

Nestled between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, home of the Jambalaya Capitol of the World and Louisiana's second largest historic district, Ascension Parish is the perfect spot to immerse yourself in an experience like no other. A place where Caribbean rhythms blend with jazz and blues, and soul food merges with Creole cuisine. A place where art, agriculture and industry fuel a vibrant culture that echoes the past while looking to the future. Whether you are in Gonzales, Sorrento, or Donaldsonville there's always something to see, taste, experience and savor In Ascension Parish – Louisiana's Sweet Spot.



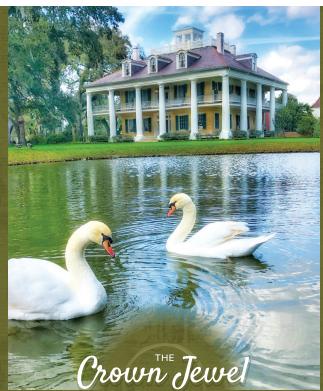
Find your way to Ascension Parishes' many treasures with this guide. For more information and complete listings of dining, events, festivals, accommodations, shopping, and more visit:

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OF RIVER ROAD

The crown jewel of the great River Road, Houmas House and Gardens, provides its guest with some of the finest dining, accommodations, gardens, and historic home tours in the South. Explore 38 acres of lush gardens beneath 200 yr. old moss-laden live oaks or relax with a refreshing mint julep while enjoying the breeze off the nearby Mississippi River. Stay in the luxurious inn and dine in Southern style at one of the property's premier restaurants.

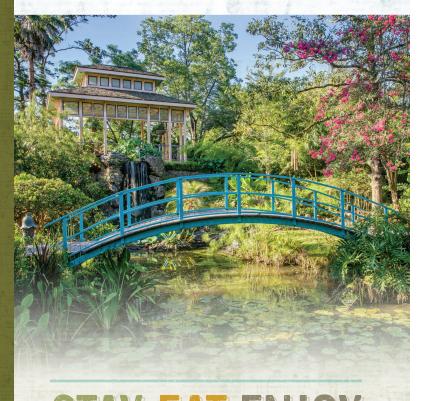
Also, on the property of Houmas House and Gardens is the newly opened Great River Road Museum. The artwork and exhibits in this 35,000-square-foot museum explore the culture, commerce, folklore and music as it was in the 19th century in the lower Mississippi River Region between Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

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ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION VISITOR CENTER 6967 Highway 22 Sorrento LA 70778





## STAY-EAT-ENJOY

A MIX OF HISTORY AND CULTURE

GONZALES | DONALDSONVILLE | SORRENTO

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Just as sugar enhances the flavor of everything it's added to, the fusion of many influences and ethnicities in Ascension Parish adds flavor to its rich heritage of cultural and culinary traditions. Some family-owned restaurants have been here for more than 40 years, providing the area with authentic cuisine for generation after generation, while a newly opened distillery and brewery showcase new twists on local ingredients.





Located almost directly between Baton Rouge and New Orleans and right off Interstate 10, Ascension is a sweet spot to stay and enjoy the friendly, safe and festive atmosphere only small-town South Louisiana can provide without sacrificing the comforts of brand name accommodations.





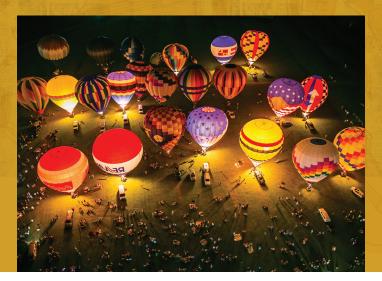




Once known as a legendary pirate hangout and center for pirate-traded goods, treasures in Ascension Parish today can be discovered in our numerous antique shops and unique specialty boutiques. Name brand and designer fashions fill our massive Tanger Outlet Center in Gonzales. In Sorrento, The Cajun Village boasts one-of-a-kind shops, artisan studios and galleries all housed in a collection of restored, authentic Acadian buildings.



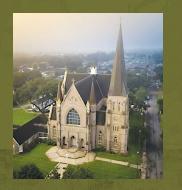
Home to Lamar Dixon Expo Center, a multipurpose event facility unlike any other, visitors and locals can find fun family-friendly events year-round, like food festivals, concerts, equestrian events and specialty shopping markets just to name a few.

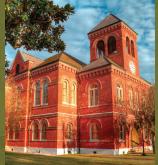




When the sights, sounds, tastes and traditions of Native Americans, Spanish, French, German, Italian, African and Acadian culture come together in one place, you know you've reached Louisiana's Sweet spot.

In Donaldsonville, sacred structures stand as testaments to the area's diverse two-hundred-year-old communities. Home to internationally recognized primitive artist Alvin Batiste, whose paintings capture the unique ways of life along the Mississippi, and the River Road African American Museum which preserves and exhibits art, artifacts, and buildings related to the history and culture of African Americans in the rural communities along the Mississippi River.





While here, you can enjoy learning about the history of Donaldsonville at your own pace by visiting seven self-guided portals placed throughout the historic district. Donaldsonville's Historic Portal to the Past gives visitors the ability to create their own experience while learning about the vibrant history of the city.

