Bienvenu, mes amis!

Welcome to Lafayette! Experience the unique lifestyle of Acadian/Creole French culture, a vibrant live music scene, world famous Cajun cuisine and the happiest, most welcoming people in America! Each spring in this beloved city, you will also find the stunning beauty of the Lafayette Azalea Trail, 15 miles of roadway lined with colorful azaleas, native cypress, centuries-old live oaks, and historic properties.

Known for a glorious show of color every March, the trail's decades old Southern Indica azaleas, which are native to Asia, have thrived for decades in south Louisiana's semi-tropical climate. The popular Encore variety was invented right here in Louisiana!

The Azalea Trail celebration started in the 1930s as a city beautification project by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Lafayette Garden Club. By the 1940s, driving the trail became a cherished annual pilgrimage. Post-World War II, 40,000 people visited the trail in one year!

During the '70s and '80s, the Lafayette Jaycees celebrated the trail with an “Azalea Queen” crowning and 5k run. Southern Living magazine named the trail as “a top 20 tourist destination!”

In spring 2015, Scenic Lafayette unveiled the revitalization of the historic trail as its first city beautification project. The goal is to revive the trail to its former glory!

Although traditionally a self-driving tour, visitors are encouraged to enjoy the trail with leisurely strolls or family bike rides! Some sights you can experience on the way include the grand historic homes of Sterling Grove neighborhood, Downtown Lafayette’s art & entertainment district, St. John Cathedral’s 500-year old live oak, the University’s Cypress Lake swamp and Hilliard Art Museum, the Oil Center business district and the lovely riverside homes of Bendel Gardens and Greenbriar.

Scenic Lafayette

Monitor peak bloom times & scheduled trail activities!

For a trail history & map, visit the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission at LafayetteTravel.com