



CAJUN COAST

VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU

Staycation in Berwick-Bayou Vista, Louisiana

Day One: Arrive in Berwick at Cypress Lake RV Park, 100 Cypress Rd, Berwick, 985-399-5981, Roy El Oak RV Park, Highway 182 and Lonely Oak Lane, Bayou Vista, 985-714-2184 or Two Sisters Landing, Two Sisters Court, off Highway 182, Bayou Vista, 985-714-0717

After parking and setting up the RV, fix an adult beverage and take time to relax.

Day Two and Day Three: Wake up and enjoy your morning coffee. If you'd like a brisk walk, drive over to the Berwick Walking Trail. The trail is 1.5-miles and passes along several canals, hardwood forests and fields, with designated spots for birdwatching. The trail begins on Gilmore Drive, about a half mile north of State Road 182, and concludes near the Atchafalaya River levee.

Fishing: If you're staying at Cypress Lake, you can fish in their lake. Rent an aluminum boat or pelican boat. Cash is needed. No fishing license is required.

For all others, you'll need a guide, Blue Dog Charters, 985-518-4277 or 985-384-2070. If you have your own boat, you'll need a launch, www.cajuncoast.com/sites/default/files/Cajun-Coast-Boat-Launches.pdf, fishing maps, Ivy's Tackle Box in Morgan City, 985-384-2070, 7209 Highway 182 E, Morgan City or Tideland Marine, 985-384-2724, 6805 LA-182, Morgan City, LA 70380 and an updated fishing license. Charlie's Pawn Shop, 6711 Highway 182 E, 985-384-7296, Ivy's Tackle Box or visit www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/recreational-fishing-licenses-and-permits.

Paddling: If you're staying at Cypress Lake, you can rent canoes or kayaks. Cash is needed. If you have your own canoe or kayak, there are over 11 trails for paddlers to enjoy throughout St. Mary Parish. www.cajuncoast.com/activities/paddling-trails

Day Three or Day Four: After breakfast, it's time for touring. Visit the Everett Berry Lighthouse Park, Southwest Reef Lighthouse, Riverfront Berwick and the Brown House, Berwick's Heritage Museum, 3326 Third Street, Berwick, 985-384-2283. You may need to call to make an appointment. The Everett Berry Lighthouse Park and Brown House tell the story of the Berwick area. The Southwest Reef Lighthouse guided mariners into the Atchafalaya Bay for over 130 years before it was retired.

Walk around the downtown area and learn more about the Town of Berwick.
www.cajuncoast.com/listings/berwick-historic-district

End the day with dinner at Bayou Lagniappe, 102 Bowman Street, Berwick, 985-384-2245. Make sure to try their bread pudding of the day. If Bayou Lagniappe is not open, other options include Atchafalaya Restaurant, 400 Cotten Road, Patterson, 985-399-3688 or Sam's Southern Eatery, 1829 Hwy, 90 E, Bayou Vista, 985-395-4405. Menus available on www.cajuncoast.com/eat

Day Four or Day Five: After breakfast, visit the Cajun Coast Welcome Center in Morgan City, 900 Dr. MLK Boulevard, 985-380-8224, for local information. Keep your eye out for local wildlife including alligators, turtles, snakes, red tailed hawks, American bald eagles, rabbits, blue herons and egrets.

After the Cajun Coast Welcome Center, travel downtown to for a tour of the “Mr. Charlie.” The “Mr. Charlie” or the International Petroleum Museum & Exposition is the first submersible oil rig ever built and is considered an engineering marvel. Afterwards, visit the Diving/ROV Historical Preservation Room. For reservations, contact 985-384-3744. After the tour, enjoy a walk along the 21 Foot “Great Wall” bordering the Atchafalaya River in downtown Morgan City. Visit the Atchafalaya National Heritage Trail Kiosk and learn more about the river.

For lunch, visit Bay City Bistro, 618 Front Street, Morgan City, 985-380-2853, Café Jojo’s or Rita Mae’s. The crab burger at Rita Mae’s has been praised by many a food writer, 711 Federal Avenue, Morgan City, 985-384-3550, and Café Jojo’s, 624 Front Street, Morgan City, 985-384-9291 and Chef Brian have received numerous accolades. After lunch, enjoy shopping in some of our Main Street shops. For a sweet treat and flavorful coffee, visit Sweet & Simple Cupcakes in downtown, 209 Freret Street, Morgan City, 985-329-3939.

You can also enjoy a walking tour of downtown Morgan City and view some of our notable properties. For maps, www.cajuncoast.com/sites/default/files/Morgan-City-Historic-Trail.pdf

After lunch, visit the Wedell Williams Aviation Museum and Cypress Sawmill Museum in Patterson, 118 Cotten Road, Patterson, 985-399-1268. The Louisiana State Museum in Patterson documents Louisiana’s aviation history and the cypress museum documents the cypress industry of the area.

Day Five or Day Six: Touring

Captain Caviar Swamp Tours and **Captain Caviar Ghost Tour**, 112 Main Street, Patterson, 985-395-7420, adventure into the Atchafalaya Swamp Basin for 2.5 hours.

Historic Driving Tour of Franklin – Follow the Bayou Teche Scenic Byway into the Franklin and Charenton. Enjoy historic homes, shop along Franklin’s Main Street and tour the Chitimacha Museum in Charenton.

OPTIONS:

Golfing: St. Mary Golf & Country Club, Berwick, a nine hole, semi private course. 581 Fairview Drive, Berwick, 985-384-8500 or Atchafalaya Golf Course at Idlewild, 400 Cotten Road, Patterson, LA 70392. 985-395-GOLF, www.atchafalayagolf.com, an Audubon Golf Trail Course.

Casino Gaming: Amelia Belle Casino, 500 Lake Palourde Road, Amelia, 985-631-1777 or Cypress Bayou Casino, 832 Martin Luther King Road, Charenton, 800-284-4386.

Birdwatching: Cotten Road, located in Patterson, is one of the best birding locations in St. Mary Parish. In total, there are over 300 species of birds to be found in St. Mary Parish. www.louisianatravel.com/louisiana-birding-trails for a map of St. Mary Parish and other birding sites throughout Louisiana.

For more ideas, visit www.cajuncoast.com