mud Paintings. [Click here for more about mud painting.](#)

Cat Island Bird Refuge

201] How ironic is it that there is a bird refuge area on a place called Cat Island? Check out the great wildlife and 1,000-year-old baldcypress-tupelo trees in the Felicianas. [Click here for more.](#)

Bike Trails

202] Do a little adventure riding on the Hooper Road and Comite Park bike trails.

Tickfaw State Park

203] See some of Louisiana's flora and fauna from the boardwalks of Tickfaw State Park in Livingston Parish. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Brew-Bacher's

204] Hometown favorite Brew-Bacher's does sandwiches and fries well, especially the French dip. [Click here for more on Brewbachers.](#)

Hilltop Arboretum

205] Tour the 14 serene, picturesque acres of Louisiana native trees and shrubs at the Hilltop Arboretum on Highland Road. Hilltop Arboretum, [click here for more.](#)

Battle of Baton Rouge

206] See where the historic Battle of Baton Rouge was fought in what is now Magnolia Cemetery. [Click here for more.](#)

Fred's Bar & Grill

207] Chow down on a game-day steak from Fred's Bar & Grill in Tigerland. Stick around for live music under the big top tent. [Click here for more on Fred's.](#)

Denham Springs Antiquing

208] Go antiquing in Denham Springs at the 25 antique stores packed into two blocks. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Roberto's River Road Restaurant

209] Roberto's River Road Restaurant is one of the best-kept secrets around. Leave the city limits and savor Creole cooking along historic River Road.

Gonzales Splash Pads

210] Cool the kids off at the splash pads next to city hall in Gonzales. Watch out for your buddies because the water cannons don't all fire at once. Dry off, then go for a walk among hundreds of stuffed trophy animals at Cabela's.

Hollydays Holiday Market

211] Get your Christmas shopping done early while supporting the Baton Rouge Junior League at the annual Hollydays holiday market. [Click here for more.](#)

Mike the Tiger

212] Say hello to Mike the Tiger and gear up for Saturday night in Tiger Stadium. [Click here for more about Mike.](#)

Compact Disc Store

213] The Compact Disc Store on Jefferson Highway is one of the last locally owned music stores with mellow, knowledgeable employees who'll patiently listen to you hum that song from the radio and track down hard-to-find records.

Radio Show - Clarence Buggs Show

214] Tune in to the Clarence Buggs talk radio show on WJBO 1150 AM for some spicy drive-time invective. [Click here for more.](#)

Mississippi River Bridge

215] Next time you get stuck in traffic on the new Mississippi River Bridge, just take a deep breath and enjoy because it's the best view of Baton Rouge's skyline.

West Baton Rouge Museum & Doug's Pizza

216] After history lessons at the West Baton Rouge Museum, swing by Doug's Pizza, the Fleur de Lis of the west side, for a slice and some old-school arcade games. [Click here for more.](#)

American Indian Settlements

217] Drive through Plaquemine, which has American Indian settlements more than 1,000 years old. You'll see the magnificent architecture, the persimmon trees along the bayou and, if you look closely enough, a dressed-to-kill gorilla. [Click here for more.](#)

Bayou Shimmy

218] The hips don't lie at Bayou Shimmy. Take a bellydance class and tribal drumming lesson any day of the week. [Click here for more.](#)

Flea Market of Louisiana

219] Find the best offbeat gifts, have a beer and karaoke at the Flea Market of Louisiana in Prairieville.

Metro Council Meeting

220] Experience the circus-like atmosphere of a Metro Council meeting. May it upset you enough to get more involved in the city's politics. [Click here for more about the meetings.](#)

Music & Shopping at Bear Creek Saloon

221] Go Urban Cowboy at Bear Creek Saloon in Montpelier, northeast of Denham Springs, where you can buy western wear, eat a mighty steak and boot-scoot all night long to a live country band. [Click here for more.](#)

Mall of Louisiana

222] Take the kids for a ride on the food court's carousel at the Mall of Louisiana, where two bucks can still buy a kid a little taste of magic. [Click here for more.](#)

Dining - Boutin's

223] Great food, cold beer and a Cajun dance party every night but Sunday, Boutin's is your Cajun connection. [Click here for more.](#)

Vintage & antique shopping on Government Street

224] Government Street offers the ultimate in vintage and antique shopping. One of the highlights is rummaging through architectural gems at Circa 1857. [Click here for more.](#)

Dearman's

225] Grab an ice-cream float, a classic burger and fries at Dearman's, a 50-year tradition in Bocage Village.