

## More than a Great Meal

VERMINON PARISH, LOUISIANA

**Vermilion**  
TOURIST COMMISSION  
1905 Veterans Memorial Dr.  
Abbeville | 337-898-6600  
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If you are ready to call it a day, Abbeville has several lodging options. From hotels and bed and breakfast inns to RV parks, there are accommodations for every type of traveler. For a complete list of accommodations, contact the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission, 1905 Veterans Memorial Dr., Abbeville, LA 70510, 337-898-6600 or visit [www.MostCajun.com](http://www.MostCajun.com).

### Maurice: "Gateway to Vermilion Parish"

For those visitors heading to Lafayette, take time to stop at **Touchet's** on Hwy. 167. Touchet's is home to the French Jam Sessions held every other Saturday. Sit back and enjoy the music performed by beginners to accomplished musicians or take a spin on the dance floor, it's up to you. Call 337-893-9882 for a schedule of jam sessions. 7460 Hwy. 167, Maurice, LA 70555

Right before you arrive in Maurice, take a right at the caution light to visit **Vivian Alexander Gallery & Museum**. Vivian Alexander might be one of Vermilion Parish's best-kept secrets. Tour the gallery, located on the Vermilion River, and view the fabulous egg purses and other elegant objects d'art on display, all of which is for sale. Also on display are the Ocean's 12 piece commissioned by Warner Bros. and the Smirnoff egg commissioned by Smirnoff Vodka. Free tours are available Wednesday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 337-898-0803 to schedule a tour. Allow 30 minutes for the tour. 6165 Picard Ln., Maurice, LA 70555

Also located in Maurice is **Hebert's Specialty Meats**. Home of the stuffed deboned chickens, Hebert's also carries fresh sausage, seafood pies, boudin and other Cajun items. Hebert's doesn't ship items, so bring an ice chest to take a bit of Cajun cooking home with you! Open Monday thru Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to noon. 337-893-5062. 8212 Maurice Ave., Maurice, LA 70555

For a bite to eat before going into Lafayette, **The Villager** is a great stop for po-boys and **Soop's Restaurant** has many Cajun favorites such as fried seafood, etouffee, gumbo and more. If you're not hungry, but just looking for a cold beer, stop in at **City Bar, "World Famous Saloon"**. Established in 1927, City Bar is a favorite among locals.

### Erath: "Home of the Erath 4th of July Festival"

Located ten minutes east of Abbeville on Hwy. 14, is the Town of Erath. Once home to a thriving sugar mill, this quiet community is proud of its French culture. Many residents still speak Cajun French and you can see it written on many of the street signs around town. On every other Saturday, enjoy live French and Cajun music at the **Museum Café** from 2 to 6 p.m. Call 337-937-0012 for a schedule. 102 E. Edwards St., Erath, LA 70533

For a glimpse into the life of the early Acadiens, visit the **Acadian Museum of Erath**. This museum has numerous displays and artifacts on the life and culture of the people who settled in this area from Nova Scotia. Open Monday thru Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. or by appointment. Tours are free and can be scheduled by calling 337-937-5468. Allow 30 minutes to 1 hour tour. 203 S. Broadway St., Erath, LA 70533

Before continuing on your journey through the parish, grab a bite to eat **MooNoo's**, home of the "Best Hamburger in Vermilion Parish," or dig in to a pile of boiled seafood at **Big John's** or **T-Bob's**. If you'd prefer to pick your own seafood to boil, stop by **Harvest Seafood** where they raise crabs and seafood all kept alive in special filtration tanks. At Harvest Seafood, you can also fish in the on-site fishing pond.

South of Erath on Hwy. 330 is **Don's Boat Landing**. Located on the Boston Bayou, Don's features a boat launch, grocery store, fishing tournaments and entertainment on the weekends. 5515 W. Hwy. 688, Erath, LA 70533

Continue along Hwy. 330 and turn left onto Hwy. 690 to visit the **Bancker Grotto**. Once the center of four river plantations, this four acre park was the site of the first Roman Catholic Church in the port community of Bancker. The grotto is located on the Vermilion River and is a haven for birdwatchers. There are spots to picnic and just enjoy serene setting. 18314 Live Oak Rd., Erath, LA 70533

### Delcambre: "Home of the Delcambre Shrimp Festival"

Five minutes to the east of Erath and the first town you will come to if entering Vermilion Parish from New Iberia is the small community of Delcambre. Home to the annual **Delcambre Shrimp Festival**, Delcambre is known for its shrimping industry. Walk along the **boat docks** and view the **shrimp boats**. If you come during shrimping season, you could buy shrimp straight off the boats. **Our Lady of the Lake Church** is the only church in the area that never allowed modernization of its altar so the priest will not be facing the congregation.

### Intracoastal City

On your way to the southern end of Vermilion Parish, visit the **Leland Bowman Lock** located in Intracoastal City. The Lock is a great place to watch boats, picnic or do some bird watching. You can also learn about the Intracoastal Canal, a partially manmade canal inland of the Gulf of Mexico, stretching from Texas to Florida, that allows water transportation. It was furthered along after World War II when German subs managed to sink 90 crude carrying boats from Texas to New Orleans in the Gulf off Louisiana waters. This and other history, plus an interesting video can be found at the Lock's main office. *The Lock is open during the day and is free to tour. Please call ahead to be allowed into the gates.* 337-893-6790. Allow 30 minutes to tour. 16117 LA Hwy. 333, Abbeville, LA 70510

### Pecan Island

To view the wildlife that inhabits Vermilion Parish, travel down Hwy. 82 to Pecan Island. As you travel, enjoy the drive on the scenic highway through marshland inhabited by alligator, deer, nutria and native birds and other waterfowl. This entire area is known for hunting and fishing, so don't hesitate to stop at the roadside turnarounds for a little fishing, crabbing or just to inhale and exhilarate at the beauty of the open marsh and its elusive inhabitants. You will need a Louisiana fishing license to crab, so stop in at **Stelly's Grocery** on Hwy. 82 before you arrive in Pecan Island. Here, you can also purchase supplies and food for your fishing or crabbing trip.

If you're looking for a place to rest for a while, stop in at **Billy's Kitchen**, located in the Texaco station. For an overnight stay, **Crawfish Haven RV Park** is open and accepting visitors. While you're in the area, visit Freshwater City, the home to oil industry docks, the **Freshwater Bayou Lock** and the Gulf of Mexico. Hwy. 82 will take you into Cameron Parish, then eventually into Texas near Port Arthur.

\*This is only a small list of things to in Vermilion Parish. For more information on other fun things to see and do, please call 337-898-6600 or visit [www.MostCajun.com](http://www.MostCajun.com).