Baton Rouge
City of Landmarks
Walking Tour
Capitol Park

1. Louisiana State Capitol
   State Capitol Drive
   This Art Deco masterpiece was completed in 1932 by Governor Huey P. Long, at a cost of $5 million, including $1 million worth of art. This Beaux-Arts skyscraper designed by Weiss, Dreyfous and Seiferth is the tallest capitol in the United States. An observation deck and The Shop at the Top on the 27th floor affords a spectacular, panoramic view of the city.

2. Louisiana State Capitol Grounds and Grave
   Twenty-seven acres of beautifully landscaped formal gardens designed by Jungle Gardens, Inc., of Avery Island, Louisiana, with more than 300 varieties of plants. Governor and Senator Huey P. Long, one of the state's most flamboyant and controversial political figures, is buried in the sunken garden at the front of his beloved capitol where he was fatally wounded by an assassin's bullet in 1935.

3. Pentagon Barracks
   Riverside North adjacent to the State Capitol
   Composed of four brick buildings in a pentagon shape with an open courtyard, formerly a military parade ground. Built during the years 1819-22 in the Classical Revival style with Doric columns supporting broad galleries on both the front and back. The barracks originally housed U.S. troops garrisoned at Baton Rouge. Zachary Taylor was the commander of the barracks prior to his election as president. These buildings and the capitol grounds were the site of Louisiana State University from 1896-1925.

4. Louisiana Governor's Mansion
   This handsome executive home was built in 1962 by then Governor Jimmie Davis in the opulent River Road plantation style. The interior often showcases the artists and craftsmen of the state. The Louisiana Governor's Mansion Foundation was created by law to serve as stewards and fundraisers of the fine arts and furnishings collection.

5. Capitol Park Welcome Center 702 River Road
   Located just south of the Pentagon Barracks, near the historic sites of President Zachary Taylor's home and the Spanish Fort San Carlos, this welcome center is a great stop for brochures and information. Operated by the Louisiana Office of Tourism in cooperation with the Baton Rouge Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

6. The Capitol Complex and Governmental Buildings
   Beginning at the end of the 20th century and into the 21st, the State began consolidating its departments and divisions in the downtown area. A number of new buildings, inspired by the 1930s landmark State Capitol, were constructed. Historical names adorn their facades—Baton, Lafayette, Iberville, etc. Home of the popular Public Market, the weekly Red Stick Farmer's Market, and the monthly Arts Market.

7. Old Arsenal Museum
   Constructed in 1838, this unique structure was built as a powder magazine with 54 inch thick walls and a 10 foot high explosion fence for the U.S. Army Post. From 1886 to 1926, the building was used as a maternity hospital. During this time, LSU was located on the Arsenal grounds. It was restored as a museum by the State Legislature in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office and The Foundation for Historical Louisiana.

8. Native American Landmark
   The ceremonial Indian mound near the Arsenal was probably constructed about A. D. 1000, and may have served as a ceremonial platform for a temple or chief's house, probably overlooking a communal plaza. This site dates from the Coles Creek culture when local Indians were expanding their agriculture and beginning to use the bow and arrow. Two cannons are at the site.

9. Louisiana State Museum
   Spanish Town Road and 4th Street
   Filled with exciting, dynamic, and colorful exhibits, the museum tells the story of the state's cultural heritage and historical milestones including wars, the 1927 flood, jazz and blues, Mardi Gras, agriculture, history, cuisine, Sportsman's Paradise, civil rights, folk art, and legendary persons.

Historic Preservation

Preserving the cultural and architectural heritage of Baton Rouge by protecting and celebrating our city's rich history.
Join FHL at www.fhl.org to preserve these and other Greater Baton Rouge Area landmarks.

In East Baton Rouge Parish there are over 75 buildings and sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, 8 historic districts are distinguished with Register designation.

Downtown Museums

Old Governor's Mansion
502 North Blvd. 225.387.2464
U.S.S. Kidd and Naval War Museum
305 S. River Road 225.342.1942

Louisiana Art & Science Museum, Planetarium and Space Theatre
100 River Road 225.344.5272
Robert A. Bogan Firefighters Museum
427 Laurel St. 225.344.8558

Louisiana State Museum
660 N. 4th St. 225.342.6428
African American Museum
Odelie S. Williams
Now and Then
538 South Blvd. 225.355.8086

LSU Museum of Art
100 Lafayette St. 225.346.5001
Old State Capitol
East of the New State Capitol 225.342.0401

Old Arsenal Museum
225.342.0500

Visit Baton Rouge
www.visitbatrongoue.com
1.800.LA.ROUGE 225.363.1825

Named a 2006 Preserve America City by First Lady Laura Bush