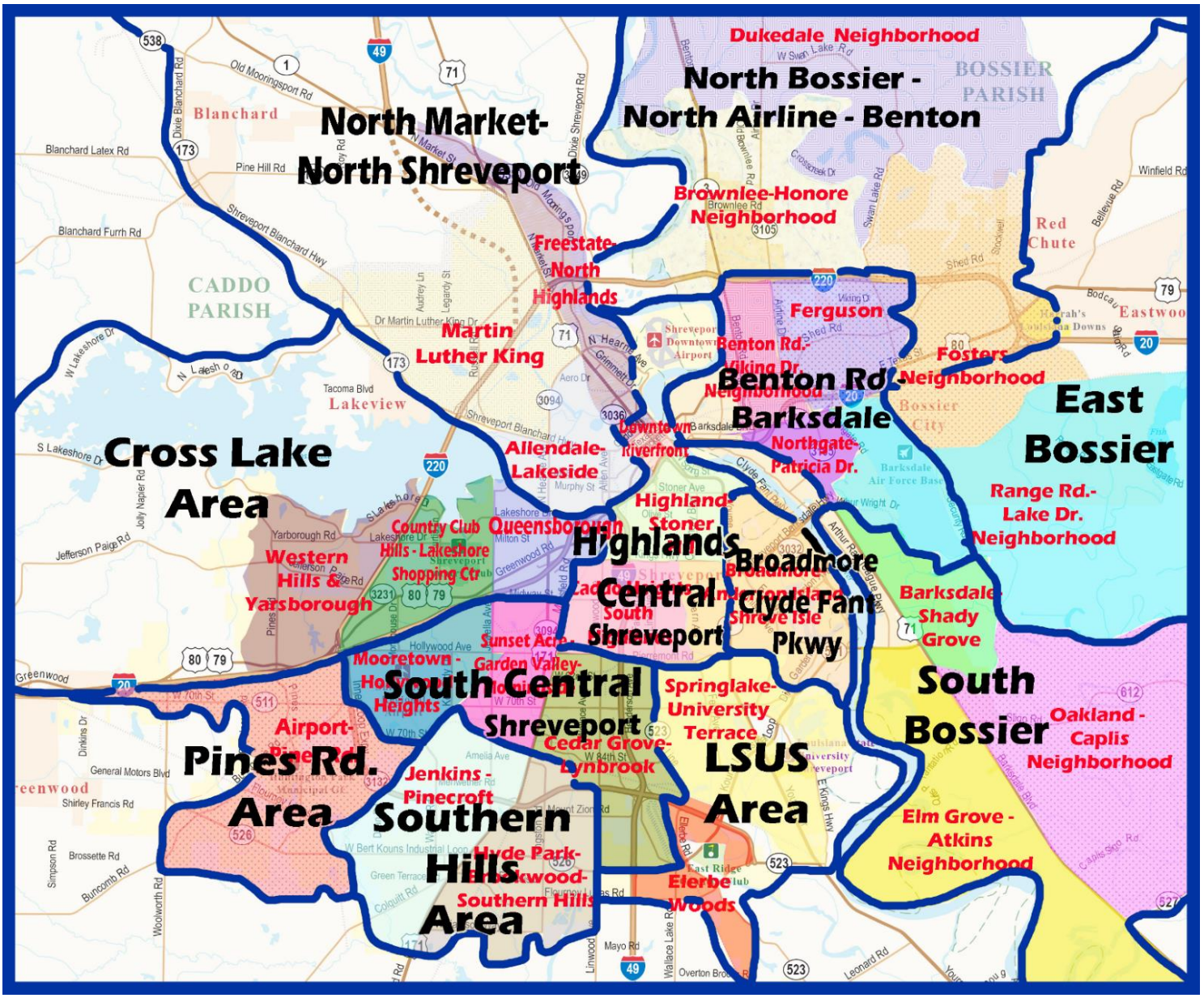
LSU Health SHREVEPORT | School of Graduate Studies



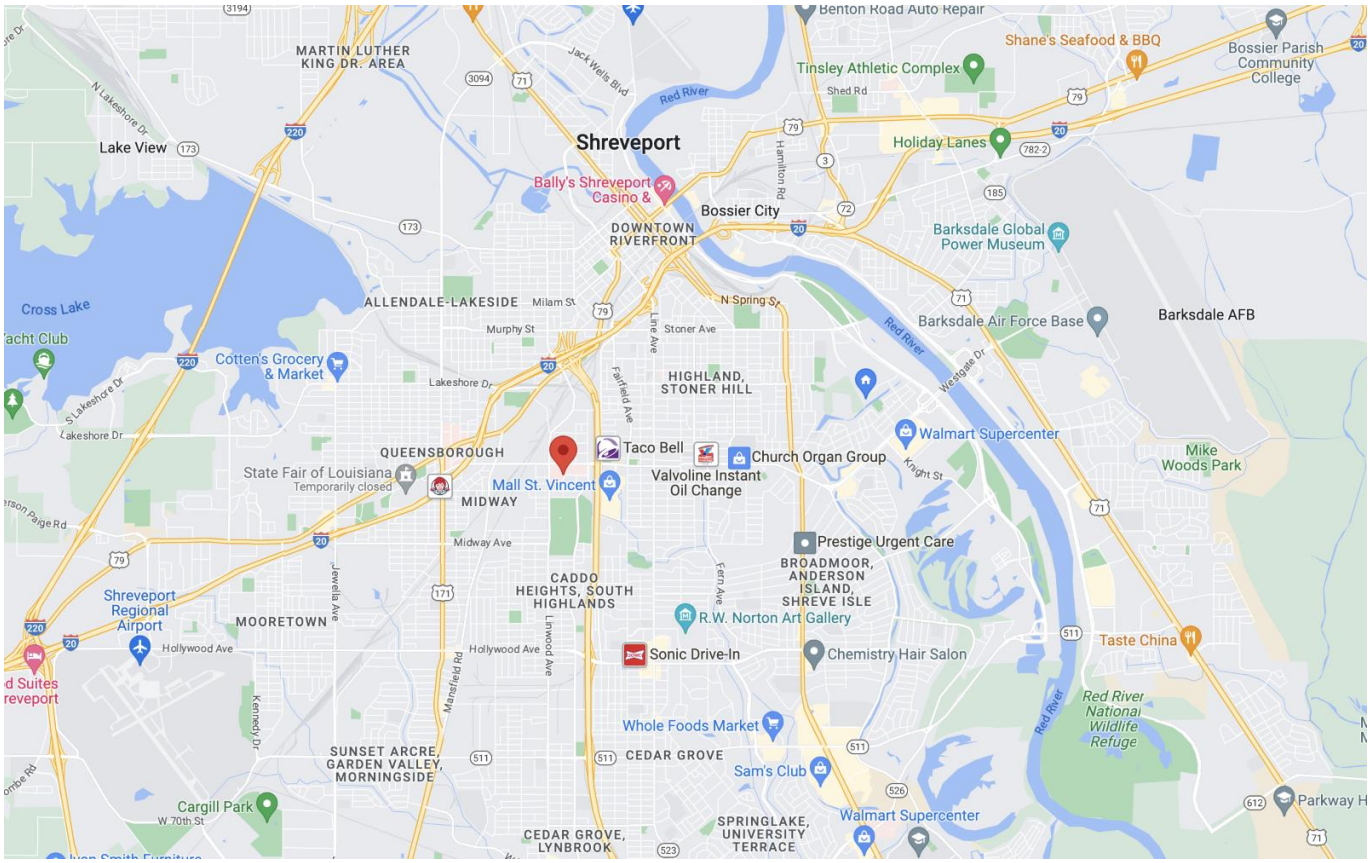
Shreveport Survival Guide 2023

Moving Resources:

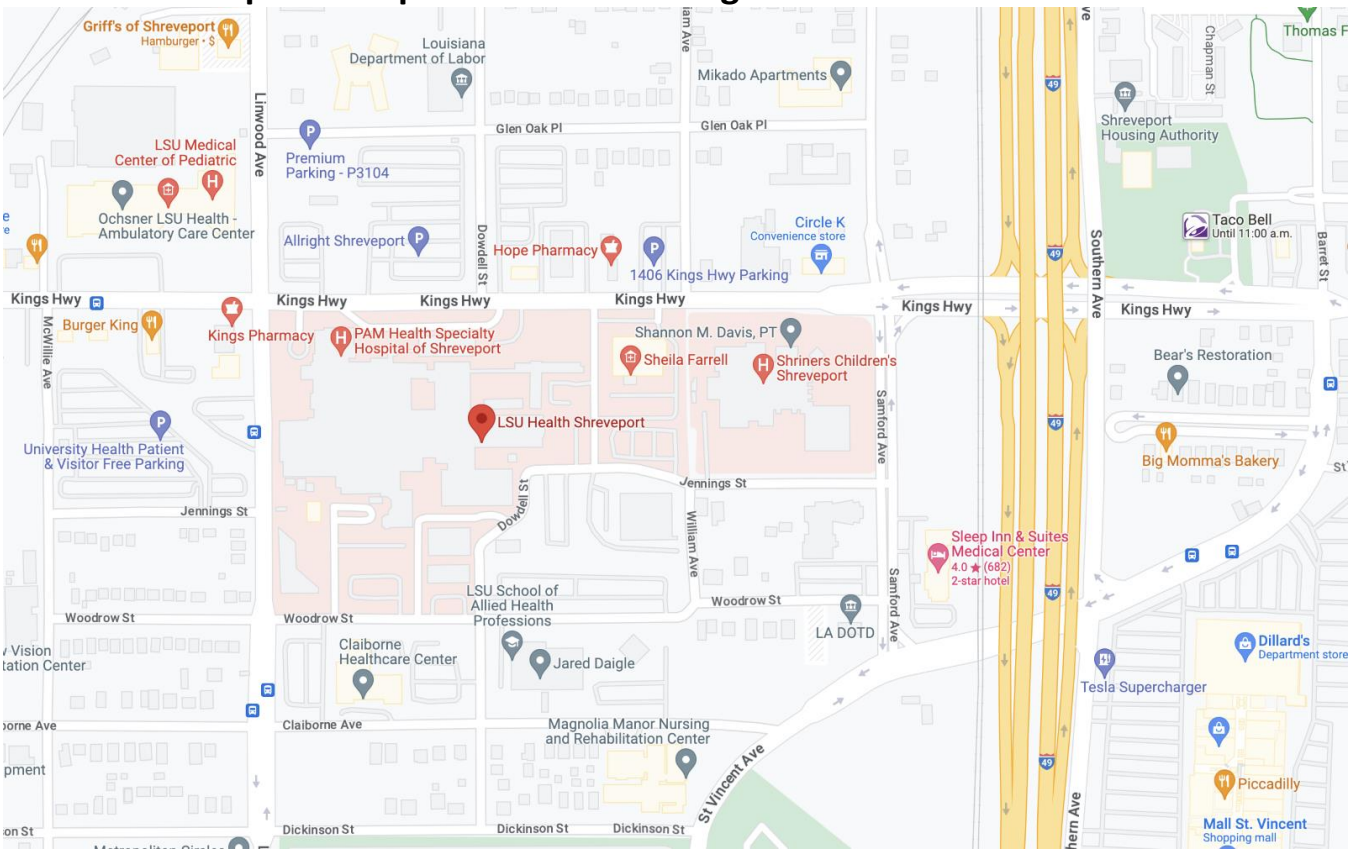
Reddit guide to Shreveport:
https://www.reddit.com/r/shreveport/wiki/newcomers/

LSU Health Shreveport Graduate Students Buy, Sell, & Give Away - Facebook Group
https://www.facebook.com/groups/769426271067287

Overview of Shreveport/Bossier with LSU Health Shreveport pinned



LSU Health Shreveport Campus and surrounding streets



Popular *Shreveport* Neighborhoods:

South Highlands

South Highlands is one of the most livable neighborhoods in the city because of its short, gridded streets that have access to main roads and shopping/dining centers. Picture a 1940s suburb with huge trees and cracked sidewalks. It's within 5-10 minutes of Oschner LSU Health & Willis-Knighton North and so it's a ***popular*** landing spot for med students and hospital personnel. There is a big portion of LSUHS students that rent houses/apartments here. Really everything is easy to access from the geographic middle of town. Along Line Ave. are local boutiques and shops, and the Norton Art Gallery & Botanical Gardens. This neighborhood is relatively safe and walkable/bikeable to LSUHS.

Apartments:

- Normandy Village https://www.normandyvillagecondos.com/
  - Close to the university, affordable, quiet, peaceful, fenced
  - Cheap and popular with students, can be run down depending on unit
- Fairfield Oaks Condominium https://fairfieldoakscondominium.com/

Other homes:

- Claiborne Ave (house)
  - 5-minute walk to campus
  - Not the safest area, but close
- Line Ave (house)
  - Close to school

Highland

Shreveport's most economically diverse and progressive neighborhood, just North of LSUHS. Each street is hit or miss; some blocks are remarkably beautiful; some blocks are dilapidated and falling apart. In general, the streets between Fairfield and Line Avenue are the safest. The more East you go, the more hit or miss it gets. This area would be for those looking to rent a house close to campus.

Highland has a strong identity and takes a lot of pride in its history and culture. Being one of the oldest neighborhoods, it has several Shreveport institutions like Centenary College, several historic churches, and the Meadows Museum of Art. Great Raft and The Seventh Tap Breweries are within a 5-10 minute bike ride.

Other homes:

- Historic Fairfield District (house)
  - Utilities can be pricey, but the area is safe
- Highland Ave, close to Kings Hwy (house)
  - Good house, not the safest
- Olive Street (house)
  - Not the safest

Broadmoor / Dixie Gardens / Shreve Island

This is Shreveport's biggest neighborhood by size and the subdivisions are charming with older, smaller houses. A lot of families live here and there are several nice parks. The east edge of Shreveport up to the Red River is dotted with oxbows and cutoff lakes from old parts of the Red River. The Barksdale west gate is across the river just over the Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy bridge. The riverfront south of Veterans Park is not commercially developed and it's popular for biking and running. Youree Drive (Hwy 1) is easily accessible. The two biggest Mardi Gras parades in Shreveport roll from Downtown to East Kings & Preston.

A good number of students live in this area. It is safe and there are a lot of different housing options:

Apartments:

- UL Coleman Communities:
  - Coates Bluff at Wright Island https://coatesbluffulc.com/
    - Safe, quiet, saltwater pool, birding, pet and family friendly, courtesy officers
    - Can be expensive
  - The Willows https://willows.ulcoleman.com/
    - Pool, community breakfast, cool place
- RiverScape https://www.liveatriverscape.com/

    - Nice, but can be expensive
- Ultris Island Park https://www.ultris-islandpark.com
- Magnolia Apartments https://www.magnolia-la.com/
    - Mixed reviews on safety
    - Quiet, secluded, nice lease managers, courtesy officers
- Park Villa Apartments https://aptshopper.com/Apartments/152/Park-Villa-Apartments
    - Safe, pet friendly, close to things, good management and maintenance, affordability,
    - Property is dated, some issues with insulation and cracks
- Champion Lake Apartments https://www.morgan-properties.com/apartments/la/shreveport/champion-lake/?utm_source=GMB&utm_medium=Organic&utm_campaign=Champion%20Lake%20GMB
    - Friendly, safe, gated, in unit washer and dryer
    - Popular with students
    - Good location

Springlake / University

The center of retail and fast casual restaurants on the Shreveport side. There are houses at every price point and lots of apartments around because LSU Shreveport is a commuter campus. It's one of the more populated and busy parts of town, but still feels suburban.

Apartments:

- UL Coleman Communities
    - Millicent Crossing https://millicent.ulcoleman.com/
        - Student discounts, safe, good management, nice neighbors
        - Good location
        - Walls can be thin, near a busy intersection
    - Raintree Apartments https://www.raintreeulc.com/
        - Safe, good maintenance
- Normandy Village https://www.normandyvillagecondos.com/
    - Close to the university, affordable, quiet, peaceful, fenced
- Brandywine Apartments https://www.brandywine-apartments.com/
    - Quiet, safe
- Spring Lake Point Apartments https://www.springlakepoint.com/
    - Safe
- Town Oaks South Apartments https://livebh.com/apartments/towne-oaks-south/
    - Affordable
- Flats on Youree https://www.flatsonyouree.com/
    - Safe, quiet

Other homes:

- Cobblestone Townhomes
    - Good location. Townhomes to rent or own

Popular *Bossier City* Neighborhoods:

North Bossier / Green Acres / Airline

Nice suburban neighborhoods; generally thought of as the most desirable place to live on the Bossier side. Airline Drive is the main street and it gets congested during rush hours. I-220 can get you to Shreveport and the main campus of Bossier Parish Community College.

South Bossier / Westgate / Elm Grove

Affordable neighborhoods close to Barksdale's main entrance and the Brookshire's Grocery Arena. The further south you go, the neighborhoods are newer and nicer. The riverfront has a nice running/biking trail along Arthur Ray Teague Parkway. South Bossier is outside the city and spread out (the base is huge).

Apartments:

- Jamestown Place Apartments
https://www.jamestownplaceapartmenthomes.com/?utm_source=GMB&utm_medium=organic
    - Gates, nice property, quiet, great amenities, safe

Other homes:

- Shady Grove
    - Nice neighborhood, close to things

Utilities and Services

Shreveport Utilities

- Water and Sewerage: DOWAS
- Trash Collection: City of Shreveport
- Electricity: AEP SWEPCO
- Natural Gas: CenterPoint Energy
- Internet: Comcast Xfinity, AT&T, Bluebird Wireless

Bossier Utilities

- Water Service: City of Bossier City
- Trash Collection: City of Bossier City
- Electricity: AEP SWEPCO
- Natural Gas: CenterPoint Energy
- Internet: SuddenLink, AT&T, Bluebird Wireless

Driving

- OMV locations in Shreveport and Bossier
- Download the LA Wallet Digital Driver's License app

Social Security Office

- **https://www.ssa.gov/**

Banks

- Campus Federal Credit Union **https://www.campusfederal.org/**

Things to do in Shreveport

Local Restaurants

- Abby Singer's Bistro
- BeauxJax Crafthouse
- The Blind Tiger
- El Cabo Verde
- Fat Calf Brasserie
- Frank's Louisiana Kitchen
- Frank's Pizza Napoletana
- Herby K's - quintessential Shreveport dive bar
- Jacquelyn's Cafe - weekday lunch only
- Ki' Mexico
- Lucky Palace - profiled in the NYT
- Marilynn's Place - voted r/Shreveport's favorite restaurant
- The Missing Link
- Ono Hawaiian Grill - food truck only
- Orlandeaux's Cafe
- Pham's Sandwich Shop
- Taqueria La Michoacana
- Twisted Root Burger Co.

- Us Up North - home of the official meal of North Louisiana
- Zuzul Coastal Cuisine

Vegan & Vegetarian-Friendly

- Athena Greek & Lebanese Grill
- Dahn's Garden
- Glow Alchemy Kitchen
- India's Restaurant
- Pho L'amour
- Well+Fed Louisiana

Bars & Nightlife

- Bear's
- Central Station - LGBT
- Fatty Arbuckle's Pub
- Haze on Texas
- The Korner Lounge - LGBT
- Strange Brew
- Stray Cat

Craft Beer

- Flying Heart Brewery
- Great Raft Brewing
- Red River Brewpub - located in Bossier
- The Se7enth Tap - location of Graduate Student Connectome Social Events!

Wine

- Heart Gates Vineyard
- On Cloud Wine Winery & Vineyard
- Vintage Wine Bar
- We Olive & Wine Bar

Coffee

- Coffee on the Red
- Rhino Coffee

Entertainment

Film

- Robinson Film Center
- IMAX Dome at Sci-Port Discovery Center
- Cinemark Tinseltown XD
- Regal Cinema Louisiana Boardwalk 17 and IMAX
- Louisiana Film Prize events

Visual Arts

- The Agora Borealis (art gallery and store)
- Andress Artist and Entrepreneur Center (art gallery and store)
- Artspace (interactive visual art)
- Central ARTSTATION (multipurpose spaces for visual and performance art)
- East Bank Theater at Bossier Arts Council (fine art)
- Marlene Yu Museum (collective works of Marlene Yu)
- Meadows Museum of Art (fine art)
- The Norsworthy Gallery (fine art)
- Ron Atwood Shreveport West Gallery (fine art)
- R.W. Norton Art Gallery (fine art)

Museums, Science, and Education

- Barksdale Global Power Museum (Barksdale AFB History)
- Louisiana State Exhibit Museum (PWA Building with 1940s dioramas)
- Louisiana State Oil and Gas Museum in Oil City

- Multicultural Center of the South (cultural diversity)
- Noel Collection at LSUS (private 250,000 volume antiquarian collection open to the public)
- Pioneer Heritage Center at LSUS (NWLA history)
- Sci-Port Discovery Center and IMAX Dome (Science Center for Kids)
- Shreveport Aquarium
- Shreveport Astronomical Observatory
- Shreveport Water Works and Railroad Museum
- Southern University Museum of Art (African and African-American art)
- Spring Street Museum (Shreveport History)
- Stage of Stars Museum at Municipal Auditorium (Shreveport's music legacy)
- Talbot Medical Museum at Willis-Knighton Innovation Center Bossier

Sports and Intramural Leagues

- Independence Bowl - College bowl game, late December
- Louisiana Downs Racetrack
- Shreveport Mavericks Basketball
- Shreveport Mudbugs Hockey
- Shreveport Rugby Club
- Twin City Roller Derby

eSports, Tabletop, Comics, Conventions

- Excalibur Comics
- The Gamer's XP
- Geek'd Con
- Good Game Virtual Reality Arcade
- Contender eSports Gaming Center

Parks

- Shreveport public parks // gyms and pools // tennis courts // jogging and biking
- Bossier City public parks // pools
- Shreveport Dog Park

Outdoor Leisure

- Norton Art Gallery Botanical Gardens
- America's Rose Garden at the American Rose Center
- Asian Gardens of Shreveport
- Dare Ultra Pool and DayClub at Horseshoe Casino
- Splash Kingdom Water Park

Lakes

- Cross Lake recreation area // jet ski and boat rentals by the hour
- Lake Caroline at RRNWR
- Cypress Black Bayou recreation area
- Lake Bistineau State Park

Hiking & Biking

- Paths along the Red River: Clyde Fant Trail on the Shreveport side and Arthur Teague Trail on the Bossier City side
- Red River National Wildlife Refuge - south Bossier City
- Lakeshore Mountain Bike Trail - west Shreveport
- Stoner Trail - east Shreveport
- Ford Park Loop - west Shreveport
- Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park - near Blanchard, 25 minutes east of Downtown
- Bodcau Trail - near Haughton, 30 minutes northeast of Downtown
- The Monkey Trail at Eddie Jones Park - near Keithville, 35 minutes southwest of Downtown
- Sugar Cane Trail - near Minden, 40 minutes east of Downtown
- Bistineau State Park - near Doyline, 40 minutes southeast of Downtown
- Caddo Lake State Park - near Karnack, TX; 45 minutes northwest of Downtown
- Driskill Mountain - **the highest point in Louisiana**; near Arcadia, 1 hour east of Downtown

Active

- Running and cycling events around NWLA
- Disc golf courses at Highland Park, Clyde Fant, and Ford Park
- Golf courses in Shreveport and Bossier
- YMCA of Northwest Louisiana - Downtown and BHP Billiton locations
- Shreveport Indoor Soccer
- G-Rock Climbing
- Skydive Louisiana

Festivals

- Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday's date varies as it occurs 47 days before Easter)
- Battle of the Gumbo Gladiators (March)
- Crawfest (April)
- Holiday in Dixie (April)
- Cork Wine Festival (April)
- Taco Wars
- Field Gay (May)
- Bear's Fest (May)
- Mudbug Madness (May)
- Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival (May)
- Barksdale Defenders of Liberty Air & Space Show (May in odd numbered years)
- Let the Good Times Roll Festival (June)
- ShrevePride QProm (June)
- Freedom Fest Series (June-July)
- Red River Balloon Rally (July)
- Geek'd Con (August)
- Highland Jazz & Blues Festival (September)
- Red River Revel (October)
- Shreveport Brew Festival (October)
- Prize Fest (October)
- The State Fair of Louisiana (October-November and also sometimes in the spring?)
- Rockets over the Red (November)
- Christmas in Roseland (December)

Mardi Gras in Shreveport

- Krewe of Centaur (Downtown & Broadmoor)
- Krewe of Gemini (Downtown & Broadmoor)
- Krewe of Harambee (Downtown)
- Krewe of Highland (Highland)
- Krewe of Sobek (Queensborough)
- Krewe de les Femmes Mystique (central Bossier - children's parade)
- Krewe of Barkus and Meoux (south Bossier - pet parade)

Local Markets

- Bossier City Farmer's Market
- Cotton St. Farms
- Greenwood Flea Market
- Kings Antique Mall
- Shreveport Farmers' Market - great summer activity! Highly recommended!

https://www.reddit.com/r/shreveport/wiki/thingstodo/