



## In Louisiana's Cajun Bayou, It's All About ... Festivals!

It's no secret that here in Louisiana's Cajun Bayou we know how to throw a party. Let's face it: We know our way around delicious food and our music is the kind that makes everyone want to get up and dance. We work hard, but we also like to play ... and as far as we're concerned, the more, the merrier. We have festivals all year round – all of them tied to our unique culture – and there's no better way to understand who we are than to participate in one.

It all starts in the winter months. Elsewhere in the United States, those months can be somewhat gray and dull ... but not here. Winter is Mardi Gras time, and we do it up right in Lafourche Parish, with over 10 different parades that are all completely family-friendly. There are bands and floats and plenty of "throws" – those colorful beads and other goodies participants toss to the crowds that line the parade route. It's a memorable way to launch the year, and then for the remaining months we host events that celebrate the culture, music, foods, industries and natural resources for which our region is so famous.

In the Spring we celebrate our unique food culture at [La Fete Du Monde](#) in Raceland, and our Cajun culture at the [Cajun Heritage Festival](#). We bring back the "old culture" at [La Fete des Vieux Temps](#), stir up 600 gallons of chicken-and-sausage and seafood gumbos at the [Louisiana Gumbo Festival](#), and dance to plenty of Cajun music at the [French Food Festival](#), all in October. Each November, [Big Boy's Main Street Cook-Off](#) and the [Thibodauxville Fall Festival](#) round out the fall festivals up and down the Bayou.

There's always something to celebrate, plenty of food to share and enough music to keep us dancing for hours. Come on down the Bayou and join the fun!