St. Landry Parish Zydeco to Fais-do-do Music Itinerary

ARTS | CULTURE | MUSIC | CAJUN & CREOLE CUISINE | RACINO

St. Landry Parish, Louisiana - Gumbo for your Soul!



St. Landry Parish is a rural, heritage destination in South Central Louisiana, a place with Cajun spirit and Creole soul.

This itinerary will take you to Opelousas, the Zydeco Music Capital of the World, and home to Grammy winners, Clifton Chenier and Terrance Siemien. You'll also travel to Arnaudville where our French heritage and language take center stage in live Cajun music performances. It's also home to Grammy winner Louis Michot/Los Bayou Ramblers. Round out your trip in Eunice, the Prairie Cajun Capital, where you'll learn to Cajun waltz and kick up your heels at the historic Liberty Theatre's show, "Rendez-vous des Cajuns."

Create a soundtrack for your trip by following the Zydeco-Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway, a music-heavy trail that traverses three parishes - St. Landry, Acadia, and Evangeline. These regions are responsible for three distinct musical sounds - Cajun, zydeco, and swamp pop.

IT'S ALL ABOUT LOCATION

St. Landry Parish is conveniently situated between Alexandria and Lafayette, LA. Our parish seat, Opelousas, Louisiana, is located at the intersections of Interstate 49 and Highway 190 which leads to the Louisiana state capital, Baton Rouge. Also, keep in mind that St. Landry Parish is only 2 hours west of New Orleans and 20 minutes North of Interstate 10.

OPELOUSAS -



ZYDECO CAPITAL JAM

Bring your favorite instrument and jam with fellow zydeco music enthusiasts or sit back and appreciate the music with freshly brewed coffee at the St. Landry Parish Visitor Center. The Zydeco Capital Jam is the first of its kind in nearly a decade, recalling the tradition from when zydeco legend Roy Carrier would jam with other great musicians. Free admission.

2nd Saturday of the month from 1pm-3pm

978 Kennerson Road (Exit 23, South Service Road) | 337-948-8004



JAMMIN' ON THE BAYOU

Jammin' on the Bayou is a Cajun jam session hosted by Stanley Lee at the St. Landry Parish Visitor Center. Guests are encouraged to bring their favorite instrument and suggest their favorite songs, while bystanders are inspired to dance and hum along. The jam session is free and open to the public. All musicians are welcome at any level of expertise.

3rd Saturday of the month from 1pm-3pm

978 Kennerson Road (Exit 23, South Service Road) | 337-948-8004



ZYDECO MUSIC EXHIBIT

Located at Le Vieux Village Heritage Park, this is the perfect attraction for zydeco music fans! Interpretive panels display a musical timeline beginning with early la-la and the musicians who would later influence zydeco music. The exhibit shows how Creole sounds developed from the colonial period to the present in South Louisiana. Free admission.

Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm | Saturday 9am-4pm

828 East Landry Street | 337-948-6263



ARPEGGIO'S LOUNGE & EVENT CENTER

You can find more than just zydeco in Opelousas. This French quarter style restaurant and music venue features jazz, zydeco, neosoul, blues, brass, and R&B artists and bands. The team at Arpeggio's also treats their guests to Cajun and Creole-style hors-d'oeuvres and access to a full-service bar.

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday from 6pm-9pm | \$20 admission

204 North Main Street | 337-407-5188



EUNICE



SAVOY MUSIC CENTER

Experience a tradition that has been taking place every Saturday morning since 1966, a jam session hosted by Marc Savoy, renowned accordion maker and musician, and his wife Ann, author and musician. Don't forget to check out the shop while you're there! Free admission.

Saturdays from 9am-12pm

4413 U.S. 190 | 337-457-9563



JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE - Prairie Acadian Cultural Center

Every Saturday, music, crafts, and Cajun cooking demos take place at the center. Visitors can even learn how to Cajun waltz during the interpretive musical performances. After, show off your new moves at the Rendez-vous des Cajuns show immediately following. Free admission.

Saturdays from 9:30am-6pm (music & dancing from 2:45pm-3:45pm)

250 West Park Avenue | 337-457-8499



THE LIBERTY THEATRE

This restored 1924 Vaudeville Theatre hosts the internationally recognized radio and TV show, Rendez-vous des Cajuns. This live radio show is in the Grand Old Opry/Louisiana Hayride/Prairie Home Companion format and features Cajun and zydeco music bands and often Grammy award-winning musical artists. Emceed in French and English. \$5 admission.

Saturdays from 6pm-7:30pm

200 Park Avenue | 337-457-7389



CAJUN FRENCH MUSIC HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Discover the roots of Cajun music and the early musicians who shaped the genre, such as Iry Lejeune, Denis Mcgee, and Joe Falcon. Learn more about the first female to ever record Cajun music, singer and guitarist, Cleoma Falcon, and the women who rock the genre today. Free admission.

Summer: Tuesday-Saturday 9am-5pm | Winter: Tuesday-Saturday 8:30am-4:30pm

240 South C C Duson Street | 337-457-6534



EUNICE



KBON 101.1 FM

Tour the downtown radio station KBON 101.1 FM, a variety music station that highlights Cajun, zydeco and swamp pop artists. Check out the wall with signatures of legends. Many of these legends are honored at Le Cajun Music Awards, held annually in August. Free admission.

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

109 South 2nd Street | 337-546-0007



LAKEVIEW PARK & BEACH

For more music and fun, head out to Lakeview Park & Beach, a favorite spot of Anthony Bourdain. Every Saturday, February through November, Cajun and zydeco bands play in the old barn turned dancehall for the Fais-do-do. Spend the night in one of their cabins or camp out in your RV. Overnight guests get two free tickets; \$10 admission for visitors.

Saturdays at 9pm

1717 Veterans Memorial Highway | 337-457-2881



ARNAUDVILLE

NUNU ARTS & CULTURE COLLECTIVE POTLUCK SOCIAL

Louisiana locals love to entertain guests with food and music, which is why NUNU's Potluck Social should be on your itinerary. The only cost of attending is a delicious side dish for the party! You can stop at the local grocer for freshly baked bread or even boudin. Enjoy dancing and live music by the Pot Luck Band. Also check out their drum circles on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Every 3rd Friday of the month from 7pm-11pm

1510 Bayou Courtableau Highway | 337-754-5990



BAYOU TECHE BREWING

Every Friday and Saturday, hear live Cajun, Creole, and zydeco music. On Sundays, let the locals teach you how to play Bourré (card game) and enjoy a jam session on the porch. Hungry? Grab a bite at the Cajun Saucer, located on the grounds of the brewery. The kitchen menu features a fun list of dishes, including authentic, wood-fired pizzas, all inspired by local cuisine and Cajun and Creole culture. Wash it all down with ice-cold craft beer. Free admission.

Friday 7pm-9pm | Saturday-Sunday 2pm-5pm | Tap room and Cajun Saucer open Friday-Saturday 12pm-9pm & Sunday 12pm-6pm

1106 Bushville Highway | 337-303-8000



ARNAUDVILLE



TOM'S FIDDLE AND BOW

Sunday's aren't just for confession in South Louisiana! Every first Sunday of the month, Tom's Fiddle & Bow in Arnaudville hosts a casual jam session for experienced and beginner musicians. Those who don't play are welcome to listen in and meet the artists. Free admission.

1st Sunday of the month from 1pm-4pm

204 Fuselier Road | 337-754-5528 | 337-322-5402

