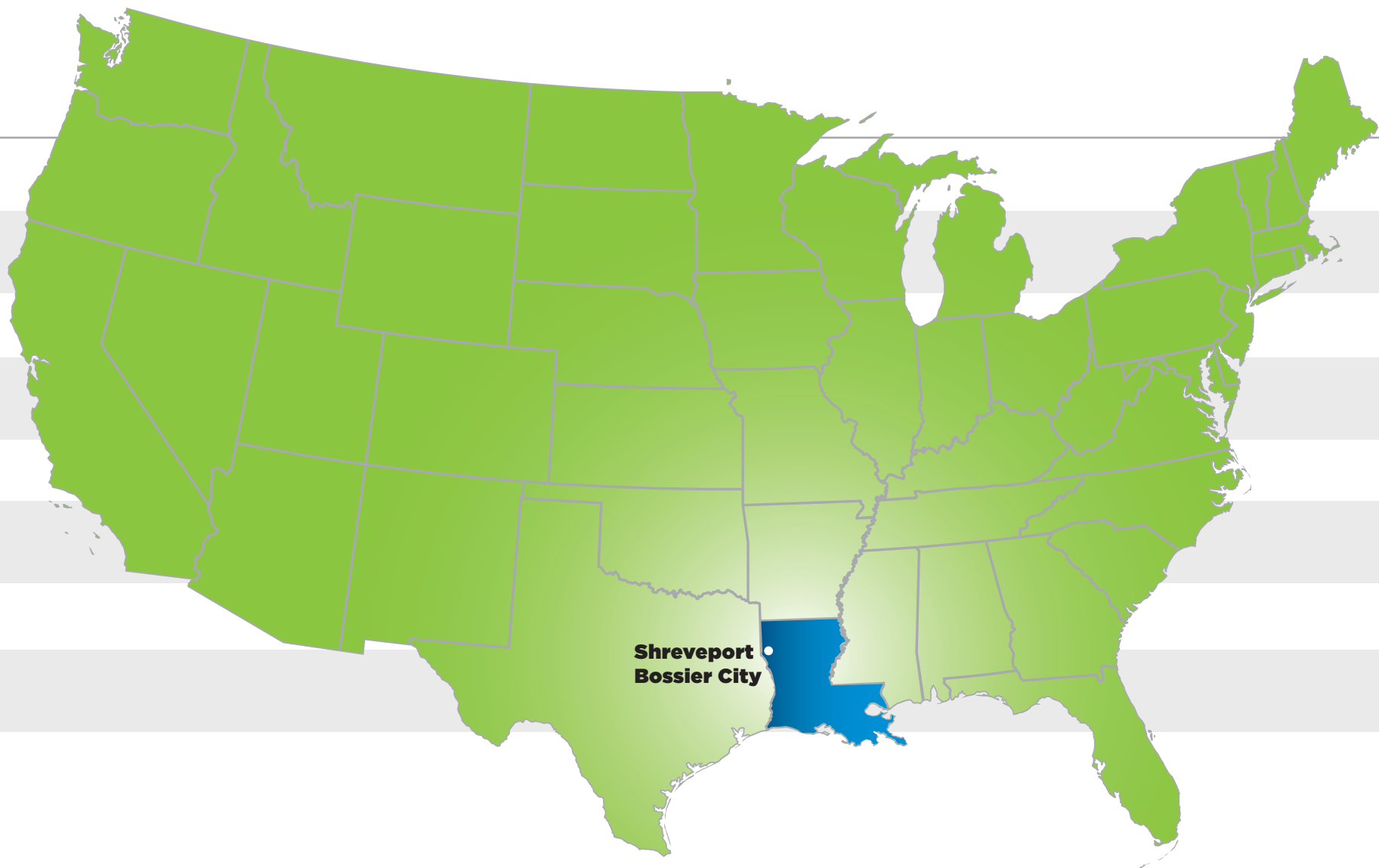


# welcome

SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER CITY GUIDE





# about Shreveport-Bossier City

Northwest Louisiana is an amazing region with parishes rich in charm and heritage. A perfect weave of cultural diversity, interests and traditions make up the fabric of this prosperous locale. Residents have a sense of pride and take action to make sure Shreveport-Bossier City maintains its status as an All-American City and its reputation as America's Caring Community.

One unusual aspect of the Shreveport-Bossier City area is that it exhibits the friendly and gracious charm of a much smaller community, while providing all the cultured amenities of modern urban life.

The metroplex also offers a relatively low cost of living. With a large number of high-paying jobs, the close proximity of excellent schools, supermarkets, large discount stores, upscale specialty stores and boutiques, Shreveport-Bossier City is an ideal family community. The area is also home to high-quality medical care and a multitude of fine restaurants, as well as year-round recreational and cultural events.

Shreveport-Bossier City's numerous movie theaters, museums, art galleries and ethnic cultural festivals

also provide ongoing sources of education and entertainment for all ages. Five riverboat casinos in Shreveport-Bossier City offer fun for everyone, under the regulation of the state of Louisiana. These upscale resort casinos are major contributors to the state's booming tourism industry.

The city's new 350,000-square-foot convention center is conveniently located within walking distance of the growing riverfront area. Plans for further development of the downtown area, including additional attractions and entertainment opportunities, continue to grow.

The setting of Shreveport-Bossier City offers residents a balance of business and leisure, as well as unlimited potential for growth.

# about Shreveport-Bossier City

## ABOUT LOUISIANA

Louisiana (also known as New France) was named after Louis XIV, King of France from 1643-1715. When Rene-Robert Cavelier claimed the territory, he named the area La Louisiane, meaning “Land of Louis.”

On April 30, 1803, the 828,800 square miles of Louisiana Territory were purchased by the U.S. from France for approximately \$15 million.

On April 30, 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state to join the union.

A large part of Louisiana is the creation and by-product of the Mississippi River. It was originally covered by an arm of the sea, and has been built up by the silt carried down the valley by the mighty river.

The state has 1,060 square miles of landlocked bays, 1,700 square miles of inland lakes and river surfaces of more than 500 square miles.

Louisiana is divided into 64 parishes in the same manner that most states are divided into counties. It is the only state in the U.S. that uses the term “parish” instead of “county.”

Louisiana operates a system of 19 state parks, 16 state historic sites and one state preservation area.

The Louisiana State Capitol and the Louisiana Governor’s Mansion are both located in Baton Rouge.

Tourism and culture are major components of the state’s economy, earning an estimated \$5.2 billion per year.

The Intracoastal Waterway is an important means of transporting commercial goods such as petroleum and petroleum products, agricultural produce, building materials and manufactured goods.

The state’s principal agricultural products include seafood, cotton, soybeans, cattle, sugarcane, poultry, eggs, dairy products and rice.

According to the Energy Information Administration, the Gulf of Mexico OCS (Outer Continental Shelf) is the largest U.S. oil-producing region.

# about Shreveport-Bossier City

## COST OF LIVING

According to the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association, the cost of living index in Shreveport-Bossier City during 2006 was 7.2% below the national cost of living index.

Over the past several years, Shreveport-Bossier City has successfully integrated residential areas, commercial businesses and beautifully landscaped settings to create a hometown atmosphere where people can live, work and enjoy the beauty of the Pelican State's natural environment.

In the Shreveport-Bossier City Metropolitan Area residents can purchase single-family homes in an attractive, safe neighborhood for under \$160,000.

The American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (ACCRA) index is used to measure the cost of living in Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA). The U.S. city average composite index is 100. The Shreveport-Bossier City MSA index is ranked third at 92.2.

*Source: American Chamber of Commerce Research Association, Cost of Living Index, 1st Quarter 2006*

## TOP TEN CITIES

1. HUNTSVILLE, AL.....	91.1
2. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK .....	91.3
3. SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER CITY, LA .....	92.2
4. SPRINGFIELD, MO .....	92.3
5. DES MOINES, IA .....	92.7
6. JACKSON, MS.....	94.0
7. PEORIA, IL .....	97.3
8. ATLANTA, GA .....	97.5
9. TOLEDO, OH.....	97.6

## SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER CITY STATS

- The Shreveport-Bossier City Metropolitan Area population exceeds 375,000 residents.
- The city has a total area of 117.8 square miles.
- Shreveport is the parish seat of Caddo Parish.

SEASON.....	TEMPERATURE RANGE (F°)
Winter.....	37°/56°
Spring .....	57°/77°
Summer .....	73°/93°
Fall.....	55°/78°
Annual Rainfall .....	51.3"
Annual Snowfall .....	1.7"
Days over 90° .....	90
Days under 32°.....	35

# things to do

Shreveport-Bossier City is renowned for its mix of historic landmarks, such as the McNeill Street Pumping Station, and an array of modern attractions. Bossier City's expansive Louisiana Boardwalk, opened in 2005, provides an attractive shopping and entertainment complex for residents and tourists alike. The area also boasts a number of other places of interest, including:

## **HERITAGE GALLERY**

## **SHREVEPORT METROPOLITAN BALLET**

## **SHREVEPORT MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM**

(Home of the first performance of Elvis Presley)

## **R.W. NORTON ART GALLERY**

Sports also provide a main source of entertainment. The Minor League Shreveport Sports Baseball Club has had numerous alumni move up to the major league. In addition, several teams call the CenturyTel Center home, including the Bossier-Shreveport Battle Wings Arena Football Team and the Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs, a CHL professional ice hockey team. Top collegiate football action also comes to town each year when the city hosts the Independence Bowl. Not to be

left out, fans of auto racing have their choice of racetracks, between the Ark-La-Tex Speedway, Boothill Speedway and Red River Raceway.

## **OTHER HELPFUL LINKS**

[www.shreveportchamber.org](http://www.shreveportchamber.org)

[www.downtownShreveport.com](http://www.downtownShreveport.com)

[www.helloShreveport.com](http://www.helloShreveport.com)

[www.bossierchamber.com](http://www.bossierchamber.com)

[www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)

[www.wegoplaces.com](http://www.wegoplaces.com)

[www.wickedtickle.com](http://www.wickedtickle.com)