

3-DAY EXPERIENCE

DAY 1

Begin your tour in the west bank community of **Westwego**; originally a springboard for pioneers headed to the western frontier.



The first stop is the **Westwego Historical Museum** located on Sala Avenue in the century-old Fisherman's Exchange Building. Here you will experience hidden treasures housed in an original early 1900's General Merchandise Store. It is completely furnished with antique furniture as well as upstairs living quarters.

We will continue to the **City of Gretna**, one of Louisiana's largest national historic districts. Visit the **German-American Cultural Museum** that traces the history of the German immigration into southeast Louisiana in the early 1700s. Next, see the David Crocket Fire



Company; the oldest continuously active volunteer fire company in the United States with an original 1876 Steam Pumper. See a presentation by a blacksmith at the Gretna Green Blacksmith Shop, fun fact...each February 14th Valentine's Day, the annual Wedding Vow Ceremony takes place recreating the runaway brides of Gretna Green Scotland.

We will take a short stroll atop the levee overlooking the Mississippi River, New Orleans skyline and Mississippi River Bridge.



Head right across the Mississippi River Bridge to the East Bank and stop at [Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World](#) for a behind the scenes look at the magical world of Mardi Gras. See floats and colorful props as you enjoy the video and tour. Try some king cake, the sweet specialty pastry of the Carnival Season.

Next, we will head into New Orleans to explore the history, landmarks, legends and splendid architecture for which New Orleans is famous. The French Quarter, French Market and riverfront to name a few iconic locations! Our day will round out with a City Tour of New Orleans and Jefferson Parish, passing local universities, parks and stately mansions in New Orleans and busy boulevards and quiet landmarks of Jefferson. You will see the unusual above-ground "cities of the dead" (cemeteries) and other local landmarks and legends.

The group will enjoy an evening at [Drago's Restaurant](#), Home of the Original Charbroiled Oyster, and of course a partner of the [Louisiana Oyster Trial](#). Drago's is a favorite among locals and visitors alike. Marvel at the sight of the flames bellowing upward as oysters are flame broiled where all can see...and smell! An evening you are sure to remember.

DAY 2



Explore the great outdoors as we visit Bayou Barataria and the historic town of [Jean Lafitte](#). Before Europeans arrived, Native Americans lived in the region and their burial mounds are still found along the bayous. Smugglers and privateers roamed the Gulf of Mexico in early Louisiana and used abandoned Native American campsites along the

bayou to store their loot.

Enjoy the spirit of bayou country with a fascinating boat trip into the Louisiana swamps. Local guides will reveal the mysteries of the wetlands as you observe alligators, egrets, raccoons, nutria and more local wildlife in their natural habitat. You will also learn about the efforts made to preserve and restore Louisiana's



vanishing wetlands. This is truly an outdoor adventure that you will always remember. Thrill-seekers may enjoy an **airboat ride** through the swamps as opposed to the slow pace of the pontoon tour, either can be arranged for the group. At the **Jean Lafitte National Park and Preserve**, park rangers will provide a guided tour and inform you of the wildlife. A "must stop" is the **Jean Lafitte Tourist Welcome Center** to see the fantastic Legends of Jean Lafitte animated marionette exhibit. This unique exhibit tells the story of Louisiana's gentleman pirate, Jean Lafitte, and the events leading up to the Battle of New Orleans in twelve working dioramas.



Lunch along Bayou Familles at **Restaurant des Familles** where the cuisine is just as much an experience as the stirring bayou and its creatures outside! Part of the of the Louisiana Oyster Trail and serving not only fresh oysters in a variety of ways, but southern, creole and Cajun fare is always on the menu!

DAY 3

Visit the [National World War II Museum](#) where you will see the exciting production "Beyond All Boundaries," produced by Tom Hanks, in the remarkable Solomon Victory Theater. This moving



4-D cinematic experience takes you on a journey that incorporates theatrical special effects, cutting edge digital technology and original World War II footage.

We will take in a live theatrical performance and lunch in BB's Stage Door Canteen at the WWII Museum. Their musical performances are a salute to the WWII era artists that entertained the men



and women on their way to war. Their shows bring to life the war years with songs, dancing and the humor of the war era.



After lunch, we will tour [Rivertown](#). Rivertown sits at a bend in the Mississippi River and is a 16-block area that embraces many restored late 19th and early 20th century structures. Wander through the district and enjoy the [Science Complex](#), NASA Space Station and Kenner Heritage Park.

Don't miss a wonderful photo opportunity at La Salle's Landing that overlooks the mighty Mississippi River.

For more information on group tours, accommodations and travel arrangements, contact:

Theresa Mule

Group Sales Manager

Theresa@visitjeffersonparish.com

877.572.7474

