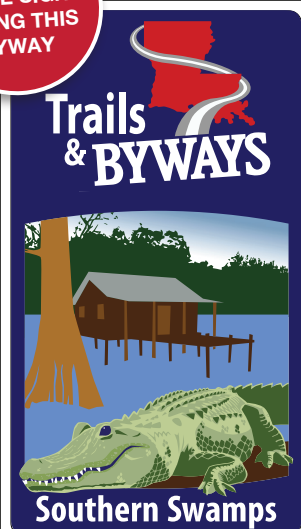


LOOK FOR
THESE SIGNS
ALONG THIS
BYWAY



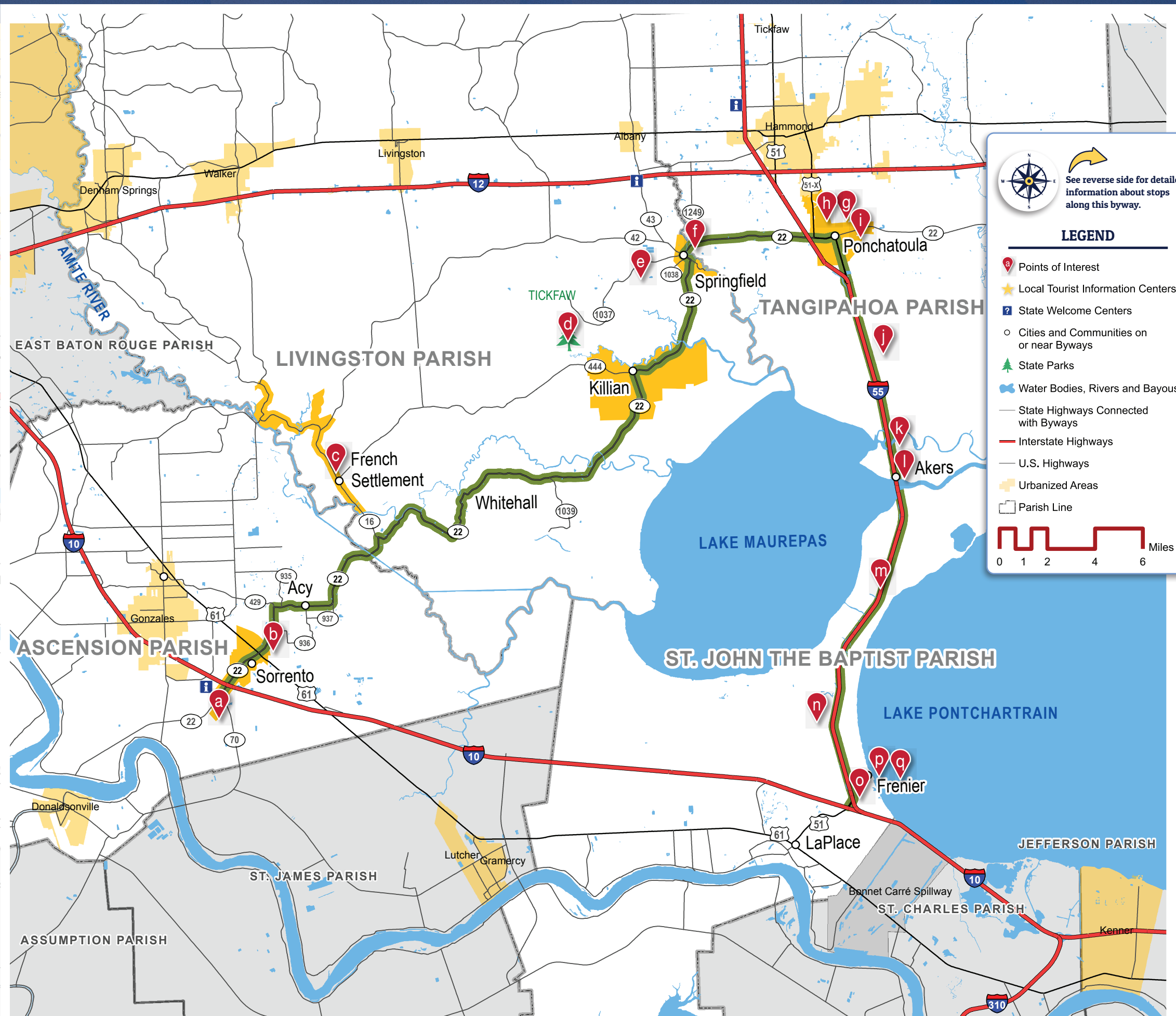
13

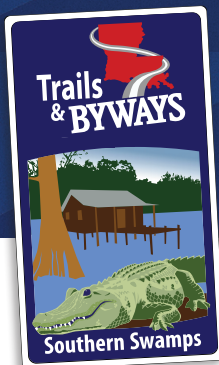
SOUTHERN SWAMPS BYWAY



For generations, the people of southeast Louisiana have lived off the waters that surround them. A drive along the scenic LA 22 and old US 51, Southern Swamps Byway offers visitors a look at the natural beauty inherent in the state's bayous, marshes and wetlands. It's a place where alligators and turtles slip quietly in and out of the water, and time almost seems to stand still. Along this 69-mile route are charming small towns ideal for a stroll, and plenty of great places to eat.

LouisianaByways.com





Here's a sampling of the many attractions throughout the Southern Swamps Byway. Let your stories begin here.

a CAJUN VILLAGE

SHOPS Cajun Village Shops is the perfect place to stroll back in time. Visit the unique shops in Plantation Country and boutiques that bring wine, jewelry, candles, antiques, pottery, art, and décor. Don't forget to see the alligator pond in the back! The Coffee House is a great stop to visit with friends while enjoying a breakfast of beignets and café au lait, or one of the traditional Southern lunches.

6466 LA 22, Sorrento, LA 70778
225-675-2640
cajunvillageshops.com

b

BAYOU FRANCOIS Bayou Francois in Sorrento is ideal for the boating enthusiast wanting to take a leisurely drift along the scenic bayou. There is an open boat launch located near Airline Highway off LA 22. Species caught in Bayou Francois include largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, bream and bluegill.

Located 3.2 miles from Sorrento near Acy Turn onto Melancon Road off LA 22, turn right on Paul Road, and veer to the right to get to the launch.
boatlaunches.net/ramp.php?ramp=300

c

THE CREOLE HOUSE The Creole House was built in 1898 by Alexander Lambert and his son Harris Lambert for his daughter Louisa, who was married to Alexander Decareaux. The house, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is built of cypress and is typical of the dwellings built by the Creoles in the late 1800s. Many items and antiques from the period are displayed in the house, including a wedding dress, large armoire, vintage radio, sewing machine, and many photos.

16015 LA 16, French Settlement, LA 70733
225-975-0530, livingstonparish.com/creol_house



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d

TICKFAW STATE PARK Tickfaw State Park visitors can experience the sights and sounds of a cypress/tupelo swamp, a bottomland hardwood forest, a mixed pine/hardwood forest and the Tickfaw River. Sightings of Snowy Egrets, Great Blue Herons, alligators, turtles, snakes, squirrels, opossums, songbirds, wild turkeys, and migratory waterfowl, as well as tracks of beaver, coyote, deer, fox, and raccoons, offer close encounters with wildlife.

27225 Patterson Road, Springfield, LA 70462-8906
225-294-5020 or 888-981-2020
crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/parks/tickfaw-state-park/index

e

THE CARTER PLANTATION HOUSE The Carter Plantation House dates back to 1804 when James Rheims acquired the property under a Spanish land grant. He sold the land to Thomas Freeman who became the first African-American to own property in Livingston Parish. The house, now on the National Register of Historic Places, was built between 1817 and 1820 and is representative of a middle-class plantation home. The primary crop of the plantation has been trees—pine, cypress and citrus.

23475 Carter Cemetery Road, Springfield, LA 70462
225-747-0660, carterplantationcdd.com

f

LOUISIANA TREASURES MUSEUM Louisiana Treasures Museum features artifacts collected through years of painstaking diving expeditions in the Manchac swamps and surrounding waterways. Ghosts of years past tell visitors their stories through the glassware, arrowheads, relics, and legends described by Wayne Norwood.

10290 LA 22 West, Ponchatoula, LA 70454
225-294-8352
louisianatreasuresmuseum.com

g

LOUISIANA NORTHSORE QUILT TRAIL The Quilt Trail is the exhibit of artistic interpretations (painted and mixed media) of quilt blocks outdoors on homes, businesses, sheds, fences, and barns, or on posts in the yard, fields, pastures or flower beds.

Various locations, 985-386-8815, louisianaquilttrail.com

h

PONCHATOULA, AMERICA'S ANTIQUE CITY Ponchatoula, America's Antique City, is a perfectly preserved historic district in the quaint town of Ponchatoula that features storefronts offering a bounty of artifacts, collectables, furnishings, and more. Unique boutiques abound, and restaurants featuring authentic Louisiana cuisine with a Southern flair will quench your thirst and hunger following a leisurely day of shopping.

Ponchatoula, LA 70454, 800-542-7520
americasantiquecity.com

i

COLLINSWOOD SCHOOL MUSEUM The Collinswood School Museum began around 1876 when it was built as a one room school house. Mr. Collins constructed the school house on his estate, approximately one mile west of Ponchatoula, to ensure an education for his son. He then hired and boarded a teacher and offered educational training for other children in the area. Grades 1 through 6 were taught in the single room until 1908. In 1975 the Bicentennial Commission chose the "Collinswood School Museum" as a project, and the City of Ponchatoula purchased the building for that purpose.

100 East Pine Street, Ponchatoula, LA 70454
985-386-2221, ponchatoula.com/museum.html

j

JOYCE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA Wildlife management area located at the south end of Tangipahoa Parish. The area includes 27,000-plus acres and is home to numerous native animals. Bird watching, hunting, fishing, and trapping are popular activities for visitors.

Located in southern Tangipahoa Parish 5 miles south of Hammond, 985-543-4781, wlf.louisiana.gov/wma/2774

k

MANCHAC WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA The Manchac Wildlife Management Area consists of 8,000 acres of cypress trees and freshwater marshes. The ancient Bayou Manchac can be accessed by canoe, and is particularly scenic in the moonlight! Bayou Manchac was once a heavily used trade route and is considered one of Louisiana's historic waterways. Recreation includes fishing and birdwatching.

Located in the uppermost portion of St. John the Baptist Parish 985-543-4781, wlf.louisiana.gov/2785



4

MIDDENDORF'S RESTAURANT Middendorf's is famous for thin fried catfish, and features indoor and outdoor dining options and views of beautiful Pass Manchac. The restaurant offers fresh seafood, big burgers, and cold cocktails.

30160 Hwy 51 S., Akers, LA 70421
985-386-6666, middendorfsrestaurant.com

MORE INFORMATION

Call or visit the welcome centers or CVB visitor information areas listed, and find us online at LouisianaByways.com.

DRIVING TIPS:

Don't litter — keep Louisiana's Byways clean
Note: some attractions do not have pull-offs or have narrow shoulders along the roadway.

m

MANCHAC GREENWAY The collection of public boat launches, wildlife management areas, seafood serving restaurants, and walking trails along the twenty-mile stretch of historic Hwy. 51 from northern St. John the Baptist Parish to southern Tangipahoa Parish is known as the Manchac Greenway. Bordered to the east by Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas on the west, the Greenway is split and earns it name by the Manchac Pass.

manchacgreenway.org

n

MAUREPAS SWAMP WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (EASTERN TRACT) Vegetation found on the WMA includes cypress, tupelo, bulltongue, cattail, submerged aquatics, red maple, American elm, sugarberry, Nutall oak, water oak, and obtusa oak. There are numerous outdoor recreational activities for the public to pursue including hunting, fishing, bird watching, sightseeing, and boating. A half mile long nature trail is located on the east side of US 51 approximately half mile north of Peavine Road in LaPlace.

Located along the south shore of Lake Maurepas west to near Sorrento; 985-543-4781, wlf.louisiana.gov/wma/2791

o

FRENIER LANDING RESTAURANT AND OYSTER BAR This restaurant offers a tempting variety of fresh seafood dishes, salads, steaks and poboys sandwiches. Come for lunch or dinner and enjoy the view of Lake Pontchartrain.

113 Dottie Lane, LaPlace, LA 70069, 985-224-2178, frenierlanding.com

p

CAJUN PRIDE SWAMP TOURS Cajun Pride is a privately-owned wildlife refuge just 25 miles from New Orleans. Authentic Louisiana swamp eco-tours are offered, as well as plantation tours, city tours and combination tours. Transportation is available for all tours.

110 Frenier Road, LaPlace, LA 70068
504-467-0758, cajunprideswamptours.com

q

WILD LOUISIANA TOURS Explore the ecosystems out here and truly immerse yourself in the heart of the River Parishes while hearing about the abundant wildlife on a guided kayak tour. Launch from one of the public boat launches in the area and get up close and personal with the residents of the swamps in South Louisiana.

105 Gary Road, LaPlace, LA 70068 - 985-205-1527, wildlouisianatours.com



5

i TOURIST INFORMATION CENTERS:

ASCENSION PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION
6967 Hwy. 22, Sorrento
888-775-7990, tourascension.com

LIVINGSTON PARISH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
30340 Catholic Hall Rd., Albany
888-317-7899, livingstontourism.com

TANGIPAHOA PARISH CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU
13143 Wardline Rd., Hammond
800-542-7520, tangitourism.com

RIVER PARISHES TOURIST COMMISSION
671 Belle Terre Blvd, LaPlace, LA 70068
(866) 204-7782, visitnopc.com

IMAGES: 1 Outside The Carter Plantation House. 2 Tickfaw State Park. 3 Antique shopping in Ponchatoula.

4 Middendorf's Restaurant. 5 Baby alligator on a swamp tour.



Funding for this document is provided in part by the Federal Highway Administration.

Get additional trip ideas by visiting LouisianaByways.com or one of our Welcome Centers along the route.