

VISIT
THE NORTHSHORE

LOUISIANA'S *Easy* ESCAPE



This Summer, Visit The Northshore
It's the Cool-est Waterfront Destination in Louisiana

Mandeville, Louisiana (May 7, 2024) – As the official start of summer nears, the five waterfront towns that comprise [The Northshore](#) in Louisiana (look for St. Tammany Parish on your map) offer plenty of ways to stay cool. Located just 40 minutes north of New Orleans' French Quarter, The Northshore has been a favorite getaway since the 1880s, when visitors started being drawn to its picturesque towns, fragrant loblolly pines, relaxed environment, and deep-spring water that was believed to cure ills and calm nerves. Here you're never more than 15 minutes away from a source of water, including Lake Pontchartrain, the Tchefuncte or Bogue Falaya rivers, and Cane Bayou. So ... grab your sunscreen, don your favorite swimsuit or sundress, and choose which water adventure will best help you explore the coolest place in Louisiana, The Northshore.



Fontainebleau State Park in Mandeville, Louisiana.

Credit: Visit The Northshore

Beach Time: With so much water, it's only natural that The Northshore has not one, but two sandy beaches. One is located in [Fontainebleau State Park](#), the state's most-visited park, and the other is in the town of Slidell. Fontainebleau even offers an all-terrain track wheelchair so visitors with limited mobility can enjoy the sand as much as everyone else. If you'd like to extend your stay, soon the park will be opening 12 deluxe cabins that are built over Lake Pontchartrain and offer an unparalleled way to connect with outdoor splendor.

Catch Fish: Louisiana is the redfish capital of the world, and you'll find no shortage of the species on The Northshore ... or fishing charters to reach them, for that matter. [Angling Adventures of Louisiana](#) in Slidell is so confident that you'll catch a fish that they claim, "No fish, no pay." Seasoned Captain Mike Gallo leads the charge here, providing equipment, tackle, fish-cleaning services and more, with the goal of making the fishing experience as easy and fun as possible. If you've got a sense of adventure, join [Wicked Fishing Charters](#) in Mandeville for a "kraken hunt" to search for the monsters of Lake Pontchartrain. This primarily catch-and-release adventure will target alligator gar, bull redfish and bull sharks. Anglers (or wannabes) of all levels are welcome to The Northshore year-round.

Paddle Away: The Northshore recently welcomed two new self-guided kayak experiences. [Bayou Adventure](#) offers paddling rental kiosks inside Fontainebleau State Park, and locally-owned [Kayaks To Geaux](#) delivers kayak rentals anywhere in St. Tammany Parish. If you'd prefer a guided paddle, [Canoe & Trail Adventures](#) has been servicing The Northshore for more than 45 years and offers both daytime and twilight-hour wetland tours guided by Louisiana master naturalists.

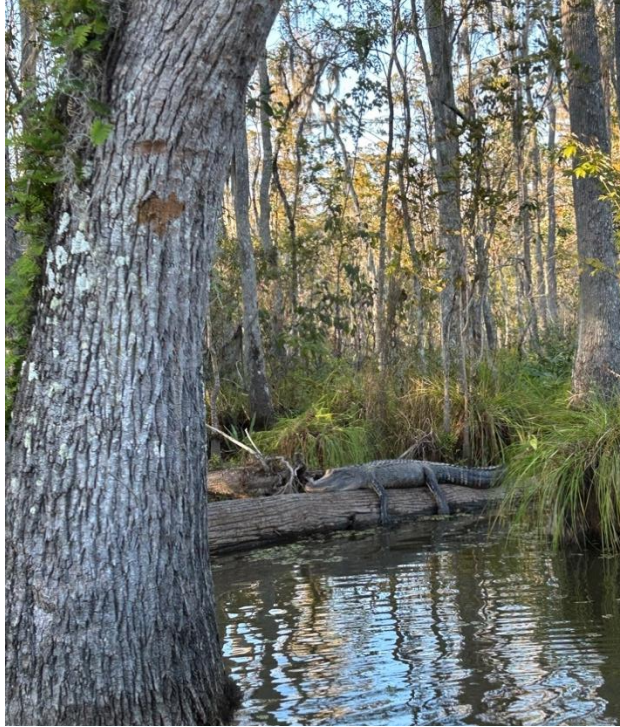


Louisiana Tours and Adventures cruise on The Northshore.
Credit: Visit The Northshore

Pontoon Cruises: The Tchefuncte River in Madisonville provides the ideal conditions for a leisurely cruise. Captain Mike Jones with [Louisiana Tours and Adventures](#) offers an ADA-approved vessel that can accommodate group and individual tours. Experiences include bayou history tours, a sunset cruise to the Madisonville lighthouse, a gator adventure, and other customizable excursions. [Tchefuncte River Charters](#) offers two-to-three-hour cruise charters on its 26-foot *Fat Bottom Girl* that includes a bar, sound system and restroom. Guests are encouraged to bring their own food and beverages, but the company will also stop at your choice of eight restaurants and bars along the picturesque route.

Set Sail: In Mandeville, [Delaune Sailing Charters](#) offers private sailing charters for up to six passengers for midday or sunset sails on a 42-foot yacht. If you'd rather actively participate in the excursion, they offer sailing lessons, too.

Splashing Fun: If you prefer to cool down on land, each of The Northshore's towns offers splash pads for kids and adults alike. New this year, the maritime town of Madisonville has introduced a new [splash pad](#) as part of a playground that also includes a tugboat for kids to climb and play on. Christened the *Claribel*, it was named for one of the legendary old crafts once used at the town's Jahncke Shipyard.



Cajun Encounters swamp tour in Slidell, Louisiana.
Credit: MBPR!

Swamp Tours: An activity that makes you know you've truly been to Louisiana is a swamp tour, and no one does it better than [Cajun Encounters Tour Company](#). Based in Slidell, they'll take you out on a two-hour guided experience to learn the history, folklore and ecology of Honey Island Swamp. As members of the Louisiana Nature Conservancy, the tour company shows the swamp without impacting the environment or its diverse species, which include alligators, wild boars, racoons, a variety of birds and other creatures ... all of which you'll get to see up close on a tour.

Whether it's a weekend getaway or an extended vacation, The Northshore offers an easy escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. To learn more about visiting this waterfront destination and to plan a trip, please go to VisitTheNorthshore.com.

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