











The salt has been mined since Civil War days. The island is also a populous bird sanctuary, and the Jungle Gardens provide exotic specimens from around the world.

State 31 leads to St. Martinville, where the Acadian French refugees from Canada first landed in the early 1800's. The descendants of these people have retained the Acadian dialect and culture in this area—hence the name "Cajun Country." The community is also famous for being the setting of Longfellow's tragic poem "Evangeline," and the famous Evangeline Oak where the unhappy lovers met can be seen near the restored home of Louis Arceneaux, Evangeline's real-life lover. The home is now a museum with exhibits which tell about the life of early Acadian settlers. The Longfellow-Evangeline State Park preserves the pioneer atmosphere of those early days, and for the modern wayfarer there is a craft shop, recreation building, swimming pool and campsites.

Leave St. Martinville on State 96 westward and proceed, via US 90, to Lafayette, which is a several towns in one: a traditional Louisiana French community, a modern oil industry center, and a college town. The magnificent house of Governor Alexandre Mouton, one of the oldest homes in town, has been restored as a museum featuring colorful Mardi Gras costumes and a doll collection.

Opelousas, a town founded in the 18th century by the French as a trading post is reached by following US 167. Its history has included an era as district capital under the Spanish and a brief time as state capital during the Civil War.

Travel eastward on US 190, crossing the Atchafalaya River at Krotz Springs, and turn onto State 78 at Livonia. This drive picks up a part of the road which is a rewarding la...

Cross the elegant 19th-century Afton Villa Gardens—the Grace and Audubon building in town.

US 61 joins State 60 and set in a b...

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Continue on and turn south whose twenty...

this vast and leading back to...

Great River Road, skirting a portion of the False River, a meander of the Mississippi. Now, fishermen find it to be a yielding fine catches. Mississippi on the ferry to reach St. Francisville with its century homes: Fairview, Rosedown, The Cottage and Gardens. Near the center of town are two beautiful buildings: Church, an example of English Gothic built in 1858, Hall which was built in 1819 and is probably the oldest in town.

On US 966 which then leads to the Audubon Monument. Here is Oakley House, converted into a museum and a beautiful 100-acre wildlife sanctuary. John James Audubon wrote his book, "Birds of America."

On US 61 and follow it into Baton Rouge, whose principal landmarks are Louisiana State University and the State government complex, one of the Nation's few skyscraper state capitols.

On US 190 and cross a landscape of fields leading to Hammond, the "Strawberry Capital of America." Through May the town and countryside are a beehive of activity as berries are picked. The annual Strawberry Festival also occurs this time.

On US 190 into Covington, a popular residential resort, southward to join with the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, four miles make it the world's longest. After traversing the beautiful lake, the Causeway connects with Interstate 10 to the heart of exciting and historic New Orleans.

TOUR 3

New Orleans and the Bayous

All the festivity, color and sound of New Orleans' Gras is not lost after the gala celebration. Some of it jazz can be heard almost any night year-round in the Quarter. Leave the heart of this colorful city to start a tour into the oak-covered Bayou Teche country with French speech and manners.

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Travel westward on US 190, crossing the Atchafalaya River at

a part of the Great River Road, skirting a portion of the False River, which is a former bend of the Mississippi. Now, fishermen find it to be a rewarding lake yielding fine catches.

Cross the Mississippi on the ferry to reach St. Francisville with its elegant 19th-century homes: Fairview, Rosedown, The Cottage and Alton Villa Gardens. Near the center of town are two beautiful buildings—the Grace Church, an example of English Gothic built in 1858, and Audubon Hall which was built in 1819 and is probably the oldest building in town.

US 61 joins with State 966 which then leads to the Audubon Memorial State Monument. Here is Oakley House, converted into a museum and set in a beautiful 100-acre wildlife sanctuary. John James Audubon worked here on his book, "Birds of America."

Return to US 61 and follow it into Baton Rouge, whose principal sights are Louisiana State University and the State government complex with one of the Nation's few skyscraper state capitols.

Leave Baton Rouge on US 190 and cross a landscape of fields and pine woods to Hammond, the "Strawberry Capital of America." From March through May the town and countryside are a beehive of activity as the berries are picked. The annual Strawberry Festival also takes place during this time.

Continue on US 190 into Covington, a popular residential resort, and turn southward to join with the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, whose twenty-four miles make it the world's longest. After traversing this vast and beautiful lake, the Causeway connects with Interstate 10

A black and white photograph of a street in New Orleans. The foreground shows a row of buildings with wrought-iron balconies. In the background, a church with a tall, thin steeple is visible against a dark, cloudy sky. The image has a grainy texture and some vertical streaks, characteristic of older film photography.