



MARDI GRAS

GRIS GRIS GUIDE

2016

SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER, LA

*"Laissez les
bon temps rouler!"*



1-800-551-8682

WWW.SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER.ORG/MARDIGRAS


Shreveport-Bossier MARDI GRAS HISTORY


Shreveport-Bossier throws the best family-friendly Mardi Gras! The carnival celebration came to northwest Louisiana in 1989 when the Krewe of Gemini was founded. The Krewe of Centaur soon followed in 1991. Today, Shreveport is home to 15 krewes, each with its own personality. Mardi Gras float-riders toss more than eight million beads each year to seas of people waving their arms and shouting, "Throw me something, Mister!" The parades attract as many as 400,000 visitors a year. From grand bals to authentic Cajun food and dazzling parades, there's a way for everyone to celebrate Mardi Gras in Shreveport-Bossier!





Information in this guide is carefully compiled to ensure maximum accuracy. The Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, its staff and agents cannot and do not guarantee the accuracy of all information furnished to them nor the complete absence of errors or omissions. All rights are reserved, including the right to reprint this book, or portions thereof, in any form.

GET SOCIAL WITH US!

 /LouisianasOtherSide

 @sbctb

 @seeshreveportbossier

 /sbctb11

Blog: www.20x49.com

Events: www.SBFunGuide.com

Table of CONTENTS

PARADE SCHEDULE	3
PARADE TIPS	5
MARDI GRAS LAGNIAPPE	6
FLOAT LOADING PARTIES	6
MARDI GRAS BALS	7
MARDI GRAS SOUVENIRS	8
TASTES OF MARDI GRAS	9
POUR ME SOMETHING, MISTER!	11
MARDI GRAS BASH	13
PARADE ROUTE	14



**GRIS
GRIS:**

.....
A VOODOO SPELL WHICH
MAY CAUSE A FEELING OF
EXUBERANCE AND JOY,
AND MAY BRING ABOUT
AN OUTLOOK ON LIFE
THAT IS MORE POSITIVE
AND HOPEFUL.



PARADE SCHEDULE

KREWE OF SOBEK 12TH ANNUAL PARADE

JAN. 16 AT 1 P.M. | www.kreweofsobek.org

Parade begins at the Fairground Fields parking lot, Shreveport. It goes through the Queensborough neighborhood and offers a fun-filled afternoon featuring floats, bands, marching groups, drill teams, queens, kings, youth sports teams, homecoming courts and more.

.....

KREWE OF HARAMBEE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY MARDI GRAS PARADE

JAN. 18 AT 1 P.M. | www.kreweofharambee.org

Parade begins at Milam and Texas Street, Shreveport. It is a huge, family-friendly parade that celebrates the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. It rolls through downtown Shreveport and features marching bands, stilt walkers, dozens of floats and more.

.....

KREWE OF CENTAUR PARADE XXV

JAN. 30 AT 4:30 P.M. | www.kreweofcentaur.org

Parade begins on Clyde Fant Parkway, Shreveport. One of the largest parades in Louisiana, it takes place 10 days before Fat Tuesday, and it features marching bands, brightly colored floats and more. See map on page 14.



2016

KREWE OF BARKUS AND MEOUX PET PARADE

JAN. 31 AT 1 P.M. | www.barkusandmeoux.org

Parade takes place at Reeves Marine Center, 2000 Reves Marine Drive, Bossier City. The Mardi Paw Pet Parade is a chance for festive pets to celebrate Mardi Gras. All pet owners are invited to participate. Animal costumes are encouraged.

.....

KREWE OF GEMINI GRAND PARADE XXVII

FEB. 6 AT 4 P.M. | www.kreweofgemini.com

Parade begins on Clyde Fant Parkway, Shreveport. Masked revelers on floats, marchers and horseback riders respond to the age old cry "Throw me something, Mister!" by tossing beads, toys and trinkets. See map on page 14.

.....

KREWE OF HIGHLAND PARADE XXI

FEB. 7 AT 2 P.M. | www.thekreweofhighland.org

**Schedule subject to change due to NFL Super Bowl.*

Parade begins at Gilbert Drive and Ockley Drive, Shreveport. It rolls through the historic Highland neighborhood. Shreveport's most eccentric krewe is famous for throwing hotdogs, packs of ramen noodles and moon pies.

Mardi Gras PARADE TIPS

✓ PLAN AHEAD

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO
HELP ENSURE AN ENJOYABLE
PARADE EXPERIENCE AND
REMEMBER TO ALWAYS
CELEBRATE SAFELY
AND RESPONSIBLY.



- Premium parade-watching spots will fill up quickly. Plan ahead and arrive two to four hours early for the best spot on the parade route.
- The City of Shreveport maintains a family-friendly, alcohol-free zoning along Clyde Fant Parkway near Veteran's Park. It can be reached where Stoner Avenue intersects with Clyde Fant Parkway.
- Dress appropriately, as temperatures can change quickly during parade season.
- Bring lawn chairs and/or blankets to sit on while waiting for the parade.
- Bring empty sacks for beads and throws.
- Bring hand wipes and sanitizer.
- Bring snacks and drinks to enjoy throughout the day.
- Alcoholic beverages are allowed at the Krewe of Centaur and Krewe of Gemini parades, but no glass containers are allowed. Alcohol is not allowed in the family-friendly zone on Clyde Fant Parkway.



Mardi Gras
LAGNIAPPE
(FRENCH FOR "SOMETHING EXTRA")

12TH NIGHT MASS

JAN. 2 AT 9 A.M. | *St Pius X Catholic Church, 4300 N. Market St., Shreveport*

The 12th night after Christmas marks the official start to the Mardi Gras season. Rooted in Catholic tradition, krewes begin their festivities with Mass.

BLESSING OF THE TEXAS STREET BRIDGE

FEB. 9 AT 11:30 P.M. | *Texas Street Bridge, Shreveport*

At midnight on Fat Tuesday, after the final parades have rolled, a crowd gathers at the center of the Texas Street Bridge in downtown Shreveport to participate in a closing ceremony led by Monsignor Provenza of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. This final round of revelry is open to the public.

Float Loading **PARTIES**

"The party before the party" starts as the two largest krewes in Shreveport-Bossier open their dens to the public to load their colorful floats with throws. Dens are where Mardi Gras floats are decorated and constructed by krewe members. Visitors can see all the floats up close and personal before the parades. Admission is free.

**KREWE OF CENTAUR
FLOAT LOADING
PARTY**

JAN. 29 AT 6:30 P.M. | FREE

(318) 673-8260

351 Aero Dr., Shreveport

Food for purchase.

**KREWE OF GEMINI
FLOAT LOADING
PARTY**

FEB. 5 AT 4 P.M. | FREE

(318) 741-9264

2101 E. Texas St., Bossier City

Food and beer for purchase.



Mardi Gras **BALS**



Put your best face (or mask) forward and celebrate with the krewes as they present their royal courts and dance the night away. Check with each krewe when purchasing tickets for dress codes, age restrictions and information about food and drinks.



KREWE OF GEMINI 12TH NIGHT PARTY

JAN. 2 AT 6:30 P.M. | \$50

Bossier Civic Center

620 Benton Rd., Bossier City

Celebrate the beginning of Mardi Gras with the Krewe of Gemini.

www.kreweofgemini.com

KREWE OF ATLAS GRAND BAL VIII

JAN. 15 AT 6:30 P.M. | \$75

Shreveport Convention Center

400 Caddo St., Shreveport

www.kreweofatlas.org

KREWE OF SOBEK GRAND BAL XIII

JAN. 15 AT 6 P.M. | \$70

Shreveport Convention Center

400 Caddo St., Shreveport

www.kreweofsobek.org

KREWE OF CENTAUR GRAND BAL XXV

JAN. 16 AT 6:30 P.M. | \$60

Shreveport Convention Center

400 Caddo St., Shreveport

www.kreweofcentaur.org

KREWE OF JUSTINIAN GRAND BAL XX

JAN. 22 AT 7 P.M. | \$85

Shreveport Convention Center

400 Caddo St., Shreveport

www.kreweofjustinian.com

KREWE OF GEMINI BAL XXVII

JAN. 23 AT 6:30 P.M. | \$80

Shreveport Convention Center

400 Caddo St., Shreveport

www.kreweofgemini.com

KREWE DE LES FEMMES MYSTIQUE BAL

JAN. 8 AT 6:30 P.M. | \$75

DiamondJacks Casino & Hotel

711 DiamondJacks Blvd., Bossier City

www.lesfemmesmystique.org

KREWE OF HIGHLAND BAL MASQUE XXI

FEB. 5 AT 7 P.M. | \$40 in advance,
\$45 at the door

Randle T. Moore Center

3101 Fairfield Ave., Shreveport

www.thekreweofhighland.org



For a complete list of shops,
visit the "Things to Do" page
at www.Shreveport-Bossier.org.



Mardi Gras SOUVENIRS

TUBB'S CAJUN GIFTS, MARDI GRAS SUPPLY AND KING CAKES

(318) 746-0311 | 615 Benton Rd., Bossier City

Tubb's is home to tons of souvenirs and parade essentials including beads, boas, crawfish pots, Cajun seasoning, their specialty made X-Treme Cream Cheese King Cake and more.

www.tubbshardware.com

.....

FALSE RIVER GIFT SHOP AT RALPH AND KACOO'S

(318) 747-6660 | 1700 Old Minden Rd., Bossier City

Located inside Ralph and Kacoo's restaurant, this gift shop offers Mardi Gras t-shirts, famous hurricane daiquiri mix, beignet mix, jewelry, mugs and more.

www.ralphandkacoos.com

.....

THE AGORA BOREALIS

(318) 268-3011 | 421 Lake St., Shreveport

Buy Mardi Gras masks, recipe books, jewelry, coffee, granola and candles among local art and crafts.

www.theagoraborealis.com

.....

ENCHANTED GARDEN

(318) 227-1213 | 2429 Line Ave., Shreveport

Find the perfect unique, hand-painted Mardi Gras masks, collectables, jewelry, figurines, frames, scarves and more.

www.enchantedgarden.com



TASTES

of



PO-BOYS AT KIM'S SEAFOOD AND PO-BOY

901 Benton Rd., Bossier City | (318) 752-2425

Whether stuffed with fried oysters, shrimp, roast beef or softshell crab, the po-boy sandwiches at Kim's Seafood and Po-Boy are some of the most authentic in Shreveport-Bossier.

BEIGNETS AT MARILYNN'S PLACE

4041 Fern Ave., Shreveport | (318) 868-3004

Looking for the perfect parade day breakfast? Marilyn's Place offers fresh beignets - airy pastries covered in powdered sugar and best enjoyed with a cup of coffee.

www.marilynns-place.com

CRAWFISH ETOUFFEE AT HERBY-K'S

1833 Pierre Ave., Shreveport | (318) 424-2724

In business since 1936, Herby-K's is a legendary seafood hole-in-the-wall. While it is best known as "Home of the Shrimp Buster" for its unique take on a shrimp po-boy, the crawfish etouffee here is rich, flavorful and not to be missed.

www.herbyks.net

SHRIMP AND CRAB GUMBO AT JACQUELYN'S CAFÉ

1324 Louisiana Ave., Shreveport | (318) 227-8598

Head to Jacquelyn's Café for some of the richest, most delicious gumbo around. A local favorite, Jacquelyn's is also home to fantastic jambalaya, shrimp salad sandwiches and more.

www.jacquelynscafe.com

BOUDIN BALLS AT BERGERON'S BOUDIN & CAJUN MEATS

**7805 E Kings Hwy., Shreveport | 3933 Benton Rd., Bossier City
(318) 670-7204 | (318) 741-2243**

Headed to a parade? Get your food to go from Bergeron's. Hot boudin balls, spicy chicken wings and more are made daily. You can also buy Gambino's French bread, and many frozen options such as stuffed shrimp, gumbo and red beans and rice to bring the party home with you.

MARDI GRAS

For a complete list of restaurants, visit
www.Shreveport-Bossier.org/dining.



GET *Your* KING CAKES HERE!

JULIE ANNE'S BAKERY & CAFÉ

(318) 424-4995

825 Kings Hwy., Shreveport

www.julieannesbakery.com

.....

BUTTERCUP'S CUPCAKES

(318) 797-6696

6535 Youree Dr., Shreveport

www.ilovebuttercups.com

.....

LILAH'S BAKERY

(318) 676-1407

1718 Centenary Blvd., Shreveport

www.lilahsdeli.com

KING CAKE HISTORY

It's not Mardi Gras without King Cake! This delicious tradition dates back to the 12th century in France to honor the Three Kings who visited Jesus. In 1870, the tradition was brought to New Orleans. It tastes like a hybrid of coffee cake and French pastry and is topped with icing and purple, green and gold sprinkles. Look out for the plastic baby Jesus placed inside. The tradition is whoever finds it is king for the day and has to buy the next King Cake!





POUR ME

From vintage New Orleans inspired cocktails to drive-thru daiquiris and local brewed craft beer, Shreveport-Bossier offers many unique Louisiana libations. Please celebrate responsibly and obey open-container laws.

DRIVE-THRU DAIQUIRIS

A constant source of amusement to visitors, Louisiana's famous drive-thru daiquiri stands are located throughout Shreveport-Bossier. These shops sell potent slushy-like cocktails with names like "The Cajun Curse" (available at *Cajun Daiquiris, 3306 Youree Dr., Shreveport*) and "Call a Cab" (available at *Hollywood Daiquiri, 4144 Hollywood Ave., Shreveport*) at drive-thru windows.

THE TWISTED MULE AT TWISTED ROOT BURGER CO.

(318) 868-6410 | 8690 Line Ave., Shreveport

Shreveport-Bossier's only kegged cocktail, the twisted mule is an easy-drinking version of the Moscow mule, made with ginger beer, vodka, housemade tea syrup and lemons.
www.twistedrootburgerco.com/shreveport

BARREL-AGED OLD FASHIONED AT WINE COUNTRY BISTRO AND BOTTLE SHOP

(318) 629-9463 | 4801 Line Ave., Shreveport

Wine Country Bistro and Bottle Shop's take on this traditional bourbon cocktail includes whiskey, bitters, sugar, muddled cherries and orange peel. It is barrel-aged for 30 to 60 days before serving.
www.winecountrynet.com

THE LONG-ALLEN ICED TEA AT BLIND TIGER

(318) 226-8747 | 120 Texas St., Shreveport

Located at the foot of the Texas Street Bridge, The Blind Tiger is in a great spot and serves their own version of the Long Island iced tea in honor of Louisiana Governors Huey P. Long and O.K. Allen.
www.blindtigerrestaurant.com



SOMETHING, MISTER!



Local Beer **BREWERY TOURS**

FLYING HEART BREWERY

(318) 344-8775 | **700 Barksdale Blvd., Bossier City**

Tour the brewery and tasting room to learn about the history of Flying Heart Brewing – Bossier City's first brewery. Tours include information about the company's labels as well as a pint or flight of beer at the end of the tour. Must be 21 or older. Tickets are \$5. 3:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

www.flyingheartbrewing.com

GREAT RAFT BREWERY

(318) 734-9881 | **1251 Dalzell St., Shreveport**

Each Saturday, learn about the history of Great Raft Brewing, the brewing process, canning, packaging and more. Each tour lasts about 25 minutes and can accommodate 25 guests. Must be 21 or older. Admission is free. 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturdays.

www.greatraftbrewing.com

BOOK



NOW!

RED RIVER
MARDI GRAS
BASH

SATURDAY, JAN. 30, 2016
KREWE OF CENTAUR PARADE



**LET LOOSE AT THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
RED RIVER MARDI GRAS BASH**

Your group will be treated to an exclusive party during the Krewe of Centaur Parade, one of the largest in the state. The party features a live band, Creole/Cajun food, face painting and other hands-on experiences you will never forget. While at the party be sure to yell, "Throw Me Something, Mister!" to the Mardi Gras royalty parading past you. No one will leave empty handed.

**RESERVE YOUR
SPACE TODAY!**

Contact Erica Howard, groups sales manager for the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, at **800-551-8682 ext.104** or **ehoward@sbctb.org**, for hotel discounts, group rate information and more. Tickets to this event are \$40 per person.

**FOR
GROUPS
OF 10
OR MORE**



Krewes of
CENTAUR AND GEMINI
PARADE ROUTES



The parade begins at the corner of Lake Street and Clyde Fant Parkway. The floats will travel south down Clyde Fant Parkway to Shreveport-Barksdale Highway. From there, the parade continues west until it makes a left at East Kings Highway. The parade comes to an end at the corner of East Kings Highway and East Preston Street.



Plan your trip
TODAY!

**CALL 1-800-551-8682 OR VISIT
WWW.SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER.ORG/MARDIGRAS.**



**SEE IT. BET IT.
TASTE IT.**