

LOUISIANA'S CAJUN BAYOU TOURISM

It's Six Months Until Mardi Gras *In Louisiana's Cajun Bayou, the Countdown Is Already On*

Raceland, Louisiana (August 6, 2026) – To most people, Mardi Gras feels like a far-off celebration that's still six months away (on February 9, 2027!). But in Louisiana's Cajun Bayou, six months isn't a countdown ... it's go time! Long before parade routes fill with families and beads are hurled through the air, the local krewes that make the celebration possible are already hard at work planning every detail of Carnival season. Behind every float, costume and parade is a dedicated group of volunteers who spend months preparing for one of Louisiana's most beloved traditions.

While the rest of the country is soaking up summer, krewes throughout Lafourche Parish are selecting parade themes, coordinating fundraisers, maintaining floats and preparing for another unforgettable season. The Krewe of Apollo in Lockport, for example, has already selected a children's storybook theme for its 2027 parade. Other krewes are busy electing kings and queens, finalizing dates and details for their Mardi Gras balls, and beginning to think about (and purchase) the thousands of "throws" that will eventually find their way into the hands of excited spectators. Beyond the krewes, organizers of the Louisiana King Cake Festival are hard at work bringing together bakers, vendors and sweet treat enthusiasts for the region's signature celebration on January 17.



Later this year, float decorating will begin in earnest as creative visions transform into extravagant floats. Costumes will be sewn and gathered, parade logistics will take shape, and excitement will continue to build as the official parade schedule is released at the end of the year.

As visitors start planning their Mardi Gras getaways, locals know the celebration starts long before the first parade rolls. So here's the inside scoop: Whether you're considering plans to experience Carnival season in Louisiana's Cajun Bayou for the first time or you're making a triumphant return, now is the perfect time to plan ahead. Mardi Gras lasts a few weeks, but the work behind it lasts all year long ... and so should the anticipation!

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