

IBERIA PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU - What's new 2022

IberiaTravel.com

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EVENTS

The Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival is turning 80 in 2023.

The festival has been held every year since 1937 except during World War II, along with absence in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. Held on the last full weekend of September, the five-day event honors Louisiana's prestigious sugar cane industry and brings together sugar producing parishes with activities for the whole family.

The celebration kicks off with carnival rides, followed by the art and photography show and the livestock show on Thursday. Then comes the typical religious devotion of this area with the traditional Blessing of the Crops on Friday morning. Friday is the day of parades with the Farmer's Parade followed by the Berry Queen's Candy Toss parade. Saturday morning kicks off with a 5k run and the Children's Parade. The main event, the Fais Do Do, where you can find food and entertainment, lights up downtown New Iberia on Friday and Saturday night.

Receptions in honor of King Sucrose and festival honorees continue throughout the weekend with choosing of the new Queen Sugar and the Coronation Ball on Saturday evening. The last day of the festival is indeed the sweetest, with the new Queen Sugar and King Sucrose reigning over Sugarland in the Royalty Parade on Sunday to give a final touch of pomp and ceremony to yet another Sugar Cane Festival.

ADDRESS: downtown New Iberia

CONTACT: Lisa Lourd

lisa.lourd@gmail.com

<http://www.hisugar.org>

DINING

A. Church Alley Café & Bistro

Craft coffee shop in the heart of downtown New Iberia in the Historic Church Alley serving locally-roasted coffee beverages, small bites, and pastries with a relaxed vibe.

ADDRESS: 116 Church Alley, New Iberia

CONTACT: Mark and Nicole Delahoussaye
(337) 608-8292
cafe@churchalley-newiberia.com
<https://churchalley-newiberia.com>

B. Cane River Pecan Company's Pie Bar

This fall, Cane River Pecan Company plans to open their new 55 seat, 1,800 square foot Pie Bar. Pie Bar will offer gourmet coffee choices, a broad selection of fresh sweet, savory and seasonal pie, a variety of pastries and breads along with soups, sandwiches and salads. Don't forget house-made ice creams too.

Check out the space at
<https://www.facebook.com/CaneRiverPecanCompany/posts/pfbid04MB9Jjo4mcbSLGoczBfkG52SkKtVxAWhNnTxMvoyzvRkDNy81cMDWUha1oD9bVKTl>

ADDRESS: 254 W. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Jady Regard
(800) 293-8710
Jady@caneriverpecan.com
<https://www.caneriverpecan.com>

C. RocStar Café

Owner Mace Broussard turned his food truck business into a fun, music-themed diner on Main Street New Iberia. He serves up soul food plate lunches and the famous RocStar Burger.

ADDRESS: 241 W. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Mace Broussard
(337) 608-8267

maceobroussard@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/rocstarcafe>

Tik Tok foodie sensation Gerald Gruenig recently visited them for his Acadiana Eats show: <https://www.klfy.com/video/acadiana-eats-rocstar-cafe-pkg/7714009/>

D. Village Deaux

Rachel and Drake Pothier, the owners of Village Deaux in Maurice, opened a second donut shop at Cajun Glaze Donuts' old location in New Iberia. They serve fresh donuts, kolaches, king cake and savory stuffed breads in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

ADDRESS: 724 E. Admiral Doyle Dr., New Iberia

CONTACT: Rachel and Drake Pothier
(337) 256-8781
info@villagedeaux.com
<https://www.villagedeaux.com>

E. Crawfish and Geaux

This new seafood place in New Iberia offers boiled crawfish, shrimp, snow crab, blue crabs and turkey neck.

ADDRESS: 516 S. Lewis St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Nithy Luangphone
(337) 380-4460
crawfishandgeaux@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/crawfishandgeaux>

F. Kailan Seafood

Located in Seafood Connection II's old building, the restaurant serves up fresh boiled seafood, fried chicken, plate lunches, poboys and Asian cuisine.

ADDRESS: 1120 Center St., New Iberia

CONTACT:
(337) 365-3448

<https://www.facebook.com/Kailan-Seafood-111566591408848>

THINGS TO DO

A. Bayou Teche National Scenic Byway

The Bayou Teche National Scenic Byway received the prestigious designation of National Scenic Byway by the Federal Highway Administration in February 2021.

Located along the Bayou Teche National Water and Paddle Trail and LA 182 in the heart of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area, the byway is home to an incredibly beautiful natural landscape and winds through four parishes, St. Landry, St. Martin, Iberia and St. Mary.

With an authentic, walk-able oil rig; stately historic homes; swamp and paddle tours; and tasty Cajun fare, the scenic self-guided tour has something for everyone from the history buff to the avid outdoorsman.

Download the byway map or pick it up at our welcome center and get ready for your next road trip.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/things-do/itineraries/bayou-teche-scenic-byway>

B. Bayou Teche National Paddle Trail Paddling Planner and Maps

We worked with the TECHE Project and the St. Landry, St. Martin and St. Mary Parish tourism bureaus to produce a paddling planner to help kayak enthusiasts explore the Bayou Teche National Paddle Trail. The planner can be downloaded at

<https://www.techeproject.org/bayou-teche-paddle-trail/paddle-planner>

Trail maps can also be downloaded or purchased at

<https://www.techeproject.org/bayou-teche-paddle-trail/map>

CONTACT: Erin Bass (TECHE Project)

(337) 706-2323

techeproject@techeproject.org

<http://www.techeproject.org>

C. Duperier Kayak Dock

The city of New Iberia and TECHE Project worked together to install a floating kayak dock at Duperier Avenue along the Bayou Teche National Paddle Trail. A new interpretive kiosk informs visitors on things to do nearby and features stories about the Civil War, bayou transportation, Bunk Johnson, the World Championship Gumbo Cookoff and lots more.

New Iberia's dock is only part of the city's plans for providing more access to Bayou Teche. A kayak park, marina and additional boat slips along the bayou are all in the city's plans for the future.

ADDRESS: 108 Duperier Avenue, New Iberia

CONTACT: Erin Bass (TECHE Project)

(337) 706-2323

techeproject@techeproject.org

<http://www.techeproject.org>

Jane Braud (City of New Iberia)

(337) 369-2330

jbraud@cityofnewiberia.com

<http://www.cityofnewiberia.com>

D. New Iberia's information pavilion and veterans memorial

The City of New Iberia administration and council are working to enhance our community and quality of life for our citizens and our visitors, including the revitalization of the New Iberia National Register Historic District.

Recent amenities added to Boulogny Plaza in downtown New Iberia include the Veterans Memorial Park, which features a Liberty Bell Replica, and the Visitors Information Center, an open-air pavilion with tourist information panels featuring maps, historical timelines and cultural information.

A marina for large recreational boats, a historic walking trail including wayfinding signage, and the expansion of the Bayou Teche Museum and the George Rodrigue Park are in the works.

ADDRESS: Boulogny Plaza, 102 W. Main St., New Iberia

Jane Braud (City of New Iberia)

(337) 369-2330

jbraud@cityofnewiberia.com
<http://www.cityofnewiberia.com>
<https://www.newiberianow.com>

E. Shadows-on-the-Teche's new tour and signage

The National Trust plantation home has placed new signage at six different locations in the gardens: entrance gate on Main Street, cemetery, restroom building, summer house/gazebo, foundation of the slave cabin, and the bayou. These signs provide visitors with additional information on the history of the landscape at Shadows, as well as both the enslaved peoples and the Weeks family.

The home, which was closed for several months to the public during the pandemic, reopened in October 2021 with a new tour that includes a variety of viewpoints to tell a more complete and inclusive story of the site. The house itself is an anomaly for it is neither a plantation nor a townhouse, but something in between.

The main characters of the tour narrative are women: Mary Weeks, who took over the sugar plantation's operation after the death of her husband; and Louisa Bryant, the enslaved housekeeper who managed the day-to-day at Shadows. It's a different way of showing visitors that both of these groups have important stories that should be told, and it's done through eyes that are rarely highlighted from the time period.

The new tour and signage are part of the larger re-envisioning and reinterpretation of the site, as they provide visitors with a better tour experience that encourages additional time spent onsite and engaging with the history and story.

Here's our blog detailing the new tour: <https://www.iberiatravel.com/blog/article/reasons-shadows-best-plantation-tour-louisiana>

ADDRESS: 317 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Jayd Buteaux
(337) 369-6446
jbuteaux@savingplaces.org
<https://www.shadowsontheteche.org/>

F. Howe Institute's State Historical Marker

On Nov. 20, 2021, The Iberia African American Historical Society (IAAHS) unveiled a state historical marker in honor of the founding of one of Iberia Parish's earliest historically Black schools, Howe Institute, and in honor of Booker T. Washington's visit to the school in 1915. The marker is located on the Iberia Street side of the Iberia Parish

Courthouse (former site of Howe Institute) in New Iberia.

The society previously installed two Louisiana state historical markers to commemorate the history of Iberia Parish Black residents. One marks the 1944 expulsion of Black doctors and NAACP leaders from the parish, the other pays homage to Emma Paillet-Wakefield, the first African American woman to practice medicine in Louisiana.

More on our blog: <https://www.iberiatravel.com/blog/article/howe-institute-historic-marker>

ADDRESS: Iberia Parish Courthouse, 300 Iberia St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Phebe Hayes
(337) 519-3957
info@iaahsonline.org
<https://iaahs.org/>

G. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco's State Historical Marker & Exhibit

In May 12, 2021, Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser joined state and local dignitaries in honoring Louisiana's first female governor and New Iberia native, former Gov. Kathleen Blanco.

Her state historical marker is located at Boulogny Plaza (128 W. Main St.) in downtown New Iberia. A new exhibit dedicated to Blanco is set to open in 2023 at Bayou Teche Museum.

ADDRESS: 128 W. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Marcia Patout, Bayou Teche Museum
(337) 606-5977
bayoutechemuseum@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/bayoutechemuseum>

H. District Art Gallery and The Loft at District Art

Located in a remodeled historical building on Main Street New Iberia, the new art gallery showcases artists from Iberia Parish and the surrounding region. Visitors can stay above the gallery at the B&B called The Loft at District Art. Raised in New Iberia, owner Bridget Theriot Fleming earned a degree in fine arts from the University of South Louisiana, now University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She studied lighting and

photography in California State University at Long Beach and worked on the “Survivor” television franchise from 2002 to 2004.

ADDRESS: 109 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Bridget Theriot Fleming
(337) 241-0164

districtartllc@gmail.com

Gallery: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083563053106>

B&B: <https://www.vrbo.com/2688416>

I. TABASCO® Cajun Culinary Experience

The Avery Island visitor center rebranded its food tour into a culinary experience. where participants learn about our area's history and cuisine as they sample six local tastings from the Acadiana Region, along with a TABASCO® Bloody Mary and TABASCO® mash. No need to hop on a bus anymore, Tabasco brings local specialties to you! Reservations required.

They are also offering a cooking class with Chef GiGi Leboeuf.

ADDRESS: Tabasco 1868 Restaurant
6228 Avery Island Rd., New Iberia

CONTACT: Katelyn Romero
(337) 369-4244

katelyn.romero@tabasco.com

<https://www.tabasco.com/visit-avery-island/tickets/#id=tabasco-culinary-excursion-avery-island>

<https://www.tabasco.com/visit-avery-island/tickets/#id=tabasco-cooking-class-avery-island>

J. Jungle Gardens' new tours

Jungle Gardens is now offering private, guided botanical and historical tours with Garrie Landry, a botanist and former professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. They are still offering private birding tours and launched a new self-guided audio tour through the Travel Story app.

ADDRESS: 6164 Avery Island Rd., New Iberia

CONTACT: Katelyn Romero

(337) 369-4244

katelyn.romero@tabasco.com

<https://www.junglegardens.org/tour-options>

<https://www.junglegardens.org/bird-tours-1>

K. Petite Anse Farm

This 13-acre organic farm is located on Bayou Petite Anse in New Iberia, close to Avery Island. The farm is known for its beautiful sunflower fields blooming in a variety of colors, from plum to white to yellow. They also have a wide variety of zinnias and are open seasonally for pick-your-own flowers events, photography sessions and field trips. The farm has been owned and operated by the Graycheck family since 2013. Andrew Graycheck also practices as a landscape architect from his farm office and works with private clients helping them realize their own outdoor environments.

ADDRESS: 7201 Lee Station Rd., New Iberia

CONTACT: Jennifer and Andrew Graycheck

(337) 335-7339

acgraycheck@gmail.com

<https://petiteansefarm.com>

L. Grammy-winning Guitarist Wayne “Blues” Burns donates guitar to Jeanerette Museum

On Aug. 11, 2021, Wayne “Blue” Burns, a Grammy winner and acclaimed bass guitarist, donated his bass guitar and a framed print depicting the music and musicians of Southwest Louisiana in 1928 to the Jeanerette Museum.

Born in Jeanerette, Wayne Burns has played and traveled with various bands since the age of 14, including in all 50 states, as well as countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and South America. Burns was one of the first African-Americans to play in East Berlin after the wall was torn down.

He has performed with Ernie K. Doe, The Larks, Betty Wright, Buckwheat and Hitchhikers, Lil Buck Senegal, Jude Taylor, and Nathan and the Zydeco Cha-Chas. Burns' proudest moment came in 1982 when he played bass for Clifton Chenier and the Red Hot Louisiana Band and won the Grammy for the master-piece album “I’m Here.”

ADDRESS: 500 Main St., Jeanerette

CONTACT: Mona Stansbury

(337) 276-4408

jeanerettemuseum@gmail.com

<https://www.jeanerettemuseum.com>

M. Loreauville's Master Plan and the New Acadia Project

Loreauville developed a master plan, which includes a planned Acadian Odyssey monument and the recent installation of a state historical marker.

The New Acadia Project installed a bilingual (English and French) Louisiana state historic marker in Loreauville to commemorate the first Acadian settlement led by Joseph Beausoleil on the banks of Bayou Teche. The New Acadia Project is an archaeological/historical initiative that aims to locate the original mid-18th-century settlements of the first group of Acadian exiles in the Louisiana territory. Their descendants today comprise over 500,000 Cajuns in Louisiana and throughout the world.

CONTACT: Mayor Brad Clifton, Village of Loreauville

(337) 229-8306

bradmclifton@yahoo.com

New Acadia Project

(337) 233-5832

https://acadianmuseum.com/New_Acadia_Project.html

<https://userweb.ucs.louisiana.edu/~mar4160/nap.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/NewAcadiaProject>

SHOPPING

A. Oh Ship!

Retail store offering a wide selection of Home Decor items. Accent furniture from many countries at below retail prices.

ADDRESS: 1110 Center St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Micki Harris

(337) 514-7447

sales@ohshipni.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Oh-Ship-NI-107070464889209>

B. Southern Sass Boutique

Family owned and operated trendy specialty boutique. Fashionable, affordable clothes & accessories from infant-ladies plus.

ADDRESS: 726 E Admiral Doyle Dr., New Iberia

CONTACT: Tammy White or Breigh Breaux
(337) 321-9478

southernsassboutiqueni@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/southernsassboutiqueni>

C. Emily Katherine Boutique

Trendy women's apparel and accessories.

ADDRESS: 1000 Parkview Dr #23, New Iberia

CONTACT: Emily Trahan
(337) 321-9120

emilykatherineboutique@gmail.com

<https://emilykatherineboutique.com>

D. Symply Southern Boutique

Women's clothing, children's clothing, jewelry, shoes, accessories and more.

ADDRESS: 917 Parkview Dr, Suite 1, New Iberia

CONTACT: Masey Bergeron
(337) 256-5901

symplysouthernboutique@yahoo.com

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078267912160>

LODGING**A. The Loft at District Art (new)**

This 1500 sq. ft. apartment is located above the District Art Gallery in a remodeled historical building on Main Street New Iberia. Fully furnished kitchen, 1 bath and 1 bedroom with queen bed, double bed and futon in common area. Sleeps 6. 2 balconies

and private courtyard and parking. Enjoy downtown attractions, events, shopping, dining and nightlife.

ADDRESS: 109 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT: Bridget Theriot Fleming
(337) 241-0164

districtartllc@gmail.com

Gallery: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083563053106>

B&B: <https://www.vrbo.com/2688416>

B. Gebert House (new)

Located on East Main Street in the heart of the New Iberia Historic District, the home was built in the 1880s and boasts over a dozen live oak trees (including the famous Gebert Oak) on 3 acres along the Bayou Teche. This historic gem is brimming with original architectural details, 2 sweeping porches, 2 living rooms, 5 spacious bedrooms, 5 bathrooms and an enormous gourmet kitchen. Sleeps 12. The home is also available for photoshoots.

ADDRESS: 541 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT:
(337) 577-8494

thegeberthouse@gmail.com

<https://geberthouse.com>

<https://www.vrbo.com/2774990>

C. The Hot Sauce House on Main (unique)

This rental was the home of the founder of the Original Louisiana Hot Sauce and features memorabilia and original antiques. 6 guests, 3 bedrooms, 4 beds, 2.5 baths. Built in the 1930s, the fully renovated home sits on a 1.3-acre private escape with live oaks on the banks of Bayou Teche. The home is directly on the parade route for all the downtown festivals and less than 1 mile from the Shadows-on-the- Teche and the Bayou Teche Museum.

ADDRESS: 924 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT:

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/30691673>

D. Maison Andrepont (new)

Built in 1890, this beautifully restored folk Victorian Cottage is located in New Iberia's National Register Residential District. 6 guests, 3 bedrooms, 4 beds, 2 baths. It's walking and bike riding distance from downtown New Iberia with restaurants, shops, and other tourist attractions.

You can check out the restoration process on their Instagram @maisonandrepont.

ADDRESS: 829 E. Main St., New Iberia

CONTACT :<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/49529234/>

E. Maison Le Rosier B&B (unique)

Built in 1870 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of Interior, Maison le Rosier is located in historic downtown New Iberia. One of New Iberia's main attractions, The Shadows-on-the-Teche, an antebellum home built in 1834, is located directly across the street from Le Rosier.

Behind the main house lies a lush courtyard filled with beautiful greenery and colorful flowers. Just beyond the courtyard is a guest cottage, which plays host to six beautifully decorated luxurious guest rooms. Breakfast is served every morning in the main house, which is also available for small events like corporate retreats or bridal showers.

ADDRESS: 314 E Main St. New Iberia, LA 70560

CONTACT: Barbara Boseman

833-576-7437

maisonlerosier@gmail.com

<https://maisonlerosier.com>

TRAVEL GUIDES AND ITINERARIES**A. Paddling and Boating Itinerary**

Iberia Travel developed a new itinerary featuring resources for recreational boaters to plan their trip, including all paddling and boating venues in the parish, things to do and places to stay on the water. The itinerary can be accessed at

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/things-do/outdoors/paddling-boating>

B. Iberia Outdoors Itinerary

Iberia Travel has compiled a list of fun outdoors options for a vacation in Iberia Parish. Iberia is located along the Bayou Teche, a 135-mile long waterway and national paddle trail that meanders through New Iberia, Jeanerette and Loreauville.

Life on the bayou has its advantages, from bird watching to kayaking, fishing and even biking and hiking, not to mention the bounty of fresh seafood that comes from Gulf waters. Plan your own adventure and experience the great outdoors in Iberia Parish—by land or water.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/blog/article/outdoor-activities-new-iberia>

C. Birding and Fishing Guides

With the renewed interest in outdoors activities, Iberia Travel asked resident ornithologist Michael Musumeche for his top tips for first time and amateur birders, from where to go to what to bring. <https://www.iberiatravel.com/blog/article/ultimate-guide-birding-new-iberia-louisiana>

We also released a guide for birding in Jungle Gardens on Avery Island. Visitors can bird on their own or book a customized tour with an ornithologist.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/blog/article/avery-islands-jungle-gardens-birding-guide>

Fishing Booker recently listed Iberia Parish as a Top 7 Fishing Destination in the U.S. We asked a local fishing expert our most frequently asked questions to help visitors better plan their next fishing trip.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/about-us/fishing-iberia-parish>

D. New Iberia Historic District Itinerary

As you stroll along New Iberia's historic Main Street, centuries-old live oaks and lush landscapes lining the streets create a beautiful backdrop for historic buildings and stately homes. For its successful revitalization efforts, New Iberia's Historic Commercial District won a Great American Main Street Award and has been nationally accredited as a Main Street America program.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/things-do/itineraries/new-iberia-historic-district>

E. Family and Student Itinerary

Youth groups and families have plenty of adventures to choose from, whether they involve local wildlife, history and culture, sweet treats or splashing in the water.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/things-do/itineraries/student-and-family-itinerary>

F. Island Hopping Itinerary

When you live in an area that's made up of 456 square miles of water, there are bound to be some islands.

Iberia Parish has its fair share and—good news for visitors—some of them are easily accessible. Experience the beauty of nature while sampling delicious local food, touring tropical gardens and maybe even catching a few fish.

<https://www.iberiatravel.com/things-do/itineraries/island-hopping-itinerary>