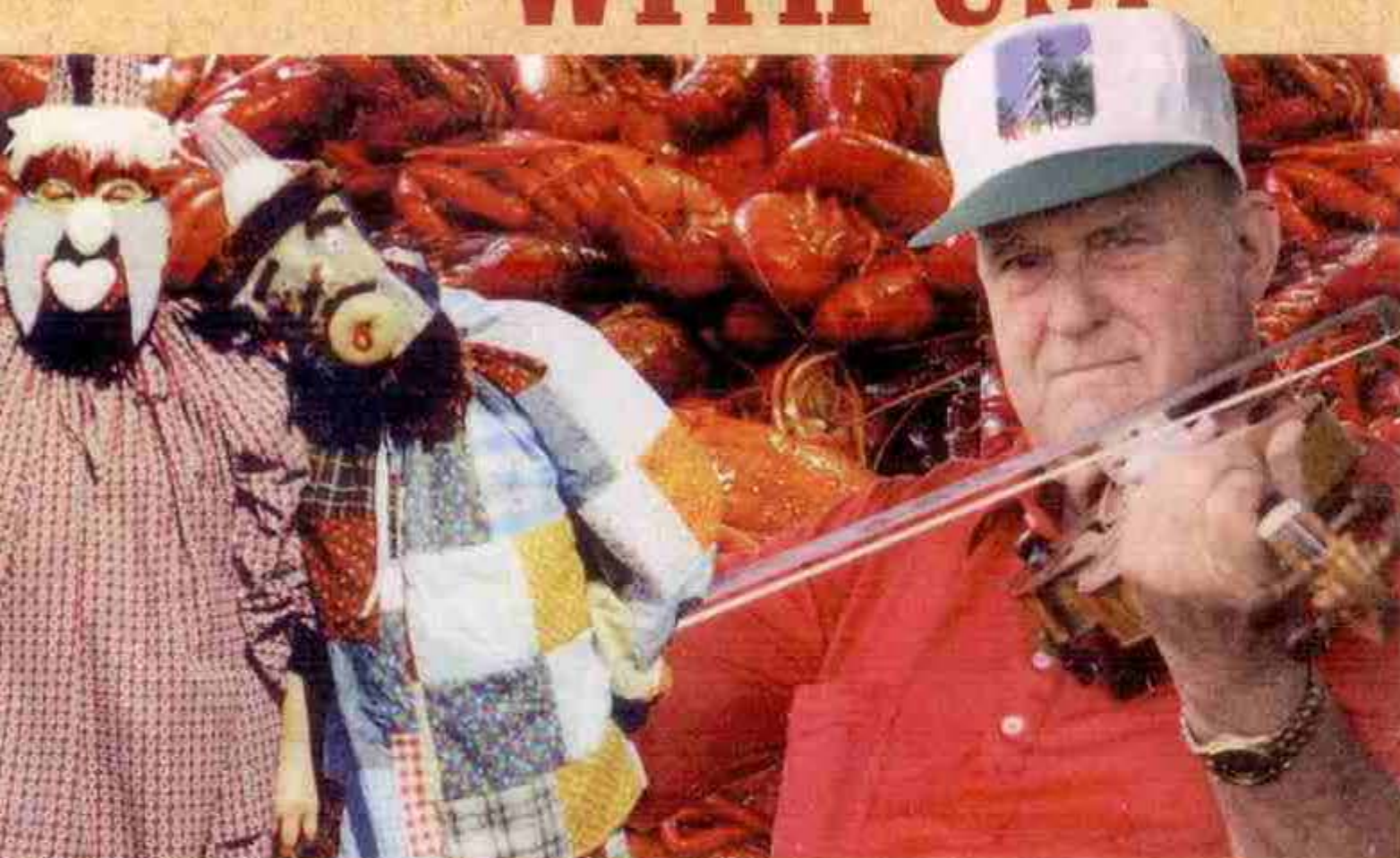


# COME VISIT WITH US!



We invite you to a  
**REAL CAJUN EXPERIENCE**  
in the heart of Cajun Prairie Country.



P.O. Box 1342, Crowley, Louisiana 70527-1342  
toll free: 1-877-783-2109 fax: 337-783-2142  
e-mail: [aptc@bellsouth.net](mailto:aptc@bellsouth.net) web: [www.acadiatourism.org](http://www.acadiatourism.org)

# CAJUN

# LOUISIANA



# PRAIRIE





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>3-4</b>	<b>WELCOME TO ACADIA PARISH</b>
<b>5-7</b>	<b>REGIONS OF ACADIA PARISH</b>
<b>8-9</b>	<b>ACCOMMODATIONS</b>
<b>9-11</b>	<b>BED AND BREAKFASTS</b>
<b>11-13</b>	<b>CAMPGROUNDS AND RV PARKS</b>
<b>13-15</b>	<b>ATTRACTIONS</b>
<b>15-16</b>	<b>POINT OF INTEREST/ SIGHTSEEING SERVICE</b>
<b>16-18</b>	<b>FAIRS AND FESTIVALS</b>
<b>19-21</b>	<b>RESTAURANTS/ CATERING</b>
<b>22-23</b>	<b>TRAVELER'S SERVICES/ HOSPITALS/ GOLF COURSES</b>
<b>23-27</b>	<b>SHOPPING/ FACILITIES</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>ATM LOCATIONS</b>
<b>28-30</b>	<b>HISTORY OF ACADIA PARISH</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>DISTANCES</b>



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 in association with Acadia Parish Tourist Commission  
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## WELCOME TO ACADIA PARISH

### CAJUN PRAIRIE COUNTRY ...

**WE INVITE YOU TO A REAL CAJUN EXPERIENCE** in the heart of Cajun Prairie Country. **LEARN** our history and folklore; **VISIT** our elegant architecture of **Crowley's** huge historic district & Cajun gift shops. Visit the Historic Rice Theatre, the restored Crowley Motor Company building, known as city hall and is home to the Rice Interpretive Center where you can learn the history of rice production, and J. D. Miller Recording Studio the oldest recording studio in continuous existence in the state of Louisiana and is best known for its Cajun, Zydeco and Country releases. Tour on down the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway to Crystal Rice Plantation & Heritage Farm with its Blue Rose Museum, collection of vintage antique cars, and for the experience of rice and crawfish on a working farm. In some of the most beautiful surroundings imaginable, you can also catch a glimpse of wildlife as they migrate along a recognized flyway from their summer homes. All this and more here in Acadia Parish U.S.A.

Experience the local heritage at the Tiny Pilgrim's chapel and their Museum in the German settlement of **Roberts Cove**. While traveling to these amazing locations, travel the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway and visit Kelly's Landing L.L.C. Agricultural Museum & Aquaculture tour on crawfish & rice to learn about the importance of agriculture in our parish while viewing the antique farm equipment

*continued on Page 4*





continued from Page 3

and a remarkable collection of toy farm equipment.

The charm of the Frog Murals and Tree Frogs explains why **Rayne** is the Frog Capital of the World, and Louisiana City of Murals. Rayne

is also listed on "Ripley's Believe It or Not" as having the only cemetery, St. Joseph's Cemetery in which the graves facing North & South. Before you leave Rayne hop on over and visit the Rayne Chamber and see the live Frog Pond.

After visiting the murals of Tee-Mamou Mardi Gras in **Iota**, visit the quaint 100 year old building that houses the Mercantile where you can shop for unique gifts and antiques. Then travel on up to **Church Point**, the Buggy Capital of the World, its home to the Le Vieux Presbytere (1886 Parsonage Home) and visit the Cajun Gift Shops. In **Richard**, visit Charlene Richard's grave for prayer and medita-

tion. (A proposed Cajun Saint in nearby Richard, La)

CELEBRATE with us at our fairs and festivals. ENJOY the taste you long for that begins right here in Acadia Parish-Louisiana, the Heart of Cajun Prairie Country. That remarkable Cajun cooking is at its very best in any of our local restaurants. Boudin, Cracklins, Gumbo, and other fine Cajun Foods allow you to experience the flavor of our spices. And by all means, you must dance the 'Cajun two-step' or tap your feet to the unique beat of the Cajun music!

After a day of touring, RELAX in one of our fine Motels/Hotels or unforgettable Bed & Breakfast or at an RV campground. All are centrally located and within minutes of all major parish attractions.

**Once you experience Acadia Parish, you are sure to return!**

Sincerely,

Gwen Hanks, Executive Director

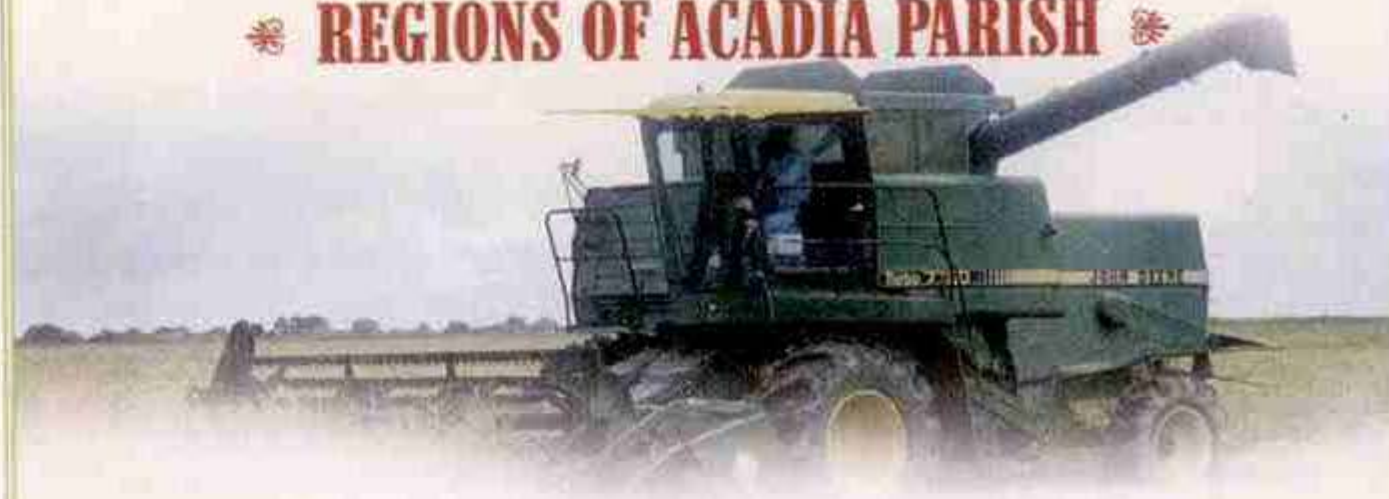


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## REGIONS OF ACADIA PARISH



### CHURCH POINT, LOUISIANA

**Buggy Capital of the World,  
Cajun Music Capital of the World**

Located at the intersection of LA Hwy. 35 & 95  
102 Church St., Church Point, LA 70525  
337-684-5692, fax: 337-684-6891  
[www.churchpoint-la.com](http://www.churchpoint-la.com)  
[churchpointcity@centurytel.net](mailto:churchpointcity@centurytel.net)

The name Church Point was derived from the original name of the settlement, Plaquemine Brûlée and the location of the first chapel. Jesuit missionaries serving the chapel referred to the site as "La Chapelle de la Pointe de Plaquemine Brûlée," or Church at the Point. The name was eventually anglicized to Church Point. Many old timers still refer to the town as "Pointe de l'Eglise." Church Point's claim of the "Buggy Capital of the World" was secured in the 1920's when many people traveled miles to attend services here. And is now celebrated at the Annual Buggy Festival first full week-end of June, is also famous for its Courier de Mardi Gras held the Sunday before the traditional Fat Tuesday. Cajun Wood Stock is held the last Saturday in April to Benefit St. Jude Research Hospital.

### CROWLEY, LOUISIANA

**"Where Life is Rice and Easy"**

Located off I-10 Exits 80 and 82  
425 N. Parkerson Ave., Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-0824, 866-665-4642 fax: 337-788-4146  
[www.crowley-la.com](http://www.crowley-la.com)

Welcome to Crowley, the "Rice Capital of America." Crowley, the Parish seat, is situated in the Heart of the Cajun Prairie, and a great example of a southwest Louisiana destination. Visit the restored historic Crowley Motor Co. Building, which now houses City Hall, where you'll discover the Rice Interpretive Center, History of Crowley, Ford Automotive and J.D. Miller Music Museums. Find out about Crowley's connections to the rice industry, Model Ts and a music legend. Take a walking or driving tour of Crowley's historic District which has over 200 structures on the National Historic Register. Crowley is home to Historic Miller stadium, one of the foremost baseball facilities in the southwest and Crowley's Recreational Department facility, which includes Hengens Park, is second to none. The Rice Capital is home to three festivals held annually, Carnival d' Acadie, Crowley's Mardi Gras & the International Rice Festival.





**ESTHERWOOD,  
LOUISIANA****Village of Estherwood**

Located 6 miles west of Crowley on Hwy. 90  
(Old Spanish Trail)  
124 North LeBlanc Street, P.O. Box 167,  
Estherwood, LA 70534  
337-783-0464, fax: 337-783-0596

Like other towns created by the coming of the train, Estherwood was named by, and probably for a railroad official or member of his family. One opinion of how Estherwood's name came about is a combination of two names, the result of a compromise made to end a controversy over whether to name the place Wood, for a Dr. Wood, or Esther, for the wife of the section foreman of the railroad. Another version explains the "wood" part as follows: the station was a re-fueling point for the early wood-burning engines, and the name was derived from the large quantities of wood which were stored near the station. Before the railroad came through the place was known as Coulee Trieve, so named for an early settler, Jean Baptiste Trieve who had built a cabin on the coulee about 1816. A mysterious and sinister figure, Trieve was believed to have been a pirate. One of the early civic leaders of Estherwood was Jacob Kollitz, who established a place of business near the site of the old pirate's cabin in 1891. When the Village was incorporated in 1901, Kollitz was one of the alderman. The village had a population of 300. The Kollitz home is still in existence, and is presently owned by the estate of Ms. Marilyn LeLeux. Another Estherwood landmark is the Hoyt home, which was built in 1899 by Edward T. Hoyt, better known as "Jasmine Lawn." Although this home has had several owners since the Hoyt's, it is now in the ownership of Edward & Paula Gonzalez. Estherwood also has one house that is listed on the Historic Registry, "Estherwood Manor." It is a beautiful two-story residence situated on N. Leblanc Street, and is presently owned by Steven O & Lana Smith. This small community has had its share of contributions in keeping up with the times. Estherwood is known for being large enough to provide for our families the necessary education, but small enough to look out for our fellow neighbors.

**MERMENTAU,  
LOUISIANA****Village of Mermentau**

Located 14 miles west of Crowley on Hwy. 90  
(Old Spanish Trail)  
104 7th Street, Mermentau, LA 70556  
337-824-8466, fax: 337-824-6973

In the last quarter of the 18th century, there was an Attakapas chief by the name of Nementou. On April 16, 1784, he sold land on Bayou Plaquemine Brûlée to Antoine Blanc. Nementou is later mentioned as the chief of a village on the river of the same name. Eventually, through a clerical error, Nementou became Mementou and this was then corrupted into Mermentau through confusion with the French word mer, which means "sea." The Mermentau area was once reputedly a refuge for smugglers, outlaws, slave runners, and pirates. It was a crossing point for brave travelers on the Old Spanish Trail, but had such a bad reputation that until well after the Louisiana Purchase no one would go to the area to find out how many people lived there. On November 11, 1899, Mermentau overcame this legend and achieved legal village status.

**MORSE,  
LOUISIANA****Village of Morse**

Located on Hwy. 91, 4 miles south of Midland  
232 South Jules, Morse, LA 70559  
337-783-7555, fax: 337-783-6150

When the railroad was extended southward from Midland into Vermilion Parish in 1896, a station was created at Morse, about four miles south of Midland. It was built to serve settlers who had bought land from W.W. Duson and was named for a railroad official. A post office, known as Lorna, was established on April 30, 1898. The name of the village was changed to Morse on July 1, 1900. It was named for S.F.B. Morse, a Southern Pacific official. Morse was incorporated as a village on March 27, 1906. Alcee Henry was the first mayor.

**IOTA,  
LOUISIANA**

I-10 Exit 76 take LA 1120 North,  
6 miles to LA 98, left 1 1/2 miles  
116 Duson Avenue, Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-2597, fax: 337-779-2599

The mural of Tee-Mamou Mardi Gras (located on old Bourgeois General Store, built in 1914), allows you to experience the "Tee Mamou-Iota Mardi Gras Folklife Festival." Mineral springs made Iota the home of Pointe-aux-Loups, an early health spa. "Pointe aux-Loups," translated to English is "Wolf Point," one of the oldest places named in the Acadia Parish area. It was once a well-known summer resort because of the medicinal springs there.

**RAYNE,  
LOUISIANA****The Frog Capital of The World,  
Louisiana City of Murals**

Located right off I-10 Exit 87  
P. O. Box 69, 801 The Boulevard, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-3121  
[www.rayne.org](http://www.rayne.org)

Explore the past. Enjoy the present. Rayne was not built in a day. It goes back to the 1800's when the railroad came to town. First called Pouppeville, but was later changed to honor the engineer who laid the tracks - Rayne. Today, folks know us for our frogs, but it all started when a trio of Parisians, Jaques Weil and his brothers, began a profitable export business, shipping our hoppy residents to restaurants across the country. There's also St. Joseph's Cemetery, listed in *Ripley's Believe It or Not!* as the only known U.S. cemetery facing north-south. This is only the beginning, and to learn more, you've just got to come visit. Open your eyes to the beauty that surrounds you. In Rayne, art is everywhere. It is inescapable. Murals leap out at every turn, created by masters of the art form and citizens with an eye for capturing the uniqueness of the area. The Bernard-Bertrand House, a home with its own colorful history, is now home to wonderful works by area artists. Step by step down Louisiana Avenue, stroll into the pages of a Louisiana history book. Your eye is drawn to architectural details that take you back in time. And antique shops are for browsing and buying or reliving a bit of the past. Historic charm, mesmerizing murals, antique attractions, Old Louisiana come to life. Welcome to Rayne, Louisiana, City of friends and frogs. Where the simple things leave the biggest impression. And simply strolling through the streets is one of the most pleasant experiences you can have. For a day or two, there's just so much to do - in Rayne!



**ESTHERWOOD,  
LOUISIANA****Village of Estherwood**

Located 6 miles west of Crowley on Hwy. 90  
(Old Spanish Trail)  
124 North LeBlanc Street, P.O. Box 167,  
Estherwood, LA 70534  
337-783-0464, fax: 337-783-0596

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**MORSE,  
LOUISIANA****Village of Morse**

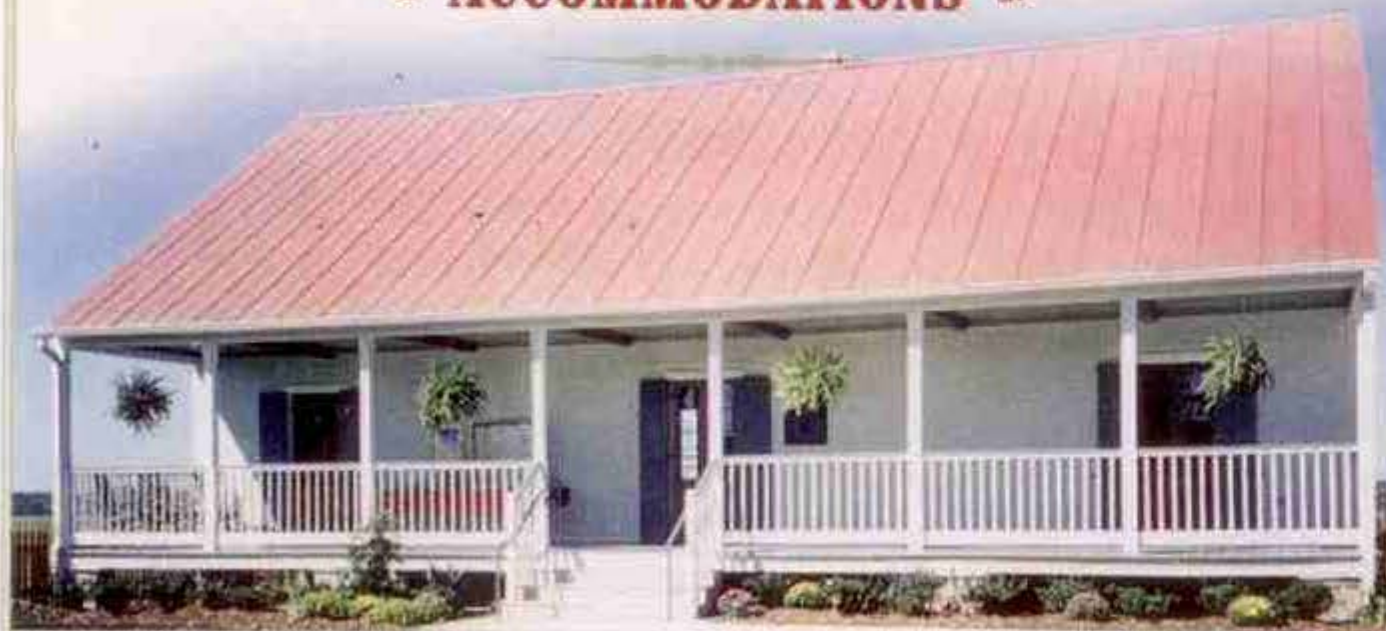
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**IOTA,  
LOUISIANA**

I-10 Exit 76 take LA 1120 North,  
6 miles to LA 98, left 1 1/2 miles  
116 Duson Avenue, Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-2597, fax: 337-779-2599

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✿ **ACCOMMODATIONS** ✿**CROWLEY INN**

2111 North Cherokee Drive, Crowley, LA 70526  
Exit 80 on to service road  
337-788-0970

59 Rooms, Restaurant/Bar, Free motor coach parking, Honeymoon suite with Jacuzzis, hairdryers, microwave, refrigerator, group rates, pool, eighteen-wheeler truck parking. Crowley Inn is located two miles from downtown Crowley. Discount AAA, AARP. With this ad 15% off (with no other discount)

**DAYS INN  
OF CROWLEY**

9571 Egan Hwy., Crowley, LA 70526  
Exit 80 on to service road  
337-783-2378

46 Rooms, Free USA Today and complimentary coffee. Free deluxe

**BEST WESTERN  
INN OF RAYNE**

1422 N. Polk Street, Rayne, LA 70578  
Located I-10 at Exit 87  
337-334-0060

Beautiful newly renovated property, 51 guest rooms - all interior corridors, Jacuzzi Suite available. Free Hot Breakfast, Complimentary USA Today, fax & copy services. 32 inch LCD TV's with HBO, in room coffee makers, business center, meeting facility, swimming pool. Free high speed internet in all rooms.

**SUPER 8 MOTEL****Life's Great at Super 8!**

3001 Daulat Drive, Duson, LA 70529  
Exit 92 on to service road  
337-873-8883 or Toll Free 866-873-8883  
info@super8duson.com, www.super8duson.com

54 room property located in the "Heart of Cajun Country." All rooms feature refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers, iron/ironing boards, and hair dryers. Jacuzzi Suites available. Complimentary continental breakfast with hot waffles, guest laundry facilities, exercise room and outdoor pool. Free high speed internet. Adjacent 24 hour restaurant/casinos. Close to area attractions, Cajun restaurants, swamp tours and much more! Bus/truck parking available. Special group, AAA, AARP rates available. E-Z I-10 access, Exit 92.

✿ **BED & BREAKFASTS** ✿



**LA MAISON  
POINTE AUX  
LOUPS**

2165 Eunice-Iota Hwy., Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-2485, 337-230-7658 (cell)  
Contact: Gibson Miller  
www.lamaisonpointeauxlouis.4t.com

Welcome to La Maison Pointe aux Loups Bed and Breakfast and Gift Shop. Step back in time in a century-old authentic Acadian (Cajun) home. Allow yourself to relax and enjoy the warmth and comfort of the two bedrooms, kitchen, bath, living room and swing on the cypress swing on the front porch. The furniture dates back a hundred years. Whether you are traveling or just want a weekend get-away, Pointe aux Loups provides a perfect destination. All rooms are non-smoking. A few steps next door provides you with a gift shop with inexpensive items fit for everyone's taste. Same telephone numbers apply for the Gift Shop as that of the B&B. Located 3 miles north of Iota on Hwy. 91.

**MAISON  
DABOVAL**

305 East Louisiana Avenue  
Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-3489, fax: 337-334-3488  
www.dabovalbb.com

The Royers welcome you to their historic 1892 home. It was featured on "HGTV If Walls Could Talk." The atmosphere offers heart and soul of Cajun hospitality. Mornings are a special-time. Guests awaken to fresh homemade foods, cooked by Miss Martha. Five rooms with private baths. In walking distance from historical and cultural sites and restaurants.

**MAISON  
D'MEMOIRE  
BED & BREAKFAST  
COTTAGES**

8450 Roberts Cove Road, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-2477, toll free: 1-866-580-2477  
info@maisonmemoire.com  
www.maisonmemoire.com

Recapture the precious memories of the past in our private, authentic Cajun cottages. Indulge in the blessings of a country weekend. Where the atmosphere is warm and personal-a picturesque setting long to be remembered. One of those rare places that seem to have it all. Private lake, nature walks, Jacuzzi suites and a delicious full breakfast delivered to your door to enjoy in the privacy of your suite! Our unique guest-houses have the warmth and coziness of visiting Grandma's and the luxury of a hotel. We can also hold meetings or special events for up to 150 guests in our Special Events Center.

**THE  
HOFFPAUIR  
HOUSE**

4257 Roberts Cove Road, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-788-1050, cell: 337-581-1675  
hoffpauirhouse1@aol.com  
www.hoffpauirhouse.com

Willkommen, Bienvenue, to one of the best kept secrets in Acadia Parish. Located in the quiet countryside of Southwest Louisiana, we're nestled among the wooded acres of Roberts Cove, La., in the heart of Cajun Country. Come sit, relax and enjoy the tranquil setting that surrounds you. Imagine sitting in the peace and quiet of your own private porch, gazing across the beautifully landscaped lawn or sitting along the banks of our fresh water pond.

**LE VILLAGE**

121 Seale Lane/Hwy 13 Eunice, LA 70535  
337-457-3573  
www.levillagehouse.com



A Cajun country retreat. Four guest rooms in the main house have been refurbished and reflect the old French farmhouse look. "The old Country Store" is available for receptions, reunions, weddings and retreats. Located on the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway just 17 miles north of I-10 Crowley/Eunice (exit 80), Highway 13. No smoking/no pets.

**CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS****DAVID'S RV  
TRAILER PARK**

825 East Ebey Street, Church Point, LA 70525  
337-945-7897 or 337-684-5371  
fax: 337-684-5374

15 RV and campers spots with full hook-up.

**SADDLE-  
TRAMP RV-  
CAMPGROUND**

1/2 mile north of Church Point city limits,  
1036 East Ebey  
For more information contact:  
churchpointmardigras@hotmail.com  
RV Site Rental Contact: Joey Richard 337-684-2026  
Club House Rental Contact: Todd Richard 337-684-6009

50 RV camp sites, full hook-ups, .Club house with central AC/Heat, bandstand, restrooms and full kitchen facility. A 30x30 covered pavilion, concrete flooring adjoining clubhouse for outdoor cooking etc. Within walking distance of fast food restaurants, park, hospital, groceries, pharmacy. Overnight or weekend, Club rallies are welcomed.

**ACADIA RICE  
ARENA RV PARK**

159 Cherokee Road, Crowley, LA 70526  
Call Kermit Miller 337-783-1442

20 RV sites with full hook-ups 30 and 50 amp electricity available for rent, whether you are attending a function at the arena or just passing through and need a place to rest.

**FROG CITY  
RV PARK**

3003 Daulat Drive, Duson, LA 70529  
Located I-10 at Exit 92  
337-873-9085 fax: 873-8864  
www.frogrvpark@yahoo.com  
www.lafayettervpark.com

62 RV Sites, full hookup, free TV & WIFI, 20,30& 50 amp electrical, 6 stall individual bath house, laundry, 44 pull through, 18 back-ins, 4 tent sites, primitive camping, pool. Located close to I-10.



**CAJUN HAVEN  
RV PARK** 434 Trumps Road, Egan, LA 70531  
337-783-7330  
Right off I-10 Exit 72 E-Z off - E-Z on

Jeffery and Wendy Morgan welcome travelers to their RV Park, where Cajun hospitality is at its finest. Located just off of 1-10, in the heart of Cajun Country, 8 miles west of Crowley. We have 5 cabins, 54 full hookups, bathhouse with laundry room, pond for fishing and path for biking or walking, playground for children, shelters with bar-b-que pits & picnic tables, large screened in pavilion. All pull thru sites - Large rigs welcome.

**CAJUN ELITE  
RV PARK** 3288 Evangeline Hwy., Evangeline, LA 70537  
Call 337-275-0946

38 hookups, 30 and 50 amp electricity, water hookups, bathhouse with showers, dump station. 5 miles North of 1-10 Exit 65 on Hwy 97 located on right. From Hwy 190, go south on Hwy 97 about 10 miles, located on left.

**LAKE FELIX  
RV CAMPGROUND** 4177 Eunice Iota Highway (Hwy. 91)  
Eunice, LA 70535  
337-580-3402  
Easy access off I-10 exit 72 to Iota, Hwy 91 North

Come and enjoy a small, quiet lakeside park. Get closer to nature by living among it. Imagine... A night sky full of stars you can see more than the Big Dipper. This hidden gem has 16 sites with full hook-ups (30 and 50 amps), walking trail, laundry room, bathhouse. For Reservations: 337-580-3402

**LA PAY E BAS  
RV PARK** 699 Arpent Drive, Eunice, LA 70535  
337-457-5032 or 337-457-9371  
fax: 337-457-5033  
(The Low Land) 6 miles S/W of Eunice off of Hwy 190 on to Hwy. 91 just inside Acadia Parish, turn right on Arpent Road  
Exit 72 off 1-10 to Iota, stay on Hwy. 91 until Arpent Road, turn left to RV Park.  
(Approximately 15 miles from 1-10)

We feature 150 full hookups with trees, off hwy 91 in a quiet setting. 30 acre stocked lake and a 2-acre stocked pond, with good fishing, boats available. The lake has a white sandy bank for swimming, and a one mile hiking nature trail around lake. 120 x 40 pavilion with live entertainment on holiday weekends, occasional Karaoke. The Low Land Snack Shop featuring 100% homemade beef burgers. We have rental cabins, small pavilion, washateria, clean bathrooms, camper's game club, meeting room. General store with camper supplies, groceries, snacks, snocones, ice, beverages, firewood, tobacco, bait, etc. Facilities available for reunions, catering available.



**A&M  
CAMPGROUND** 3108 Henry Road, Morse, LA 70559  
Call for reservations 337-783-2138  
(Lyons Point, LA) Margie Henry, Owner  
Good Sam Life Member

Located 8.6 miles south of Crowley off Hwy. 13, turn right onto Henry Road before Parish line (don't cross bridge). Go .02 two tenths of a mile, turn left at sign. Clubhouse with complete kitchen. We welcome clubs. We cater. We have monthly rates. Come enjoy peace and quiet with us.

**ACADIAN OAKS  
PARK  
CAMPGROUND** 8424 Roberts Cove Road, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-2134 or 337-334-9955 after 4:00 p.m.

30 RV and camper spots with full hook-up.

**CITY OF RAYNE  
RV RALLY  
FACILITY** P.O. Box 69, (801 The Boulevard) Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-3121, fax: 337-334-6607  
rayne@rayne.org, www.rayne.org

740 RV hook-ups. 30 and 50 amp electricity. 19,000 square foot Civic Center adjoining RV park. Call to reserve space for your next RV rally.

**ATTRACTIONS**

**LE VIEUX  
PRESBYTERE** Corner of Rue Iry Lejeune & South Rogers  
Street, Church Point, LA 70525  
(Parsonage Home) 337-684-5692



This building was the old Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Rectory. The Diocese of Lafayette donated this priest's home to the Town of Church Point. The 1887 structure, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This is one of the last structures in south Louisiana to use folk craft of mud wall construction which is known as bousillage. Call City Hall Office.

**MASTER-TRAK  
SOUND  
RECORDERS** 413 N. Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-788-0773, fax: 337-788-0776  
metrecords@bellsouth.net  
www.mtrecords.com

Featuring Louisiana's oldest recording studio. Tours welcome by appointment only. Admission is free. Local music available on CD's, tapes and vinyl.



**HISTORIC  
RICE  
THEATRE**

323 North Parkerson Avenue Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-0824, fax: 337-788-4146 866-665-4642  
www.crowley-la.com. Opened 1941

In this completely renovated and restored prime example of Art Deco you'll find the glamour of the 40's and 50's with the bold use of stepped forms, sweeping curves and geometric shapes which are all elements of this opulent style. The Rice Theatre now features a wide range of local, area, and national entertainment including musical and theatrical performances.

**IOTA MERCANTILE  
& MUSEUM**

125 Duson Avenue Iota, LA 70543  
337-457-2716 or 337-580-0154

Visit the quaint 100 year old building that houses the museum with memorabilia from Iota's past. Wed. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. or call for an appointment.

**KELLY'S LANDING  
AGRICULTURAL  
MUSEUM & TOURS**

1109 Robert's Cove Road, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-788-0546  
337-263-5520 cell phone, Kelly & Lynn  
kellyslanding@worldnet.att.net

Take a nostalgic walk through the past as you view the farming tools of our fathers and grandfathers. The equipment of yesterday was simple and, quite often, handmade. Tour the antique farm equipment and toy tractor collection. All tours by appointments only.

**CRYSTAL RICE  
PLANTATION  
& HERITAGE FARM**

6428 Airport Rd., Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-6417, fax: 337-788-0123  
crpmona@cs.com,  
www.crystalrice.com

BLUE ROSE MUSEUM - Francine Wright's restored 1848 Acadian/Creole Cottage. • SALMON'S ANTIQUE CAR MUSEUM - Classic cars collected by Salmon L. Wright Jr. • AGRICULTURE TOUR - In honor of Sol Wright who developed revolutionary seed rice varieties for growth in Louisiana in 1907/ Shows rotation of rice and crawfish/ Tours By Appointment Only/Discounts For 25 or More

**GRAND OPERA  
HOUSE OF  
THE SOUTH**

505 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-785-0440  
www.thegrandoperahouse.org

Situated in the heart of historical downtown Crowley, sits a 1901 second-story opera house now open to the public following a \$4.5 million dollar renovation and restoration. Having been closed since 1939, this historical landmark now presents stellar performing arts entertainment to its audience using both established and emerging artists. Tours are available by appointment only. Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**THE CROWLEY  
ART GALLERY**

220 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-3747 • Mon -Fri, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
www.crowleyartgallery.com • gallerythe@bellsouth.net

Find original creations - including paintings, handcrafted jewelry, Cajun crafts, mosaics, baby clothes, woodcrafts, pottery & more by area artists. Buses are welcome.

**MOUTON  
ACCORDIONS  
& MUSIC**

23466 Crowley-Eunice Hwy., Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-2246  
moutonmusic@aol.com www.moutonaccordions.net

Come in and see our great selection of Cajun and Swamp Pop cd's & cassettes. Check out our great prices on accordions and musical instruments. We welcome all tourists and group tours. Located 5 miles north of Crowley on Hwy. 13. Open Mon.-Fri., 10a.m.-5p.m., Sat., 10a.m.-1p.m. Present this ad for special discount!

**WORTMAN  
POTTERY STUDIO  
AND SHOWROOM**

1769 Potters Road, Duson, LA 70529  
337-873-8584 • wortmanpottery@msn.com  
www.wortmanpottery.com

Handcrafted functional stoneware pottery. 10 miles east of Crowley off Hwy. 90 between Rayne and Duson. Look for our signs at 1-10 Exit 92. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.-6 p.m., MC/V. Occasionally closed on Mondays.

**THE BERNARD-  
BERTRAND HOUSE**

1023 The Boulevard, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-8347, fax: 337-334-1154  
culturaldirector@rayne.org www.rayne.org

The first Mayor of Rayne, J.D. Bernard's home, serves as the City's Cultural Center and contributes a cultural richness to the lives of visitors and residents throughout the region as it hosts exhibits, performances, lectures in the humanities, art classes, workshops and special events.

✿ **POINTS OF INTEREST** ✿**ST. JOSEPH'S  
CEMETERY**

401 South Adams Street, Rayne, LA 70578

The cemetery dates back to 1872. St. Joseph's Cemetery, listed in "Ripley's Believe It or Not!" as the only known U.S. cemetery facing north-south. But this is only the beginning, and to learn more, you've just got to come visit.

**GRAVESITE OF  
CHARLENE  
MARIE RICHARD**

**Proposed Cajun Saint**  
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cemetery,  
Richard, LA • www.charlenerichard.com

Charlene Marie Richard was born January 13, 1947. After being diagnosed with acute lymphatic leukemia, she died on August 11, 1959, at the age of 12. During her confinement in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Lafayette, LA, Charlene would offer her prayers and suffering to God each day for the benefit of others.

**LE PARC DU  
VIEUX DEPOT**

102 Church Street, Church Point, LA 70525

It served as the railroad depot and loading platform for 75 years. The city thought it should be preserved, so it became an attractive site with trees, walkways, beautiful lamp post, benches, a pavilion, water fountain and hitching post.



## ✿ SIGHTSEEING SERVICES ✿

### ACADIA TOURS WITH ALICE

521 East 3rd Street, Crowley, LA 70526  
Toll Free 800-651-8004 or 337-783-5640  
fax: 337-783-4419 cell: 337-581-4827  
www.acadia-tours.com, alice@acadia-tours.com

Tour with Alice and experience the following: rice and crawfish farm, Cajun cooking, Crystal Rice Plantation with Acadian cottage, cajun accordion craftsman, German community and museum, swamp tours, plantation homes, Grand Opera House and museums. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-12p.m. ALL TOURS BY APPOINTMENT. Transportation not provided.

## ✿ FAIRS & FESTIVALS ✿

### CHURCH POINT BUGGY FESTIVAL

837 E. Ebey Street, Church Point, LA, 70525  
337-684-2739, fax: 337-684-2739  
busybeetc@hotmail.com  
www.cpbuggyfestival.weebly.com

Held the first full weekend in June, open Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday. Live music, (Cajun & Zydeco). Accordion Extravaganza featuring 10 professional musicians, held Saturday night. Pageants, food booths, arts & crafts, Queens Pageant and the Grand Buggy Parade – Antique Buggy Display on Festival grounds.

### COURIRE DE MARDI GRAS

1036 East Ebey Street, Church Point, LA 70525  
337-684-2026, 337-684-6009  
www.churchpointmardigras.com  
churchpointmardigras@hotmail.com

Courire de Mardi Gras since 1961 "The Best Traditional Mardi Gras". Starting the weekend before Mardi Gras, Saturday with the Children's run, beginning at the Saddle Tramp Club House and with a parade downtown. Sunday the Courire begins and ends downtown for a parade. All

events start and end at Saddle Tramp Club House on East Ebey street. Colorful costumed horseback riders, wagons, buggies, live music on the Courire. Chase chickens, catch the greased pig, spectacular events. Traditional gumbo, boudin and beverages available. For dates and time of events call toll free (877-783-2109).

### CAJUN WOODSTOCK

100 Darbonne Street, Church Point, LA 70525  
337-280-8710  
woodstock4stjude@aol.com  
www.cajunwoodstock.com

A beautiful two day festival to help a cure for the kids of St. Jude's Hospital. It's a weekend of food, fun, and the greatest music in the state. Come join us at the City Park Pavilion and make a difference for the children. Always the last Saturday and Sunday of April. Poker Run on Sunday with a great run for the bikers. We can find a cure and save lives together.

### INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

112 East Hutchinson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-3067, fax: 337-783-3064  
info@ricefestival.com  
www.ricefestival.com



The International Rice Festival is one of Louisiana's oldest and largest agricultural festivals. Our celebration calls attention to the importance of rice as food and emphasizes its place in the world's economy. The festival takes place in historic downtown Crowley and is one of the few festivals still free to the public. It is held the third weekend of October. The Festival features numerous Cajun and Zydeco bands on two stages, two parades, Queen's Ball, rice cooking contest, rice eating contest, arts & crafts booths, carnival rides, and numerous food booths featuring great Cajun food. Contact Roxie Viator.

### CARNIVAL D'ACADIE

11 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-0824, 866-665-4642  
www.crowley-la.com

This Heart of Cajun Prairie Mardi Gras Celebration, d'Acadie, celebrates Fat Tuesday Rice City style! This three day carnival kicks off Sunday before Mardi Gras with the fair; rides, food and fun for all. Then Monday evening the festivities begin with live music and a street dance. The revelry continues Tuesday, Mardi Gras day with costume contests, more live entertainment, more festival cuisine and in the afternoon the Grand Mardi Gras parade, which includes bands, floats and plenty of Mardi beads! All welcome and for sure... you're in for some fabulous food, great music and a toe-tappin' good time; so grab a partner... dancing in the street is encouraged!



### TEE MAMOU IOTA MARDI GRAS FESTIVAL

116 Duson Avenue, Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-2456, 337-224-1525 (cell)  
www.iotamardigras.com

Prairie Cajun Mardi Gras at its best! See the last of the totally traditional Prairie Cajun Mardi Gras groups singing, dancing, and chanting their 400 year old chant in French, all wearing hand made screen masks, costumes, and capuchons. The "Mardi Gras" arrive about 2 p.m., but the festival is an all day event in downtown Iota, where only traditional Cajun foods are served and Cajun crafts are displayed and sold. Live Cajun and Zydeco music all day on an outdoor bandstand and dance floor. Visit our "Children's Tent" featuring the best young Cajun musicians in the area! Always held on Mardi Gras day (Fat Tuesday) Free admission.

### RAYNE FROG FESTIVAL

206 Frog Festival Drive, Gossen Memorial  
Park, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-366-2884  
raynefrogfestival@gmail.com

The frogs are ready — are you ready? Hop on down to the Rayne Frog Festival the second full weekend in November where you are sure to have a jumping good time. We're just off I-10, only 15

minutes west of Lafayette. Music throughout the weekend featuring Cajun, Zydeco, swamp pop, rock & roll and country. Great food, including Cajun specialties, seafood, burgers, frog legs and much more. Special attractions include carnival rides, arts and crafts show (next door in the Civic Center), Queens contests, frog racing and jumping contest, Poker Run, 5K run, grand parade, free parking.

### WHEELIN' N PEELIN'

Oak Street, Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-2332, fax: 337-334-8341  
Raynechamber1@bellsouth.net  
www.raynechamber.com



Car Show and Crawfish Cook-off, held at festival fairgrounds annually in May. Best of show in multiple categories of cars, trucks, and other, as well as Pro & Amateur cook-off. Entry fees for Car Show and Cook-off, Gate admission.

### ROBERTS COVE GERMANFEST

German Heritage  
of Louisiana

7212 Roberts Cove Road, Rayne, LA 70578  
St. Leo Church grounds, Hwy. 98 approx. 3  
miles NW of I-10, Rayne.  
337-334-8354, fax: 337-334-8354  
info@robertscovegermanfest.com  
www.robertscovegermanfest.com

Roberts Cove Germanfest is unique in that this cultural event takes place in a small community whose roots are of German origin and is situated in the middle of "Cajun Country." The two-day event provides activities for all ages. The central theme is expressed with native foods and drinks — sausage, bread, potatoes, sauerkraut and sugar cookies. While at the Germanfest take time to tour the new German Heritage Museum. Admission Fee. The Germanfest is held on Sat & Sun the 1<sup>st</sup> full weekend in October.

## RESTAURANTS

### SUNNY'S FRIED CHICKEN

111 East Ebey, Church Point, LA 70525  
337-684-5051

In business over 30 yrs. specializing in fried chicken, fried shrimp, poboys and plate lunches. Sun.-Sat., 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

### RICE PALACE CAJUN RESTAURANT & EXIT 80 TRAVEL PLAZA

I-10 exit 80, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-3001, fax: 337-783-9798  
rp@ricepalace.com

Restaurant specializing in Cajun food, seafood, and steaks. Fuel service center, convenience store and Video Poker Casino on site. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ATMs, Western Union, money orders, hunting, and fishing licenses available. All major credit cards accepted.

### FEZZO'S SEAFOOD, STEAKHOUSE & OYSTER BAR

2111 North Cherokee Drive, I-10 Exit 80,  
Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-5515, fax: 337-783-6466  
www.fezzos.com  
Second location: I-10 Exit 97, Scott, LA

Serving "down home" lunch specials, specializing in flame grilled marinated steaks and only the finest seafood. All in a family dining atmosphere. Boiled Crawfish in season, Poboyos, salads and pasta dishes. Rich in Cajun tradition. Buses welcome with reservations. Mon.-Thu. 11a.m.-9p.m., Fri.-Sat. 11a.m.-9:30p.m., Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m. On and off premise catering. AE/D/MC/V





**CAJUN WAY  
FAMILY  
RESTAURANT  
BOUDIN KING**

1805 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-788-2929

We have a "come as you are" atmosphere. Friendly employees who are ready to serve you the freshest great tasting boudin, gumbo, red beans and rice, poboys and seafood dinners. Mon.-Thu. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. AE/MC/V. NO CHECKS

**FROSTO** 228 North Avenue G, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-0917, fax: 337-783-0915

Frosto is a 50's style drive-in serving the best tasting old fashioned hamburger in town. Have a delicious malt or shake or one of our many other desserts, all made from scratch. Come by and enjoy dining in our casual fifties atmosphere. We are located in the heart of the historical district in Crowley. You may call in orders. Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

**JOPPÉ  
COURTYARD  
CAFÉ**

414 Parkerson Avenue,  
Crowley, La 70526  
(337) 250-4045

With an inviting atmosphere, Joppe' Courtyard Cafe' serves specialty coffees and fresh food. Our goal is to make sure each guest receives prompt, professional, friendly, and courteous service. We strive to maintain clean, comfortable, and well-maintained premises for our guests and staff. We provide fair-priced, nutritional, well-prepared meals using only quality ingredients. We work to ensure that all guests are treated with respect and dignity they deserve. Joppe' Courtyard Cafe' invites you to stop by, try one of our specialty coffees, and relax for a while in our New Orleans style courtyard. We do a full breakfast, plate lunches, and have a full menu. Open 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

**D.I.'S CAJUN  
RESTAURANT** 6561 Evangeline Hwy., Basile, LA  
Highway 97 on the outskirts of Iota.  
337-432-5141, contact: Daniel & Sherry  
www.discajunrestaurant.biz

Open for Lunch Tues.-Fri. 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m. Open Evenings Tues.-Sat. 5p.m.-10p.m. Live Cajun Music nightly from 6:30p.m.-9:30p.m. Meeting room available, large seating in dance area. Cajun Specialties, Seafood, Steaks. Group rates. Mardi Gras performances nightly 5 nights prior to Mardi Day and Open Sunday nights extra for the Mardi Gras season.

**FIREHOUSE CAFÉ  
& CONCESSIONS** 723 South Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-1616

Voted best plate lunch in Acadia Parish. Open Monday thru Saturday 6:00 a.m.-8 p.m. Daily plate lunches and specials. Serving breakfast to burgers even seafood. Also serving boiled crawfish when in season. Catering available.



**C'EST BON  
RESTAURANT** 1400 Railroad Avenue (Hwy. 90),  
Mermentau, LA 70556  
337-824-5015, fax: 337-824-7770

Serving Cajun plate lunches daily. Seafood dinners and short orders also available. Specializing in boiled crawfish, boiled crabs and boiled shrimp. (Only available in season.) Our dress is casual. No reservations needed. We have reasonable prices. Mon.-Tues. 5:30a.m.-2:30p.m., Wed.-Fri. 5:30a.m.-9p.m., Sat. 8a.m.-9p.m. MC/V.

**CHEF ROY'S  
FROG CITY CAFÉ** *Try What Acadia's Finest Has to Offer!*  
1131 Church Point Hwy. Rayne, LA 70578,  
North of I-10  
337-334-7913, fax: 337-334-7935  
www.chefroy.com



Louisiana Cajun restaurant located in Rayne, La., Frog Capital of the World. Located along I-10, Rayne - Exit 87 - North. We have an extensive menu offering awesome Cajun dishes. The restaurant was founded by Chef Roy Lyons and now owned

and operated by Chef Benoit Morel and Robert Credeur. Our restaurant offers casual or formal dining, banquet facilities and a comfortable lounge. Happy Hour begins 4 p.m. Lounge is closed on Sunday and Monday. Restaurant hours are Tue.-Thu. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 4 p.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**FROG CITY  
TRAVEL PLAZA** 1418 North Polk Street, Rayne, LA 70578,  
(I-10 & LA 35)  
337-334-3764, fax: 337-334-7729  
frogcitytravel@aol.com

Frog City Travel Plaza is your one-stop shop for gasoline, diesel, gifts, ice cream, pizza, audio books, souvenirs, etc. Get fine Cajun cuisine in our spacious restaurant. Replenish your supplies from our convenience store. Enjoy our exciting Video Poker Casino. View the beautiful murals. Open 24 hours daily. RV dump on site. AE/D/MC/V/CB/DC/EXXON/MOBIL.

**CRAWFISH HUT** 702 West Branch Street (Hwy. 90),  
Rayne, LA 70578 • www.crawfishhut.com  
337-334-3787, fax: 337-334-3754

Serving the best Louisiana boiled seafood. (in season) Authentic Cajun food at its best, made only from the freshest ingredients. We cater anywhere, anytime. Hours may vary according to season. 5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. dinner.



## ✿ TRAVELER'S SERVICES ✿



**ACADIA ANIMAL CLINIC** 7433 South Hwy. 13, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-7642, fax: 337-783-7692

Dr. Jeffery Artall, Veterinarian. Hours: Mon, Thu., Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Tue.-Wed. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Large & small animals seen, including cattle, horses and any livestock. Boarding Kennel, and grooming services available. After hour emergencies call 337-785-8860. Closed Saturdays & Sundays. Accept Visa/MC/Discover

**CROWLEY VETERINARY HOSPITAL** 19131 Crowley-Eunice Hwy., Crowley, LA 70526  
1/4 mile N of I-10  
337-788-0614, fax: 337-788-2833

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Boarding kennels, all pets exercised twice daily in large exercise yard. Complete medical and surgical care. AE/D/MC/V

**GIBSON PC** 620 N. Parkerson Ave., Crowley, LA 70526  
337-250-4359  
support@gibsonpc.com • www.gibsonpc.com

Fast, affordable, professional on-site computer repairs. Computer upgrades and new computers available. Open Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Major credit cards accepted.

**POINT DE L'ÉGLISE GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY** P. O. Box 497, Crowley, LA 70527  
337-783-8497, Thelma Richard  
www.rootsworld.com/~lapehgs  
thewayrichard@cox.net

The Society provides members and non-members information on Acadia Parish families. Research information may be acquired through publications sold by the society or through fee-based research by the volunteer members. Annual membership is \$15.00. The society meets quarterly on the second Saturday of February, May, August and November. For more information you may write to the above address.

## ✿ HOSPITALS ✿

**ACADIA-ST. LANDRY HOSPITAL** 810 South Broadway Street  
Church Point, LA 70525  
337-684-5435

Serving all of Acadia and St. Landry Parishes.  
24-Hour Staffed. Emergency Room.

**AMERICAN LEGION HOSPITAL** 1305 Crowley-Rayne Hwy. (East Hwy. 90)  
Crowley, LA 70526  
337-788-6425 or 337-783-3222

24-Hour Fully Staffed. Emergency Room

## ✿ GOLF COURSES ✿

**CAJUN PINE GOLF CLUB** Golf Course Rd., P.O. Box 390, Branch, LA 70516  
(1 mile east of Branch off of Hwy. 365)  
337-334-9904  
Contact: Al Larriviere

Closed Mondays, open Sun. & Sat. 7 a.m.-8 p.m., Tue.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. 9-hole golf course, semi-private. Green fees accepted.

**BAYOU BEND GOLF & HEALTH CLUB** 427 W. Hoyt Ave., Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-3763  
Contact: Randy J. Nickel

18-hole semi-private course, full practice facility. Open everyday.

## ✿ SHOPPING ✿

**CROWLEY RENT-ALL CENTER INC.** 715 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-2601, fax: 337-783-2648  
crc1982@att.net

We rent and sell small contractor equipment and supplies, homeowner equipment and supplies, party and wedding equipment and supplies. We do deliver! Mon.-Fri., 7a.m.-5p.m., Sat., 7a.m.-Noon AE/D/MC/V.



**RICE CITY KITCHEN** 630 North Parkerson, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-9856

Rice City Liquor was opened in the forties when liquor was sold only in the package stores. In the sixties we added homemade tamales made fresh daily. Another specialty is homemade chicken salad which can be purchased in a container or by the sandwich. We also make up gift baskets. Mon. - Fri. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**HARMON GREENHOUSE NURSERY** 1020 Jasmine Road, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-788-3293

Bedding Plants, Roses, Fruit Trees, Shade Trees, Herbs, Vegetable Plants, Organic Matter, Pots & Planters and 3 greenhouses. Mon.-Sat 9 am. - 5 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. AE/D/MC/V.

**GIBSON PC** 620 N. Parkerson Ave., Crowley, LA. 70526  
support@gibson.com • www.gibson.com  
337-250-4359

Fast, affordable, professional on-site computer repairs. Computer upgrades and new computers available. Open Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Major credit cards accepted.

**GAIL'S GIFTS** 127 North Avenue E, Crowley, LA 70526  
7 min. from I-10, Exit 80 to Hwy. 90,  
Corner of Hwy. 90W & Ave. E • 337-788-1117

An unusual shopping experience offering treasures from Cajun Country to fine crystal. Mon.-Fri. 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Sat 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. AE/DISC/MC/V.

**WHAT A GIRL WANTS** 225 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-2700 • whatagirlwants@bellsouth.net

We have "What a Girl Wants", gifts for all occasions and all ages. Home décor, wrought iron, handbags, accessories, candles, bath & body products and more. Gift Certificates available. Business hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a. m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p. m.

**MECHE'S FAMILY DRUG STORE** 913 The Boulevard, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-3399

Gift items available. Tyler candles, fragrance, religious items, frog souvenirs, greeting cards, frames, candles, custom gift baskets. Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m.


**LANDRY'S FEED STORE** 601 East Texas, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-4224, Mon.-Fr. 8a.m.-5p.m.,  
Sat. 8a.m.-12 noon  
126 West 2nd Street, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-3737, Mon.-Fr. 8a.m.-5p.m.,  
Sat. 8a.m.-12 noon

Farm, home and garden center, plus all pet needs. Flags: frog, Mardi Gras, LSU, Louisiana and garden. Frog collectibles, Lacrosse & Muck boots. Welcome to all campers and visitors, we hope you enjoy your visit.

**WORTHMORE'S 5-10-25 CENT STORE** 100 West Louisiana Avenue, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-3763

Everything and anything you want, we have it! Est. in 1936, Worthmore's is truly a step into the past with all its nick-knacks and memorabilia. Mon.-Fri. 7:45a.m.-4:45p.m., Sat. 7:45a.m.-3:45p.m. Closed Sundays.

**CANDYLAND COTTAGE & ICE CREAM SHOPPE** 1319 The Boulevard, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-7210, fax: 337-334-7714

Acadia Parish's premiere candy store! A friendly, old-fashioned candy store atmosphere is what you will find when you come in for a visit. Sit down, take in the old-fashioned surroundings with the antiques & history while you enjoy your treats. Featuring homemade, creamy fudge (regular & sucrose free). Gourmet frozen and hot drinks (hot cocoa & steamers), banana splits, sundaes, malts, shakes, cinnamon roasted nuts, hand-dipped "Blue Bell" ice cream, jelly bellies (regular & sucrose free), bulk and boxed candies, gift baskets, party platters, and gift certificates. A wonderland for parties and meetings. Hours: Mon.-Thu. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 12 noon-9 p.m.


**ANTIQUES ON THE AVENUE, LLC** 201 East Louisiana, Rayne, LA 70578  
337-334-2234 • epalme@bellsouth.net

American and European antiques and collectibles: armories, cocktail cabinets, and much more. Selection Of gifts including fleur de lis items. Original hand painted domino jewelry. Thu. - Sat., 10 a. m. - 5 p.m.

**COLEMAN'S SAUSAGE & SPECIALTY MEATS** Hwy 98 1 mile west of Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-3425

We have a large selection of specialty meats ranging from Sausage, Tasso, Boudin, Stuffed Briskets, Stuffed Pork Chops, Ponce, Roasts, Smoked Ribs, Turkey Rolls, Deboned Stuffed Chickens and much more. Come by & see what we have to offer. Open Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-5p.m., Sat. 8a.m.-12 noon



## ❁ FACILITIES ❁

### ACADIA RICE ARENA FACILITY & RV PARK

159 South Cherokee Drive, Crowley, LA 70526  
Arena Rental & RV Park, contact: Kermit Miller  
337-783-1442

Seasonal events and activities including rodeos, youth 4-H & FFA livestock shows, tractor pulls, barrel racing, cutting horse shows, timed events, youth & LRCA rodeos, etc. Stall and RV hook-ups are available for rent whether you are attending a function or just passing through and need a place to rest; Hourly, daily and week-end rentals are also available for the arena. Call and reserve a date for your club or organization. For calendar events, call Acadia Parish Tourist Commission toll free 1-877-783-2109, [www.acadiatourism.org](http://www.acadiatourism.org).

### LE GRAND HALL @ GRAND OPERA HOUSE OF THE SOUTH

505 N. Parkerson Avenue Crowley, LA 70526  
337-785-0440  
[www.thegrandoperahouse.org](http://www.thegrandoperahouse.org)

Dixie Hardware & Gifts has been transformed into Le Grand Hall that provides a perfect setting for wedding receptions, dinner parties or other social events. Can accommodate up to 763 people, however, it is perfect for intimate gatherings for under 100 people. Le Grand Hall offers in-house catering and serves alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, also includes two seating and a nook perfect for a band or disc jockey.

### POINT-AUX- LOUPS SPRINGS BALLROOM

153 Old Springs Lane, Iota, LA 70543  
337-779-3510, contact: Debra Hebert  
[www.springsballroom.com](http://www.springsballroom.com)

An historic building located two miles west of Iota on Hwy 98, which was built in 1930. It has been renovated into a ballroom for social gatherings with full in-house catering.

### THE CROSSING AT MERVINE KAHN

113 Louisiana Avenue, Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3140 Fax: (337) 334-3754  
[www.thecrossingmk.com](http://www.thecrossingmk.com)

This historic building located in the heart of Rayne, is just a short distance from Lafayette. The Mervine Kahn building was originally built in 1884. It has been restored to its grandeur once again. Our Facility is where wishes are granted and dreams become reality. The Crossing at Mervine Kahn can accommodate weddings, meetings, luncheons and parties of all sizes. We offer on site and off-site catering services. Reserve your date and leave the rest up to us, because if you can dream it, we can make it happen.

### THE BALLROOM OF CROWLEY

124 East Third Street, Crowley, LA 70526  
(337) 783-8990 • [www.ballroomofcrowley.com](http://www.ballroomofcrowley.com)

The Ballroom of Crowley is located in the heart of Crowley's Historical District. It has been added to the National Register of Historical Places. Built in 1913, it has been restored with preservation in mind. The Ballroom of Crowley is available for receptions, weddings and special events.

## ❁ ATM LOCATIONS ❁

### BANK OF COMMERCE & TRUST CO.

326 N Ave G, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-2201, Fax: 337-783-5029

CASH ADVANCES on Visa/MC, travelers checks, money orders & certified checks.

24-HOUR ATM SERVICE: 326 N. Ave G., Crowley / 1415 N. Parkerson, Crowley / 1305 Crowley/Rayne Hwy., American Legion Hospital / 530 N. N. Eastern Ave., Crowley / Rice City Chevron / 300 N. Adams Ave., Rayne / 207 Duson St., Iota  
Lobby: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mon.-Thu. / 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fri.  
Drive-thru: 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

### EVANGELINE BANK & TRUST CO.

425 N. Avenue G, Crowley, LA 70526  
337-783-0412, Fax: 337-788-3483

[EBTCR@Bellsouth.net](mailto:EBTCR@Bellsouth.net), [www.TheRealBank.com](http://www.TheRealBank.com)

24-Hour ATM Service, wire service, traveler's checks,  
CASH ADVANCE on Visa/MC.

Lobby: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Mon.-Thur. / 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 3:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Fri.  
Drive-thru: 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

### FARMERS STATE BANK & TRUST CO.

110 W. Plaquemine St., Church Point, LA, 70525  
337-684-3301, Fax: 337-684-6267

24-HOUR ATM SERVICE, CASH ADVANCES on Visa/MC  
Travelers Checks & Money Orders.

Open on Saturdays 8 a.m. to 12 Noon.

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK

128 N. Parkerson (Main Office) & 1941 N. Parkerson,  
Crowley, LA 70526

337-783-4014, Fax: 337-783-9159.

24-Hour ATM Service, CASH ADVANCES on Visa/MC, Traveler's Checks and Wire Transfers.

Lobby: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Mon.-Thur., 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fri.  
Drive-thru: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

### RAYNE STATE BANK & TRUST CO.

*Banking, Pure and Simple!*

200 South Adams Avenue, Rayne, LA, 70578  
337-334-3191, Fax: 337-334-3297

[custser@acadiana-net.com](mailto:custser@acadiana-net.com), [www.bankonnet.com](http://www.bankonnet.com)

24-Hour ATM. Visa cash advances, travelers checks, certified checks.  
Drive-thru: Sat. 9 a.m.-12 noon.



## HISTORY OF ACADIA PARISH



**THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF WHAT IS NOW ACADIA PARISH** was made by the exiled Acadians who were induced by the Spanish Government to come to this area with gifts of large tracts of land, cattle, and agricultural implements. Life was simple, their homes were constructed of mud mixed with moss, their food was plain, and there was little trade. They engaged in stock raising, and later raised corn and cotton.

Acadia Parish was part of St. Landry Parish. In those days of poor transportation, people found it a real hardship to travel by horseback, canoe, or pirogue to distant Opelousas, the parish seat. In 1886, the Rayne newspaper, *The Rayne Signal*, proposed a division of the old parish with the creation of a new one. The proposal was soon supported by many prominent men throughout the area, and in an election, the people voted in its favor, almost two to one. Thus was born Acadia Parish on October 2, 1886. The name Acadia was suggested by a priest from Rayne, Father Anthoioz.

A burning question was the location of the new courthouse. Rayne was the commercial center, and many thought that it deserved the honor. The Southwest Louisiana Land Development Company offered five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and land for the new building if the parish seat was located at Crowley. After much discussion, the voters went to the polls on March 1, 1887. Victory went to Crowley, the police jury held its

first meeting April 12, 1887, they consider plans for erecting the courthouse. The first decision was to build a frame structure costing six hundred dollars, but later it was decided that a brick building costing ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) would be erected. The new courthouse was ready for use in 1888.

About that time, Crowley was a small village with only one store. The town had been founded by the Duson Brothers. W.W. Duson was a merchant in Rayne who later opened a real estate office and also became the owner of the *Rayne Signal*. He had a great dream of developing the land, and used his news paper to advertise it as "The garden spot of the World." He decided to build a town on the prairie between Rayne and the Mermentau River. He purchased one hundred and seventy four (174) acres, which he bought at about forty-five cents (.45) an acre. He then convinced his brother, C.C. Duson to help him with the enterprise as a partner.

One mile away from the Duson land was a railroad switch which was



known as Crowley's switch. It was named after Pat Crowley, a railroad man. The Duson Brothers got Mr. Crowley to use his influence with the railroad to move the switch to their land with the understanding that their town would be named after him.

The Dusons advertised their

land, and the railroad ran excursions to show people from far and wide the attractive features of the new development. Many came and many stayed to make up Crowley's first families. The Dusons gave land to erect churches, and they took the lead in many community projects. They were also leaders in the development of irrigation of the land and rice farming.

David Abbott and his three sons discovered how rice could be raised in the higher portions of the land, and how water could be taken from the bayous by buckets for irrigation purposes. J.F. Shoemaker of Crowley was one of the early farmers to experiment with the growing of rice. Solomon

*continued on Page 30*



continued from Page 29

Wright, who came from Indiana, carried on experiments which led to the development of the Blue Rose variety, noted for its good yield as well as the fact that it mills well. The Rice Experiment Station east of Crowley has done much to the further advancement of rice cultivation. The first rice mill in Crowley was built by Squire Pickett in 1893. Today there are many rice mills in the area supplying thousands of barrels of rice a year.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company built the Rayne station in 1880. Rayne was incorporated as a town in 1884. The Rayne Milling and Manufacturing Co., Rayne's first rice mill, began operation in 1888. The first Rice Festival was held in Crowley in September, 1927. Sol Wright was the first king and his daughter was the first queen. In 1946 the festival was enlarged into the International Rice Festival, with entries and exhibits from other rice producing countries of the world.

Since the turn of the century, farmers of Acadia Parish have realized a sizable income from such crops as cotton, eggs, soybeans, crawfish, sugar cane, and frog farming.

In recent years, the discovery of oil has brought people to Acadia Parish from many places. The Jennings Oil Company, the Jennings Heywood Oil Company, and the Crowley Oil and Mineral Company were among the first in this area. Gas pipeline companies employ many Acadia Parish residents.

Acadia Parish enjoys a modified subtropical climate throughout the year, enhancing the allure of the area's recreational and cultural activities. The parish is part of Acadiana and offers residents and visitors museums, theaters, historical attractions, famous Cajun restaurants, and numerous community playing fields and courts, as well as a local country club. Those who enjoy outdoor sports will be pleased with the variety of recreational opportunities such as camping, swimming, fishing, hunting and boating. There are eight parish libraries and many festivals that take place each year for the pleasure of all.

Our citizens enjoy a quality of life that makes us unique. Let us prove to you why so many visitors want to stay in the area for many days, week, and months.

Take your time and review the many points of interest our parish offers and the many year round fairs and festivals. Travel our scenic byway and experience the Cajun Prairie Culture through the heartland of Acadiana. Enjoy the unique diversity of Cajun and Zydeco French music. While traveling on the byway be sure to pick up some authentic gumbo or boudin.



**ZYDECO CAJUN PRAIRIE BY WAY**  
[WWW.ZYDECOCAJUNBYWAY.COM](http://WWW.ZYDECOCAJUNBYWAY.COM)



When you take the road less traveled you make the most exciting discoveries. Most visitors to Louisiana are attracted by three things: our taste tempting food, our wonderful music and our lush landscapes. These are the building blocks of the distinctive culture on the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic

Byway. *Throw caution to the wind, hit the road and experience the adventure of a lifetime down the "road less traveled!"*