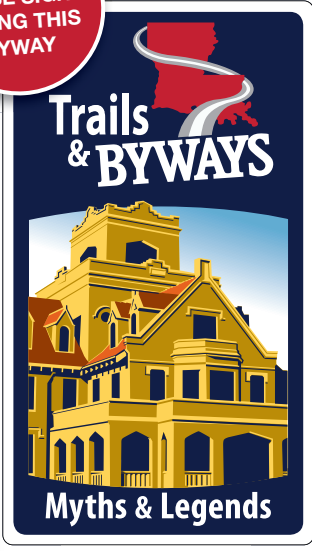


LOOK FOR THESE SIGNS ALONG THIS BYWAY



# 11 MYTHS AND LEGENDS

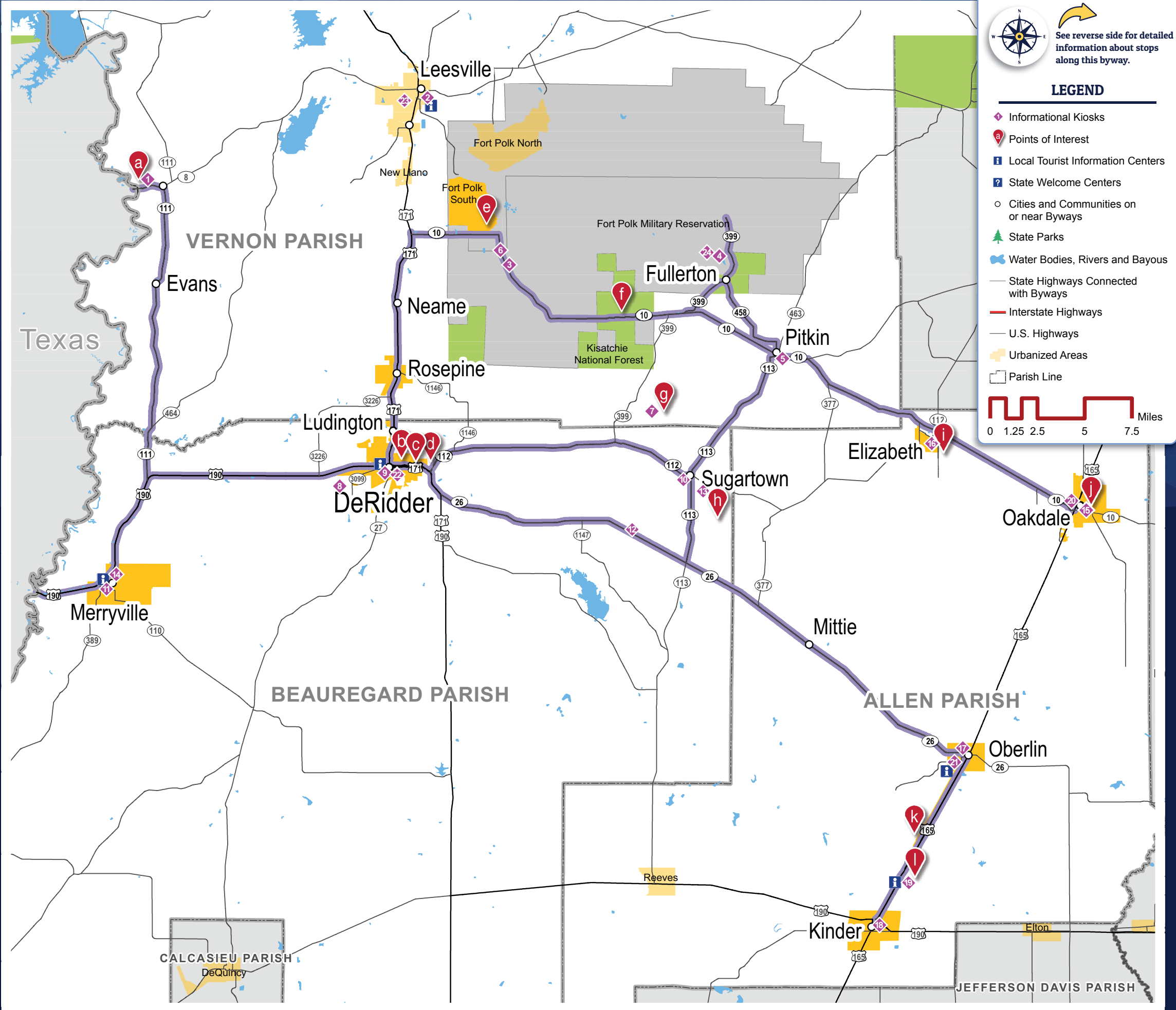


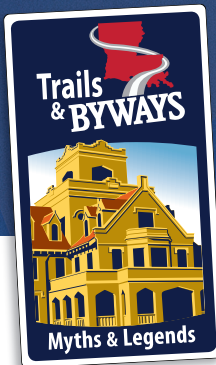
Hauntings, hidden treasures and hangings are all part of the folktales that have been passed down throughout the region now designated as the Myths and Legends Byway. Explore a former no-man's-land once populated by outlaws and gunslingers. Fish on the Calcasieu River, the waterway that infamous buccaneer Jean Lafitte is known to have traveled. Search for the ghost-protected buried treasure of two Jayhawkers—pro-Union Civil War rebel guerrillas—from the 1800s. These are all parts of a collection of true stories and tall tales that can be experienced along the 181-mile Myths and Legends Byway.

The route begins in southwest Louisiana at the Texas state line and travels through land originally settled by the Atakapa and Coushatta tribes, now the parishes of Allen, Beauregard and Vernon. Today, visitors will find pine forests, white sandy beaches, blueberry farms, rodeos and friendly people ready to share their stories.

Explore the Myths and Legends Byway to experience legendary tales from this region firsthand.

LouisianaByways.com





# Here's a sampling of the many attractions throughout the Myth & Legends Byway. Let your stories begin here.

## MORE INFORMATION

Call or visit the welcome centers or CVB visitor information areas listed, and find us online at LouisianaByways.com.

## DRIVING TIPS:

Don't litter — keep Louisiana's Byways clean  
Note: some attractions do not have pull-offs or have narrow shoulders along the roadway.

### **a** BURR FERRY CIVIL WAR BREASTWORKS

Burr Ferry Civil War Breastworks is Vernon Parish's lone Civil War site. It is also the location of the only known surviving example of tête de pont or bridgehead, a design element positioned at the end of a bridge that provides cover against the enemy at a river crossing.  
LA 8 at the Sabine River, Leesville, LA 71446  
[vernonparish.org/about-us/communities/burr-ferry/lascv.com](http://vernonparish.org/about-us/communities/burr-ferry/lascv.com)

### **b** HANGING JAIL AND BEAUREGARD PARISH COURTHOUSE

The Hanging Jail and Beauregard Parish Courthouse were built to symbolize the community's wealth as a booming sawmill town. The town's trademark and notorious Gothic Revival building is known as the Hanging Jail and was built in 1914. Atop the spiral staircase and in view of the prisoners' jail cells, the condemned would meet their end in a dramatic way. The courthouse remains operational with nearly all of the allure and elegance of the original structure. Tours Available.

201 West 1st Street, DeRidder, LA 70634  
337-463-5534, [beauregardtourism.com](http://beauregardtourism.com)

### **c** CECIL'S CAJUN KITCHEN

Cecil's Cajun Kitchen is located in downtown DeRidder and serves Louisiana cuisine and a variety of fresh seafood, burgers and hand-cut steaks that are Certified Angus Beef. The authentic menu and Cajun atmosphere creates a unique and enjoyable dining experience. There is also live music every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

120 West 1st Street, DeRidder, LA 70634  
337-460-2002, [cecilscajunkitchen.com](http://cecilscajunkitchen.com)



### **d** TREASURE CITY MARKET

Treasure City Market is listed as one of Louisiana's top 10 flea markets. Visitors will find this two-story building, once the office of the Long Bell Lumber Company, nestled on the corner of Washington Street and East First Street in DeRidder.

121 South Washington St.,  
DeRidder, LA 70634  
337-460-6004,  
[treasurecitymarket.com](http://treasurecitymarket.com)

### **e** JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK

Fort Polk served as a base for the Louisiana Maneuvers in the 1940s. The Fort was used to train soldiers during the Vietnam era. Most of the old wooden buildings have been replaced with modern barracks, motor pools, unit administrative offices, and service facilities. The fort is still used today as a training center for light infantry and special operations units.

7073 Radio Road, Fort Polk, LA 71459  
337-531-1941 or 337-531-7203  
[military.com/base-guide/fort-polk](http://military.com/base-guide/fort-polk)

### **f** KISATCHIE NATIONAL FOREST

Kisatchie National Forest is a haven for a variety of nature lovers. The tranquility found at the Little Cypress Recreation Complex and Fullerton Lake Recreation Complex is ideal for hiking and biking. Anglers find fishing spots like Blue Hole to be supreme. The Enduro Trail was designed specifically for the more adventurous ATV, motor bike and horseback riders.

Kisatchie National Forest Kisatchie Work Center  
1992 LA 10, Leesville, LA 71446  
337-537-2113, [fs.usda.gov/main/kisatchie/home](http://fs.usda.gov/main/kisatchie/home)

### **g** TALBERT-PIERSON CEMETERY

Talbert-Pierson Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has 13 surviving wooden grave houses, a tradition that is upheld by the families today.

Victor Martin Road, Sugartown, LA 70662, 337-238-0783  
[vernonparish.org/listing/talbert-pierson-cemetery](http://vernonparish.org/listing/talbert-pierson-cemetery)



### **h** OLD CAMPGROUND CEMETERY AND NATURE WALK

Old Campground Cemetery and Nature Walk is a 10-acre wildlife refuge and is the native home of the endangered red-headed woodpecker. The wildlife refuge also features a nature walk, a freshwater creek and primitive campsites. As a result of pro-Union Civil War Rebel combatants, this area was once called the Jayhawkers

campsite. Today it's known as the meeting grounds.

From LA 112, 1 mile east of Sugartown, turn south at the Sugartown Pentecostal Church, follow sign Dry Creek, LA 70637  
337-463-5534, [beauregardtourism.com](http://beauregardtourism.com)

### **i** ELIZABETH CITY HALL

Elizabeth City Hall was originally built in 1924 to serve as the hospital for the Industrial Lumber Company. It now operates as City Hall for the town of Elizabeth and is considered to be haunted by former patients of the historic hospital.

230 Poplar Street, Elizabeth, LA 70638  
318-634-5100, [allenparish.com](http://allenparish.com)

### **j** LEATHERWOOD MUSEUM

The Leatherwood Museum is a historic house built in 1888 and is presently serving as a museum for Allen Parish. Take a step back in time and discover the history of the area and see a WWII exhibit, pine needle baskets in the Native American exhibit, a replica mill store, tiger oak furniture, and the Louisiana native wildlife exhibit. Other exhibits include dolls, a stumping display in the Agriculture exhibit and a 1930s dental exhibit.

202 East 7th Avenue, Oakdale, LA 71463  
318-335-0622 or 888-639-4868, [allenparish.com](http://allenparish.com)

### **k** COUSHATTA CASINO RESORT

The largest land-based casino in the State of Louisiana.

777 Coushatta Drive, Kinder, LA 70648  
800-56-GRAND [coushattacasinoresort.com](http://coushattacasinoresort.com)

### **l** ALLEN PARISH WELCOME CENTER

The new cultural center features: The Swamp, the Music Museum; The Coushatta Heritage Exhibit; Wall of Honor & military exhibit.

12855 Highway 165, 337-438-4087

## **i** TOURIST INFORMATION CENTERS:

**ALLEN PARISH WELCOME CENTER**  
12855 Hwy. 165, Kinder, 337-738-4087

**ALLEN PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION**  
8904 Hwy. 165, Oberlin, 888-639-4868,  
[allenparish.com](http://allenparish.com)

**ATAKAPA-COUSHATTA TRACE VISITOR CENTER**  
703 N. Bryan St., Merryville, 337-825-5380

**BEAUREGARD TOURIST COMMISSION**  
313 W. First St., DeRidder, 800-738-5534,  
[beauregardtourism.com](http://beauregardtourism.com)

**LEISURE TRAVEL SERVICES**  
7755 Georgia Ave., Bldg. 3350, Ft. Polk  
337-531-2728, [polk.armymwr.com/programs/leisure-travel-services](http://polk.armymwr.com/programs/leisure-travel-services)

**VERNON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
201 S. Third St., Leesville, 337-238-0783  
[LouisianaLegendCountry.com](http://LouisianaLegendCountry.com)

## Informational Kiosks

There's more to explore on the Myths and Legends Byway. This historic driving trail features 22 informational kiosks located throughout parishes that the Myths and Legends Byway covers, offering a convenient way to get the info you need during your travels across west-central Louisiana.

- 1 Burr Ferry, ML Kiosk No. 1  
LA 8 at the Sabine River
- 2 Life Along the Sabine River, ML Kiosk No. 2  
803 South 3rd Street, Leesville, LA 71446
- 3 Wolf Rock Cave in Kisatchie National Forest, ML Kiosk No. 3  
LA 10, south of Fort Polk near the town of Pitkin
- 4 Fullerton - A Giant in the Woods, ML Kiosk No. 4  
Fullerton Lake Road, Fullerton, LA
- 5 Pitkin Pavilion, ML Kiosk No. 5  
111 Middle Street, Pitkin, LA 70656
- 6 Louisiana Maneuvers - Louisiana Goes to War, Twice, ML Kiosk No. 6  
LA 10, Kisatchie National Forest, 71459
- 7 Grave House of Talbert Pierson Cemetery, ML Kiosk No. 7  
Victor Martin Road, LA 399, Sugartown, LA 70662
- 8 WWII Army Airbase / Grabow Shootout, ML Kiosk No. 8  
D. Street, DeRidder, LA 70634
- 9 Beauregard Parish Gothic Jail, ML Kiosk No. 9  
301 West 1st, DeRidder, LA 70634
- 10 Sugartown Watermelon Stand, ML Kiosk No. 10  
200 Old School Road, Sugartown, LA 70662
- 11 Charles "Leather Britches" Smith, ML Kiosk No. 11  
649 Hennigan Street, Merryville, LA 70653
- 12 Old Hoy Cemetery and Nature Reserve, ML Kiosk No. 12  
LA 26, Old Hoy Cemetery Road, DeRidder, LA 70634
- 13 Old Campground: A Waypoint Through the Years, ML Kiosk No. 13  
309 Old Campground Cemetery Road, Dry Creek, LA 70637
- 14 The Atakapa - Coushatta Trace, ML Kiosk No. 14  
703 North Bryan Street, Merryville, LA 70653
- 15 Leatherwood Museum, ML Kiosk No. 15  
202 East 7th Avenue, Oakdale, LA 71463
- 16 Elizabeth City Hall, ML Kiosk No. 16  
230 Poplar Street, Elizabeth, LA 70638
- 17 Oberlin - A Blending of Cultures, ML Kiosk No. 17  
208 West 6th Street, Oberlin, LA 70655
- 18 Kinder: The Crossroads to Everywhere, ML Kiosk No. 18  
14342 US 165, Kinder, LA 70648
- 19 The Coushatta People, ML Kiosk No. 19  
12855 US 165, Kinder, LA 70648
- 20 Legends of the Money Tree, ML Kiosk No. 20  
104 West 6th Street, Oakdale, LA 71463
- 21 Cajun Life on the Louisiana Prairie, ML Kiosk No. 21  
8904 US 165, Oberlin, LA 70655
- 22 DeRidder - The Saw Mill Hub, ML Kiosk No. 22  
102 South Washington Street, DeRidder, LA 70634
- 23 Sgt. Abraham Lincoln "Abe" Allen: Pershing's 100, ML Kiosk No. 23  
Magnolia Park  
Abe Allen Memorial Drive, Leesville, LA 71446
- 24 Dorothea Lange & Fullerton, ML Kiosk No. 24  
Fullerton Lake Rd., Fullerton, LA 70656

Take your time, stop to take in the sights, dine on local Louisiana cuisine, shop at the local boutiques along the way and stay over a night or two.

Get additional trip ideas by visiting LouisianaByways.com or one of our Welcome Centers along the route.

**IMAGES:** 1 Outside the Hanging Jail and Beauregard Parish Courthouse. ©Chris Adams 2 Off the trail in Kisatchie National Forest. 3 Leatherwood Museum.

4 A row of Talbert Houses. ©Z28scrambler



Funding for this document is provided in part by the Federal Highway Administration.