

Plan ahead for your next Mardi Gras
experience in Southwest Louisiana!

Mardi Gras Weekend 2018: Feb. 8-13, 2018

Mar. 5, 2019 • Feb. 25, 2020 • Feb. 16, 2021



LAKE CHARLES/SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

**Mardi
Gras
2018**

MARDI GRAS MUSEUM OF IMPERIAL CALCASIEU

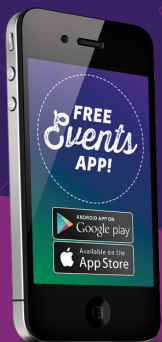
809 Kirby Street, 2nd Floor, Lake Charles, LA

This six-room museum has the largest costume display in the world! The rooms display the history of the festival, the Captains' Den, costume design, king cakes and the marvel of 12th Night. Also featured is a Mardi Gras parade display, including a parade float that you can climb aboard!

\$10 Adults, \$5 Children

Group rates available

337-430-0043



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Let the Good Times Roll!

With over a dozen
Mardi Gras Parades and
celebrations, there is plenty
to do and see during
#SWLAMardiGras!

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SEASON STARTERS

*MOTOR GRAS CAR SHOW

Saturday, Jan. 6, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Kick off the season with the inaugural Motor Gras Car Show.

*TWELFTH NIGHT

Saturday, Jan. 6, 7 p.m.
An enchanting evening with the 2017 royal courts of more than 60 krewes making their last promenade, ushering in the 2018 season. Door prizes, music and dancing! Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$7 at the door. Children 5 and under are free. Doors open at 6 p.m.

*KREWE OF GOLDEN YEARS

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 8 a.m. to noon
Senior citizens who have passed down Mardi Gras traditions celebrate the season with food and a Mardi Gras ball. Free to seniors 60 and up.

MARDI GRAS WEEKEND

*LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

Thursday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.
Be dazzled by the glowing boat parade on shimmering Lake Charles.

MERCHANTS' PARADE

Friday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.
Downtown-Midtown Lake Charles

*COMMUNITY DANCE

Thursday, Jan. 25, 6-8:30 p.m.
Free Mardi Gras dance presented by the City of Lake Charles and Community Inclusion.

VINTON MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

Saturday, Feb. 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Downtown Vinton
Knights of Columbus will host a gumbo cook-off at 10 a.m. when the teams will begin cooking and a parade at 1 p.m., starting at Vinton Middle School and ending at Knights of Columbus Hall where the gumbo judging will begin at 2 p.m. Free gumbo tasting begins after the judging.

*WORLD FAMOUS CAJUN EXTRAVAGANZA GUMBO COOK-OFF

Saturday, Feb. 10, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
You will not want to miss this taste-from-every-pot event or the Southern and Cajun music that comes along with it. Admission is \$5, and children 5 and under are admitted free.

KREWE OF OMEGA PARADE

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m.
Downtown Lake Charles

*MYSTICAL KREWE OF BARKUS PARADE

Saturday, Feb. 10, 3 p.m.
Fantastically disguised canines parade in full Mardi Gras attire, all vying for the title of "Mystical Dog."

CITY OF SULPHUR MARDI GRAS PARADE

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2 p.m., Sulphur
Cypress St., S-Curve to S. Huntington St.

KING CAKE TASTE OFF

Saturday, Feb. 3, 3 p.m.
Henning Cultural Center, Sulphur
Local bakeries compete to take first place in a variety of categories. The King Cake Taste-off is free to the public, so come taste the best King Cakes that Southwest Louisiana has to offer and cast your vote for the People's Choice award!

*ZYDECO DANCE

Saturday, Feb. 10, 3-5 p.m.
Live band playing Mambo and Zydeco. Free admission.

*KREWE OF ILLUSIONS

Saturday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate Mardi Gras with the annual presentation of the Krewe of Illusions. Tickets are \$40 for orchestra seating & ball (formal attire required), \$18 balcony reserved seating and \$15 standard balcony seating (casual attire).

*TASTE DE LA LOUISIANE

Sunday, Feb. 11, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
A sampling of traditional Louisiana cuisine for a \$10 admission fee.

*LAKE CHARLES MARDI GRAS CHICKEN RUN

Sunday, Feb. 4, 1 p.m.
Follow the parade of horses, ATVs, and floats along the Lake Charles Civic Center at 1 p.m. Enjoy a concert featuring Zydeco musicians beginning at 4 p.m. For more information, call (337) 660-1050 or email lakecharleschickenrun@yahoo.com.

*CHILDREN'S DAY

Sunday, Feb. 11, Noon-3 p.m.
Old-time Louisiana culture, arts and crafts, Mardi Gras music and magic. Free admission.

MARDI GRAS MADNESS 5K

Sunday, Feb. 11, 2:30 p.m.
Downtown-Midtown Lake Charles
The start of the race is at the Police Jury Parking lot (the corner of Lakeshore Drive and Gill Street). This point to point race coincides with the Mardi Gras Children's parade route. Enjoy food, King cake, music, and beverages at the finish!

FAT TUESDAY

IOWA CHICKEN RUN

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 10 a.m.
Iowa, LA
The chicken run starts and ends at KC Hall and runs west down 90. Ride a float, catch a chicken and finish with some gumbo and live music for a toe-tapping good time.

Events subject to change. Visit www.SWLAMardiGras.com for the most up-to-date information.

CHILDREN'S PARADE

Sunday, Feb. 11, 3:30 p.m.
Downtown-Midtown Lake Charles

A purple, green and gold parade for the young and young at heart.

*ROYAL GALA

Monday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m.
The Cinderella moment of the season features the 2018 courts of more than 60 krewes with kings, queens, royal dukes and duchesses, captains, courtesans and jesters. Tickets are \$6 in advance, or \$7 at the door. Children 5 and under are admitted for free.

SECOND LINE STROLL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 1 p.m.
Downtown Lake Charles
Purple, green and gold as far as the eye can see! Area groups strut their Mardi Gras spirit down Ryan Street to the tunes of Mardi Gras music in this walking parade.

JEeps ON PARADE

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2 p.m.
Downtown Lake Charles
In conjunction with Seven Slots Society, jeep lovers unite to roll down Ryan Street in this jammin' jeep parade.

LUNDI GRAS DAY PARTY

Monday, Feb. 12, 4-7 p.m.
Blue Martini, Golden Nugget Lake Charles
www.bbbs-swla.net
Hosted by Big Brothers Big Sisters, this masked party (cocktail attire) will feature a variety of Cajun dishes, cocktails & music by the New Natives Brass Band. Tickets cost \$75.

MOTOR GRAS PARADE

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 3 p.m.
Downtown-Midtown Lake Charles
View hot rods, classics and motorcycles as they cruise down Ryan Street.

KREWE OF KREWES' PARADE

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m.
Downtown-Midtown Lake Charles
More than 100 elaborate krewe floats, costumes, beads and more wind through the city in the culmination of the Fat Tuesday celebration.

*Denotes events that are taking place at the Lake Charles Civic Center, 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70601.