



EXPLORE EXPERIENCE & ENJOY

Located in North Louisiana, Ruston & Lincoln Parish is known for its bustling college-town atmosphere, 18-block historic downtown district, thriving arts culture, and incredibly sweet peaches. The area is home to Louisiana Tech University and Grambling State University, and offers a variety of shopping opportunities, culinary experiences, and outdoor adventures.

Come explore Ruston's many arts & cultural events, get active in nationally-recognized Lincoln Parish Park, enjoy live outdoor concerts in downtown Ruston, or visit a historical attraction like the Louisiana Military Museum and the Eddie G. Robinson Museum. With so much to enjoy all year long, it's easy to discover why Ruston & Lincoln Parish is known as Louisiana's College Town.



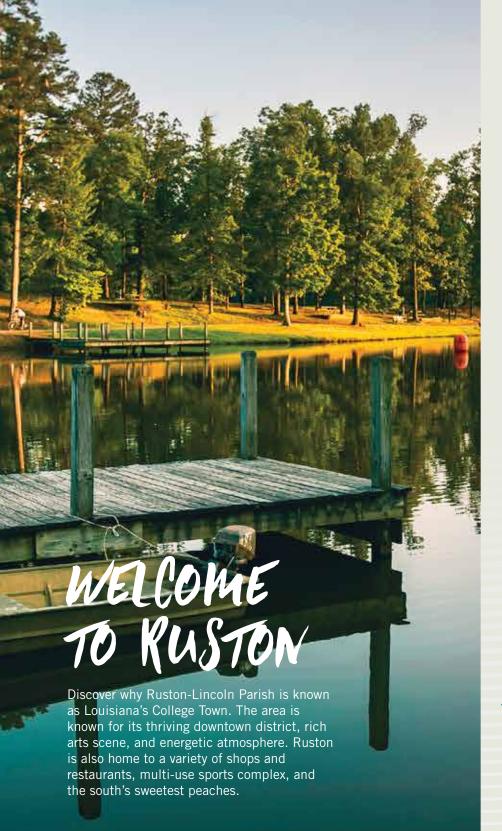












Welcome to Louisiana's College Town! The CVB team invites you to explore Ruston & Lincoln Parish and see what our part of Louisiana has to offer. Whether you're here for business, pleasure, or a little bit of both, we encourage you to take part in area events, dine like a local, and have a few adventures while you're in town.

Ruston & Lincoln Parish has always been a great place to visit, but with new restaurants, attractions, growing outdoor and recreational activities, lively downtown district, and cultural events all year long, there's always something new to discover!

Be sure to stop by the Visitors Center located at 2111 North Trenton Street while you're in town. Our coffee is fresh, our water is cold, and we'd love to hear about your plans in Ruston & Lincoln Parish!

Travis Mapper
Travis Napper
CVB President/CFO



VISITOR CENTER

2111 North Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270 318-255-2031 | 1-800-392-9032 website: experienceruston.com

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> Explore the annual Peach Festival or sit back for some live music during Rock the Railroad.



PICK UP AREA TIPS AND FACTS

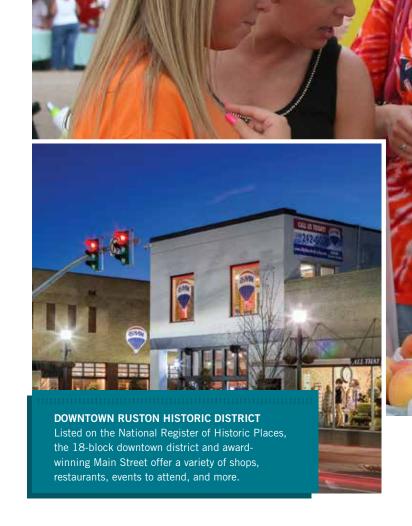
DOWNTOWN RUSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

Live music every weekend in local restaurants, monthly events, theatrical performances, local shopping and much more.

Touk ouk HISTORY

As the Reconstruction Era began following the Civil War, the piney hills of North Central Louisiana that had been spared from wartime destruction was carved from surrounding parishes to form a new parish in 1873, and then named for President Abraham Lincoln. Word spread to Lincoln Parish that the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific Railroad would soon run across North Louisiana, linking the Deep South with the Wild Wild West. For Robert E. Russ, Lincoln Parish's sheriff from 1877 to 1880, it was a dream come reality to have people live in the area. Russ donated 640 acres to the town; and by 1884, Ruston, short for Russ Town, was incorporated.

As the town took shape, new churches, businesses, civic organizations, and schools were established. In 1890, the Louisiana Chautauqua was chartered, laying the community's foundation in education. Louisiana Tech University was founded in 1894, and Grambling State University in 1901 becoming cornerstones upon which the area strongly stands to this day.



EXPLORE THE LINCOLN PARISH MUSEUM

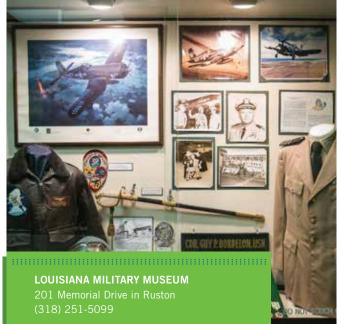
Venture back and see the story of Ruston told through a collection of countless pictures and artifacts. On the National Register of Historic Places, the Lincoln Parish Museum, also known as the Kidd-Davis House, was donated in 1975 by Mary Olive Davis Green and Charlotte Davis Parrot. The house was constructed in 1886 for the Milton B. Kidd family and sold in 1921 to Robert Wesley Davis.

The museum's "Walls that Talk" exhibit includes seven murals showcasing vignettes from Lincoln Parish History, along with voice recordings of parish citizens telling the stories.

LINCOLN PARISH MUSEUM 609 N VIENNA ST RUSTON, LA 71270







JOURNEY TO PAST MILITARY WARS

Relive 150 years of military history through the lives of local heroes and unknown enemies at the Louisiana Military Museum. The museum displays a massive collection of arms and artifacts, unique to the area, chronicling United States conflicts from the Spanish-American War to Desert Storm and today's war on terror. It features an expansive weapons collection, as well as personal items such as diaries, Bibles and flight jackets.

VISIT: WWW.NLMM.LA



Locate the best spots for outdoor adventures, things to do, local cuisines, entertainment and much more!

VISITOR CENTER: 2111 North Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

- 1. Garland Gregory Hideaway Park 2. Lincoln Parish Park 3. Grambling City Park
- 4. Rock Island Greenway 5. Ruston Sports Complex

ATTRACTIONS

- 1. 2High Trampoline Park 2. Eddie G. Robinson Museum 3. Lincoln Parish Museum
- **4.** Louisiana Military Museum **5.** I-20 Escape **6.** The Alley of Ruston **7.** Ruston Farmer's Market **8.** Louisiana Tech University **9.** Grambling State University
- 10. Soaring Spirits Ziplines 11. Mitcham Farms Peach Orchard

DINING

- 1. Beau Vines Steakhouse 2. Brister's Smokehouse 3. Dawg House Sports Grill
- **4.** La Bamba Mexican Restaurant **5.** Log Cabin Grill & Market **6.** Mi Casa Taqueria **7.** Ponchatoulas **8.** Portico Bar & Grill **9.** Railway Coffee
- 10. Parish Press 11. Raw 12. Roma Italian Bistro 13. Sundown Tavern
- 14. Teriyaki Grill 15. Social Bites 16. Utility Brewing 17. Uptown Downtown

ENTERTAINMENT

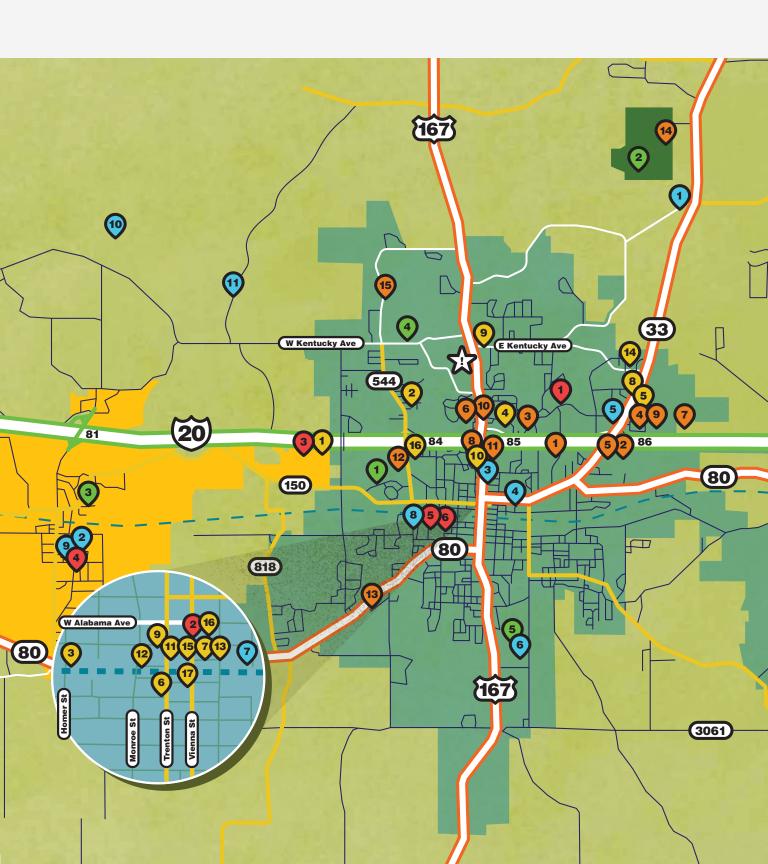
- 1. Celebrity Theaters 2. Dixie Center for the Arts 3. The Revelry of Ruston
- **4.** Floyd L. Sandle Theatre **5.** Howard Center for the Performing Arts **6.** Stone Theatre

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 1. Best Western Plus 2. Country Inn & Suites 3. Courtyard by Marriott 4. Days Inn
- 5. Fairfield Inn & Suites 6. Hampton Inn Ruston 7. Holiday Inn Express
- 8. Motel 6 9. Quality Inn 10. Relax Inn 11. Sleep Inn & Suites 12. Super 8 Motel
- 13. Travel Inn 14. Lincoln Parish Park 15. The Cottage

For a complete listing of attractions, shopping, dining, accommodations and upcoming events visit: **experienceruston.com**







HOTELS / MOTELS

Best Western Plus

1011 Willow Glen Dr Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-7499

Country Inn & Suites

1825 Roberta Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 513-9777



Courtyard by Marriott

1309 Maxwell Blvd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 254-0067

Days Inn

1801 N Service Rd E Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-2360

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

1707 Roberta Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-9800

Hampton Inn Ruston

1315 N. Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-3090

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

1312 Hospitality St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 232-1230

Motel 6

1105 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-0000

Quality Inn

1951 N Service Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 242-0070

Relax Inn

1300 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-2911



Sleep Inn & Suites

106 S Service Rd E Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 232-1100

Super 8 Motel

1101 Cooktown Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-0588

Travel Inn

1705 W California Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-3256

RV AND CAMPGROUNDS

Antique Village RV Park

3027 Martha St Simsboro, LA 71275 (318) 247-1744

Lincoln Parish Park

211 Parish Park Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-5156

BED AND BREAKFAST



The Cottage

3102 Kavanaugh Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-1980





Louisiana Tech was ranked #1 overall college in the state and #1 in the state for best value based on graduation rates, net price and 20 year return on investment.

Ranked on bestcolleges.com

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1894. Louisiana Tech University is a Tier One National University located in Ruston known for its engineering and technology programs. LA Tech offers students an enriching college experience on a beautiful campus as well as opportunities to engage with the community. LA Tech is ranked #1 overall in the state by bestcolleges.com and #1 in the state for best value based on graduation rate, net price, and a 20-year return on investment. The university also excels in their athletic programs, drawing many fans into town each season, and continues to provide national exposure for the university and Ruston.

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY

Located 5 miles west of Ruston is Grambling, home to Grambling State

University. In addition to being one of the country's top Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), GSU is a top producer of Computer Information Science and Criminal Justice graduates. GSU is also home to the internationally renowned Tiger March Band and the "winningest" coach in NCAA Division I football, Eddie G. Robinson. The legendary coach's life and career are honored at the Eddie G. Robinson Museum located on campus.





RESTARAUNTS

Beau Vines Steakhouse

Steaks, seafood, Sunday brunch 2647 S Service Rd W Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-1008

BBQ favorites, specialty: scatterload sandwich 1420 Cooktown Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 513-9966

Dawg House Sports Grill

Burgers, wings, bar & grill 102 N. Homer St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 513-1188



Johnny's Pizza

Louisiana favorite, pizzas, muffulettas 1109 Cooktown Rd. & 2029 E Kentucky Dr, Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-1006 (318) 224-7014

La Bamba Mexican Resturant

Delicious Mexican cuisine 207 N Service Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-4219

Log Cabin Grill & Market

Extensive menu, breakfast 1906 Farmerville Hwy Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-8023

Mi Casa Taqueria

Authentic Mexican & Latin cuisine, open late 202 W Louisiana Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-7062

Nana's Soulfood

Old-fashioned southern home cooking 301 Minden St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-7028



Ponchatoulas

New Orleans style cuisine, specialties: Crawfish Shirley & Stuffed Catfish 109 E Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 254-5200



Portico Bar & Grill

Burgers, seafood, daily lunch specials 1821 N Pointe Ln Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-9900

Raw

Sushi & Japanese cuisine 114 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-8320

Roma Italian Bistro

Italian dishes, pizzas, specialty: Lobster Ravioli 102 N Monroe St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 202-3810

Scott's Catfish of Ruston

Seafood, burgers, lunch buffet 2480 Hwy 33 Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 232-7500

Sundown Tavern

Burgers, sandwiches, outdoor seating 111 E Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-8028

Teriyaki Grill

Grilled chicken, shrimp & steak 1913 E Kentucky Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 254-0777

Utility Brewing

Beer & pizza, outdoor seating, family-friendly 206 N Vienna St Ruston, LA 71270

FOOD TRUCKS

Grown and Grazed

Serves breakfast & lunch, local ingredients 93 E Railroad Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 791-7057



Tacos the Guero

Authentic Mexican dishes, tacos, 103 N Service Rd E Ruston LA 71270 (801) 710-3417

COFFEE, SNACKS & SWEETS

Eskamoe's Frozen Custard

Frozen custard and specialty desserts, snack items 1913 E Kentucky Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 513-9696

Parish Press

Coffee, beignets 1007 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-9047

Railway Coffee

Coffee, breakfast, snacks 202 W Mississippi Ave & 103 Pelican Blvd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 678-5781

Social Bites

Cupcakes, cookies, sweets 106 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-2483

Uptown Downtown

Sweets, breakfast, lunch 94 S Vienna St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-6771





SEE & 00

ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity Theatres

Ruston is home to Celebrity Theatres, a mulitplex movie house screening first-run films and special event movie nights. Celebrity Theatres is great for families, groups, and students.

Dixie Center for the Arts

Located in historic downtown Ruston, the iconic Dixie Theatre has a calendar filled with concerts and live performances, plays, films, and much more.



The Revelry of Ruston

The Revelry is home to live music and boisterous fun. Offering a variety of entertainment, the Rev is Ruston's ultimate concert venue with two stages and three fully-stocked bar areas. Past performances include Gary Allen, Eli Young Band, Pat Green, Travis Tritt, & more.

Live Music at Local Restaurants Sundown Tavern, Ponchatoulas,

Sundown Tavern, Ponchatoulas, Portico Bar & Grill, Utility Brewing

FAMILY AND GROUPS

2High Trampoline Park

This indoor trampoline park offers a ninja course, dodgeball and basketball courts, open jumping with airbags, and even a soft-play area for toddlers!



The Alley of Ruston

This entertainment space offers a 12-lane bowling alley, restaurant and bar, arcade and much more! Located inside the Ruston Sports Complex. Opening June 2019.

I-20 Escape

Book your next group adventure in Ruston's escape room! Each room is designed to provide a challenging experience where communication and teamwork are the keys to the exit.

OWL Center

The Outdoor Wilderness Learning Center (OWL) is 800 acres of rolling hills and beautiful facilities. The Owl's programs are designed to encourage teamwork, family bonding, character development, and most of all, fun! Bring your group out for rope challenge courses, mazes, and more.

Soaring Spirits Ziplines

Thrill seekers and outdoor lovers alike are in for a special treat with this exhilarating zipline experience. Perfect for groups, families, and individuals!

Ultra Zone Paintball

Bring friends and family to battle in the paintball arena. It's sure to be an action-packed adventure for your next group outing!

Louisiana

Spend some time appreciating the arts and culture of the area with a tour of Ruston's public art. Located in downtown Ruston, near the historic Dixie Theatre is a colorful and geometric mural, perfect for photo ops. Another mural painted onto the Ruston Farmers Market building portrays the area's appreciation for local producers and makers. The Rock Island Greenway mural, located in an underpass of the interstate, depicts a scene to inspire healthy and active lifestyles. And another mural located at the Louisiana Center for the Blind is painted in beautiful script and features enlarged braille.

ART SCENE

- 1 Dixie Center for the Arts: 212 N Vienna
- 2 Ruston Artisans: 203 W Alabama Ave., Ruston, LA 71270 (318)
- 3 F. Jay Taylor Visual Arts Center: 1
- 4 Dunbar Art Gallery: 403 Main Street,



he made to football and to the nation. Coach Rob,

EDDIE ROBINSON MUSEUM

Located on the campus of Grambling State University, the Eddie G. Robinson Museum celebrates college football's "winningest" and recognizes the outstanding contributions

> a College Football Hall of Fame inductee, won 408 games, graduated 80 percent of his players, and saw more than 200 of his athletes advance to the NFL during his 57-year coaching career at GSU. Visitors to the museum can learn more about Robinson's power life and how he touched the American population through interactive

exhibits, photos, testimonials from players, and more.

VISIT: WWW.ROBINSONMUSEUM.COM

DISCOVER UMQUE SHOPPING

Browse Ruston's impressive selection of products and brands in the historic downtown district. The Fashion of Ruston offers the latest trends and classic styles from New York and Los Angeles with personalized service. Chartreuse Pear, located in downtown's beautiful carriageway, has an eclectic mix of home décor, gifts, custom bedding, and more. For the little ones, downtown Ruston provides a chance to shop only organic and handmade clothing at Garden Baby or timeless children's fashion and custom-made bows at The Children's Shoppe. Keep your home up-to-date with furnishings from Trenton Interiors & Co., located in the iconic Roger's Furniture building, and Townsend

Located just off Interstate 20 is Beehive Outlet. This shopper's delight offers a wide selection of trendy clothes, accessories, purses, shoes, and home décor. And don't leave Ruston without a trip to Mitcham Farms Peach Store for sweet peach treats, products, and gifts!

ANTIQUE SHOPS

House Gifts.

My Happy Place Vintage Market 2372 Highway 33 Ruston, LA (318) 224-7058

Park Avenue Antiques 102 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-8501

Vintage & Vogue 103 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-7074









ART & HOME DECOR

Chartreuse Pear 210 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-7327

Fine Line Supply Co. 201 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 202-5932

Trenton Interiors & Co. 111 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-7698

FASHION BOUTIQUES

Beehive Outlet 213 N Service Rd E Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 513-2899

Cricket's Grace Boutique 108 S Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 245-0526

LOOKING FOR MORE SHOPPING?

foods and handmade works!

More at: www.experienceruston.com

Dussé Boutique 108 N Vienna St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 278-1285

Garden Baby 200 N Vienna St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 224-9146

Patton's Downtown 126 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 254-0044

Patton's Western Wear 814 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-3990

Rodéo Boutique 116 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-0990

The Children's Shoppe 109 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 251-9599

The Fashion of Ruston 208 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-2525

GIFT SHOPS

Mainstreet Exchange 122 N Trenton St Ruston, LA 71270 (985) 467-9851

Mitcham Farms Peach Store 1007 Woods Rd Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-3409

Sue Paperie 112 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 232-2436

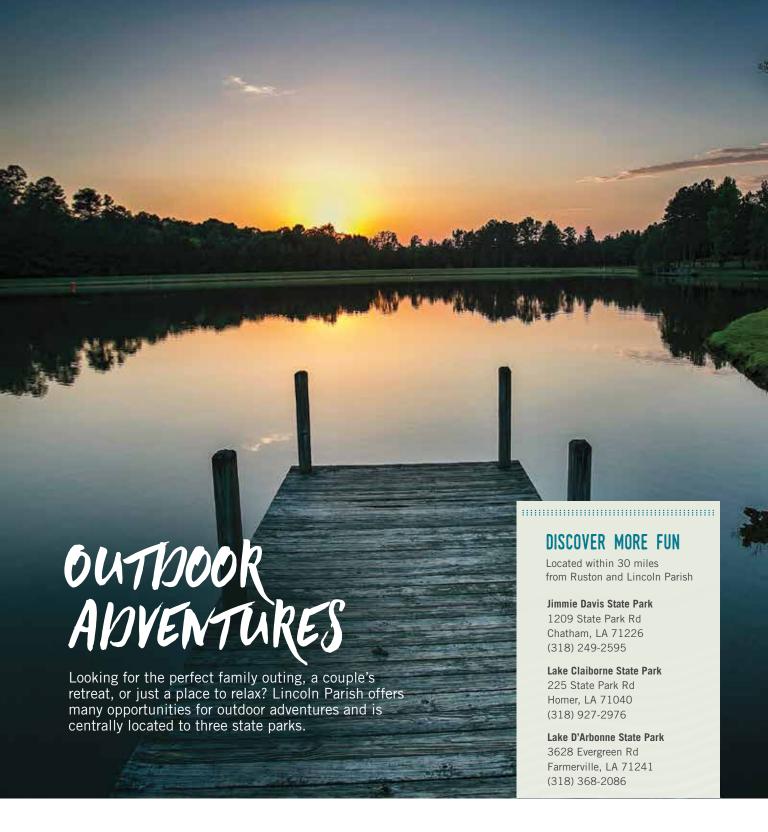
Townsend House Gifts 410 N Bonner St Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-3350

SPORTS WEAR

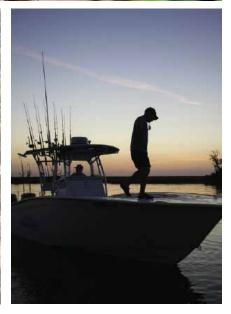
FanBase 110 W Park Ave Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 202-5614

Official 215 N Trenton Street Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-0003









FAMILY ACTIVITIES

If you're looking for the best places to swim, play & have fun with the entire family!

LINCOLN PARISH PARK With a 30-acre lake for swimming, boating and fishing; a white, sandy beach; cozy picnic areas; winding walking paths and mountain bike trails; Lincoln Parish Park has something for everyone. Also located inside the park, is Legacy Park, a boundless playground for children of all abilities. The barrier-free playground is handicap accessible and contains many unique features so that everyone has an opportunity to play. Campgrounds feature RV spots with full hookups at each site and primitive camping spots with access to electricity and WiFi.

ROCK ISLAND GREENWAY Ruston's Rock Island Greenway is a shared-use walking, running, and cycling path. This linear park spans across the city and connects neighborhoods, businesses, schools, and recreational areas. The greenway is the first of its kind in the area, providing a safe and scenic route for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as encouraging active and healthy lifestyles. The "RIG" also offers an opportunity to view some of Ruston's public art with a mural painted in the I-20 underpass.

JAMES LAKE BIRDING TRAIL An outdoor paradise, this birding trail is one of Louisiana's best locations to see a wide variety of birds. Guests can view these magnificent creatures from three locations – the viewing platform, the bridge, or the lake's wooden walking trail.







FESTIVALS & EVENTS

SPRING

Railroad Festival

Celebrate the arts and music of Louisiana with this annual concert in downtown Ruston. Shop local makers and artists during the day then move down to Railroad Park for live entertainment, food trucks, and drinks all night long.

Rock the Railroad

Families and friends gather together in Railroad Park on select Friday nights for live music, food trucks, and beverages. Lawn chairs and picnic blankets are welcome as you settle in for a night of entertainment!

Ruston Fashion Week

This weeklong celebration of Ruston's thriving retail community features festive parties, extended shopping hours, designer trunk shows and visits, and much more.

SUMMER

Dog Days of Summer

Welcome incoming LA Tech freshmen to Ruston and take advantage of extended downtown shopping hours and free live music in Railroad Park.

Juneteenth Heritage Festival

This annual festival commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States with week-long events and celebrations.

Louisiana Peach Festival

Each summer, Ruston is filled with live music, children's activities, and fun festival vendors. Plan a trip to the Peach Festival to enjoy all this plus deliciously sweet peaches and peach treats!

FALL

ARToberfest

This annual fundraiser for the North Central Louisiana Arts Council brings out the best-of-the-best homebrewers. Enjoy a night in scenic downtown Ruston with live entertainment, drinks, and food trucks.

Loyal Blue Weekends

Each home game for LA Tech football is a Loyal Blue Weekend! Come out for three days filled with live music, downtown festivities, tailgating, football, and local dining in Louisiana's College Town.

Ruston Makers Fair

Celebrate the arts culture of the area with the opportunity to shop the works of local artists, makers, and creators of all kinds. Spend the entire day shopping local and enjoying live music and food trucks.

WINTER

Christmas in Downtown Ruston

Experience beautifully lit downtown Ruston, an artificial ice skating rink, decorated shop windows, holiday plays, and cheerful music!

Holiday Arts Crawl

Visit downtown galleries and shops with works from local artists and knock out your Christmas list with unique, hand-crafted gifts.

Lincoln Lights Up the Pines

Make your way to Lincoln Parish Park the first weekend of December for this drive-thru Christmas lights display!

Mardi Gras Ball

Laissez les bon temps rouler with Krewe of Allegro! This event celebrates Louisiana's favorite time of year and supports the local arts.

YEAR-ROUND

Big Creek Trade Days

This flea market-style shopping experience has something to offer for everyone. One weekend a month, come browse hundreds of vendors with home décor, handmade furniture, antique & vintage items, clothing and more!

Ruston Farmers Market

Each Saturday is a chance to shop and support local producers. Ruston's farmers market not only offers fresh produce and meats for purchase, but also live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, children's activities, breakfast made on-site with market items, local coffee, and more!









& Visitors Bureau & Visitors Bureau 2111 North Trenton Street Ruston, LA 71270 (800) 392-9032 • www.experienceruston.com