

Gris Gris Guide to MARDI GRAS in Shreveport-Bossier, LA 2014



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.

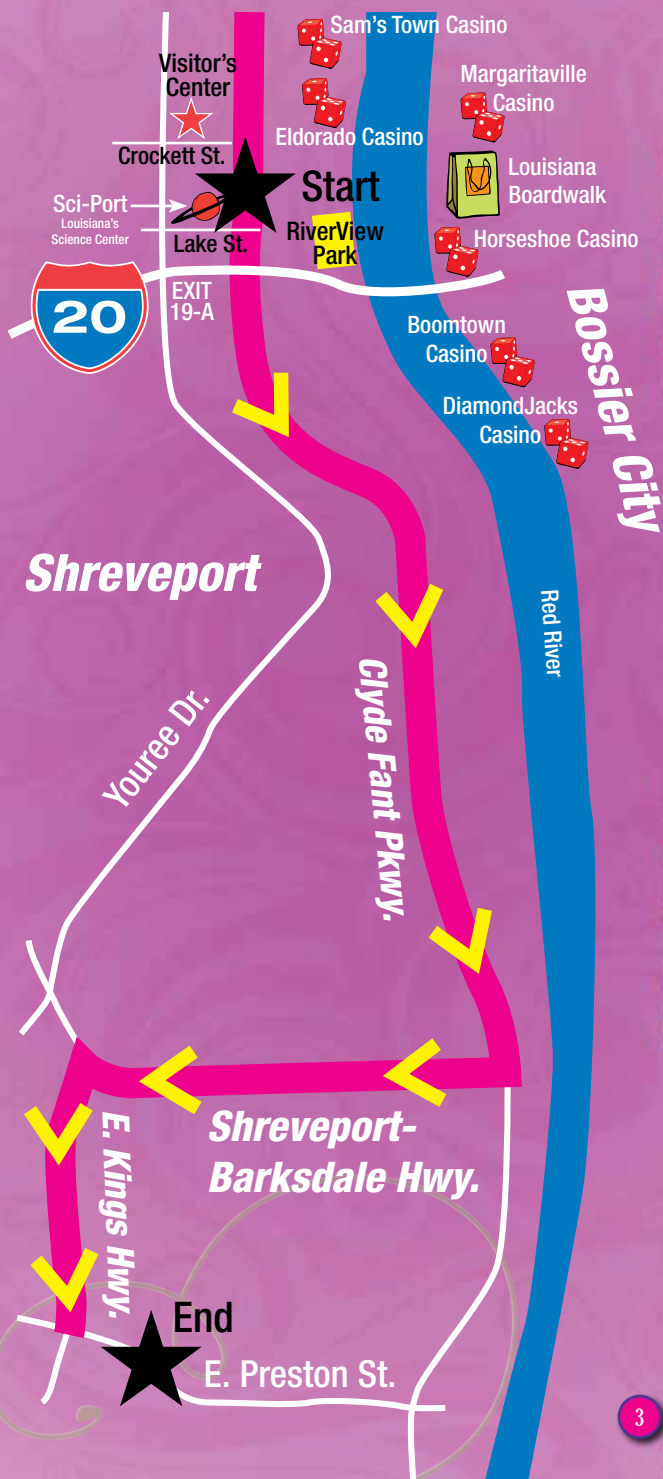
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www.shreveport-bossier.org

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Krewes of Gemini and Centaur Parade Route



Mardi Gras Events

January 4, 7 pm Mardi Gras 12th Night Celebration

Celebrate the official beginning of the Mardi Gras season with great food, live music and more. Area krewes present kings, queens and royal courts to the public. Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd, Bossier City. Tickets: www.kreweofgemini.com.

January 10, 6 pm - Krewe of Elders Grand Bal

The Krewe of Elders provides a "budget friendly" way for people ages 50 and older to be part of the fun and excitement that Mardi Gras brings to Shreveport-Bossier. www.facebook.com/TheKreweOfElders.

January 11, 6:30 pm - Krewe de Les Femmes Mystique Bal XV - "Mystique Fantasies"

Krewe de les Femmes Mystique is Northwest Louisiana's oldest all-female krewe. This is a special year as the krewe is celebrating 15 years. DiamondJacks Casino and Resort, 711 DiamondJacks Blvd, Bossier City. Tickets: www.lesfemmesmystique.org.



January 17, 6 pm - Krewe of Sobek Grand Bal XI

Live entertainment, cash bar. Tableau presentation typically takes place at 8 p.m. Formal attire and must be 21+ to attend. Tickets \$60. Shreveport Convention Center. More info at www.kreweofsobek.org.

January 18, 1 pm - Krewe of Sobek Parade XI "Sobek Under the Big Top"

A fun-filled afternoon featuring floats, bands, marching groups, drill teams, queens, kings, youth groups, sports teams, homecoming courts and more. Parade begins and ends at Fairground Fields parking lot. Free. Queensborough Neighborhood, Shreveport. www.kreweofsobek.org.

January 20, 1 pm - Krewe of Harambee/Martin Luther King Day Mardi Gras Parade

A huge, family-friendly parade that rolls through downtown Shreveport each year on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Marching bands, stilt walkers, dozens of floats and more. Free. Milam Street and Texas Street, downtown Shreveport.

February 8, 7 pm - Krewe of Centaur Grand Bal

A formal ball featuring live music, great food and drink, and a dramatic stage show introducing Krewe of Centaur royalty. Shreveport Convention Center, 400 Caddo St., Shreveport. Tickets: www.kreweofcentaur.org.

February 15, 7 pm - Krewe of Gemini Bal

An extravagant, black tie formal ball celebrating krewe royalty with live entertainment, a grand tableau and more. Shreveport Convention Center, 400 Caddo St., Shreveport. Tickets: www.kreweofgemini.com.

February 21, 6 pm - Krewe of Centaur Float-Loading Party

Explore the enormous Krewe of Centaur den, check out floats and meet krewe royalty. A cash bar and dinner plates are typically available. Free. Krewe of Centaur Den, 948 North Market St., Shreveport. www.kreweofcentaur.org.

February 22, 4:30 pm - Krewe of Centaur Parade "Fables, Folklore & Fairy Tales"

One of the largest parading krewes in Louisiana, the Krewe of Centaur rolls 10 days before Fat Tuesday, featuring marching bands, brightly colored floats and more. Free. Clyde Fant Parkway. See page 3 map. www.kreweofcentaur.org.





March 2, 2 pm
- Krewe of Highland Parade XIX:
"Cirque du Highland"

One of Louisiana's largest neighborhood parades, the Krewe of Highland rolls through Shreveport's historic Highland neighborhood via Creswell Avenue and Centenary Boulevard. More than 150 floats, marching bands, unusual throws and more. Free. Shreveport.
www.thekreweofhighland.org.

March 4, 7 pm
- Krewe of Aesclepius
Children's Parade XXIV

A Mardi Gras parade that's "all about the kids." No alcoholic beverages allowed. Parade begins in the south end of the Pierre Bossier Mall parking lot. Free. Pierre Bossier Mall, 2950 E. Texas Street, Bossier City.

February 23, 1 pm - Krewe of Barkus and Meoux Pet Parade

Known as "the animal krewe," the Krewe of Barkus and Meoux presents this giant annual pet parade, featuring more than 1,000 pets decked out in Mardi Gras attire. Pet registration \$10-\$20. Free for spectators. Parade walk is at 3 pm. RiverView Park, 601 Clyde Fant Pkwy., Shreveport. www.animalkrewe.org.

February 28, 6 pm - Krewe of Gemini Float-Loading Party

Get a sneak peek at the Gemini floats while enjoying live music, mingling with krewe royalty and exploring the Mardi Gras Museum. Free. 2101 E. Texas St., Bossier City.
www.kreweofgemini.com.

March 1, 4:30 pm
- Krewe of Gemini Parade XXV
"Throw Me a Memory, Mister"

The Krewe of Gemini – the oldest parading krewe in Shreveport-Bossier – will celebrate 25 years of Mardi Gras revelry in 2014. Free. Clyde Fant Parkway. See page 3 map.
www.kreweofgemini.com.

March 1, 7 pm
- Krewe of Harambee Grand Bal

A formal ball featuring extravagant costumes, exciting live music and dance performances, and a grand tableau introducing krewe royalty. Horseshoe Riverdome, 711 Horseshoe Blvd, Bossier City.

March 4, 11:30 pm
Fat Tuesday Texas Street
Bridge Closing Ceremony

The official closing of Mardi Gras season in Shreveport-Bossier. Krewes gather at the center of the Texas Street Bridge in downtown Shreveport to toast the season at midnight. Free. Texas Street Bridge in Downtown Shreveport.



For a complete list of Mardi Gras season events in Shreveport-Bossier, visit www.sbfunguide.com and select the "Mardi Gras" category.



A Taste of Mardi Gras!

Looking for a true taste of Mardi Gras in Louisiana? Sink your teeth into these local delicacies:

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 Marilyn's Place

4041 Fern Ave., Shreveport • 318-868-3004

www.marilynns-place.com

Looking for the perfect parade day breakfast? Try the beignets at Marilyn's Place – fresh, airy pastries covered in powdered sugar and best enjoyed with a cup of Community Coffee.

Crawfish Etouffee at Herby-K's

1833 Pierre Ave., Shreveport • 318-424-2724

www.herbyks.net

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



Shrimp and Crab Gumbo at Jacquelyn's Café

1324 Louisiana Ave., Shreveport • 318-227-8598

If it's Friday and you're craving a true taste of Louisiana, 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.

Muffulettas at Fertitta's Delicatessen

1124 Fairfield Ave., Shreveport • 318-424-5508

www.papafertitta.com

Muffulettas originated among the Italian immigrant community of New Orleans. But it didn't take long for Fertitta's Delicatessen in Shreveport, open since 1927, to follow suit with their delicious Muffulettas and single-serving "Muffy" sandwiches.

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



Pour Me Something, Mister!

From vintage New Orleans-inspired cocktails to drive-through daiquiris and locally brewed craft beer, Shreveport-Bossier offers many uniquely Louisiana libations.

- **Sazerac**
at Wine Country
(4801 Line Ave., Shreveport)
- **Pimm's Cup**
at 2John's Steak and Seafood
(2151 Airline Dr., Bossier City)
- **Build-Your-Own Bloody Mary**
at Marilynn's Place (4041 Fern Ave., Shreveport)
during Sunday brunch.



Craft beer enthusiasts will enjoy visiting **Great Raft Brewing** (1251 Dalzell St., Shreveport), where a tasting room and behind-the-scenes tours are available. Tours are available each Saturday at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Look for **Great Raft** beers on-tap locally alongside those of **Red River Brewing Company**, another fantastic local craft brewery.

Drive-through daiquiris are a curiosity to many visitors to Louisiana. These fruity, slushy concoctions are sold in hundreds of strangely-named flavors.

- **"Cajun Curse"** at Cajun Daiquiris
(3306 Youree Dr., Shreveport)
- **"Goose and Juice"** at Hollywood Daiquiri
(4144 Hollywood Ave., Shreveport)

Please drink
responsibly!



Mardi Gras

Gifts Galore

Beads, king cakes, masks and more abound at these area gift shops specializing in Louisiana and Mardi Gras-themed must haves:

Tubbs Hardware and Cajun Gifts

615 Benton Rd., Bossier City
www.tubbshardware.com
318-746-0311



False River Gift Shop

at Ralph & Kacoo's of Bossier City, 1700 Old Minden Rd., Bossier City, www.ralphandkacoos.com
318-747-6660

The Enchanted Garden

2429 Line Avenue, Shreveport, LA
www.enchantedgarden.com • 318-227-1213

Funky Fleur de Lis Bossier

2142 Airline Drive, Suite 700, Bossier City
www.facebook.com/FunkyFleurDeLisBossier
318-742-4710



Beyond the Parade Route

Many of the most unique aspects of Carnival season in Shreveport-Bossier are lesser-known events and celebrations. Mingle with “in-the-know” locals at these events for an unforgettable experience:



Float-Loading Den 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.

Krewe of Centaur Den Party

6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 21

948 N. Market Street, Shreveport

www.kreweofcentaur.org or 318-572-4632

Krewe of Gemini Den Party

6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 28

2101 E. Texas Street, Bossier City

www.kreweofgemini.com or 318-741-9264

Highland’s Post-Parade Parties

Historic Highland Neighborhood. Sun., March 2

The annual Highland Parade rolls in the early afternoon, and residents of the historic neighborhood aren’t ready to stop partying once the parade has passed. Dine and dance at Marilyn’s Place (4041 Fern Ave., Shreveport, 318-868-3004), which has live music and crawfish after the parade, or head to Columbia Park (2900 Creswell Ave., Shreveport) for a mellower vibe and more live music.

The Blessing of the Texas Street Bridge

Fat Tuesday, March 4, 11:30 p.m.

On the Texas Street Bridge

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.



Join us for the

2014

Mardi Gras

BASH

Shreveport-Bossier, LA

Let loose at Shreveport-Bossier,
Louisiana's Mardi Gras Bash:

Feb. 22, 2014

(Saturday)

Krewe of
Centaur Parade

Join us for this rockin' tent party located along the route of one of the largest Mardi Gras parades in the South. Savor authentic Louisiana cuisine, dance to Cajun tunes, see outrageous Mardi Gras personalities, and don't forget to catch some beads! No one will leave empty-handed.

Tickets are just \$35 per person. For group rate information and more details, contact Erica Howard, group sales manager at the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau at 800-551-8682 ext.104 or ehoward@sbctb.org. Must be 21 years of age to attend.

Tips Mardi Gras for Enjoying the Parades

- Premium parade-watching spots will fill up quickly. Plan ahead and arrive early for the best spot on the parade route!
- The City of Shreveport maintains a family-friendly, alcohol-free zone along Clyde Fant Parkway near Veterans Park. It can be reached by driving down Stoner Avenue to where it 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 your beads and throws.
- Bring hand wipes and sanitizer.
- Bring snacks and drinks to enjoy throughout the day.

For more parade day tips, visit the “Parade Info” section at www.kreweofcentaur.org.



Plan Your Trip Today!

Visit www.shreveport-bossier.org
or call 800-551-8682.



Shreveport-Bossier Convention & Tourist Bureau
629 Spring St., Shreveport, LA 71101