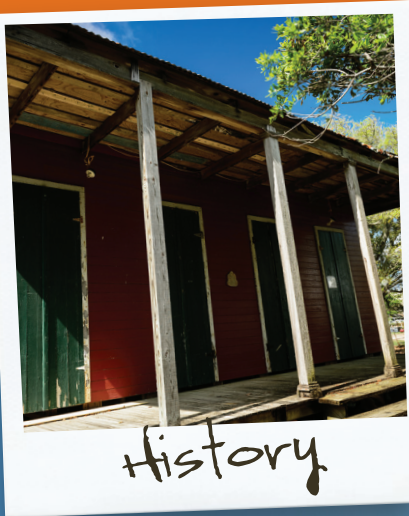


# GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA EVERY DAY IS AN ADVENTURE



Louisiana's only inhabited barrier island has been a fishing paradise since its earliest days of use by the Chitimacha tribe. European settlement began in the 1780's while Louisiana was under Spanish rule.

The government divided the island into four land grants, and the original land-owners developed their property into farms—and eventually plantations, raising crops such as sugar cane and cotton as well as cattle. Much like today, they fished off the coast and harvested shrimp and oysters.

Pirates, including Privateer Jean Lafitte, frequented the area in the early 1800s, and construction of Fort Livingston began in the 1830s on neighboring Grand Terre Island. Occupied by Confederate soldiers during the Civil war, the site today is a Louisiana State Commemorative Area. Following the Civil War, plantations declined and vacation resorts started to spring up on the island catering to wealthy families. In 1893, tourism halted when a devastating



hurricane struck both Grand Isle and neighboring Cheniere Caminada.

The island rebounded though, much like later recoveries from hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and the BP Oil Spill in 2010. Today, the island is home to around 1,500 locals, who make a living from the seafood and oil industries. More than 12,000 tourists visit the island annually to participate in fishing rodeos and enjoy the wide open beaches and countless bird sightings.



Only two and a half hours from New Orleans or three hours from Baton Rouge, Grand Isle lies at the end of La. Highway 1. Take Interstate 310 South to Highway 90 West toward Houma. Exit 215-B and then follow the signs to LA-1 South.

All drivers traveling southbound must pay the toll to cross the LA 1 Bridge at Leveville. Tolls must be paid with either a GeauxPass transponder or a single-trip GeauxPass, which may be purchased at a number of kiosks along LA 1. Beginning in May of 2012, visitors will be able to use toll payment machines located at the entrance to the bridge. For more information, visit [www.GeauxPass.com](http://www.GeauxPass.com).

**VISIT [GRAND-ISLE.COM](http://GRAND-ISLE.COM) OR CALL  
985.787.2997 FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON WHERE TO STAY AND EAT AND FOR  
DETAILS ON ATTRACTIONS AND EVENTS.**



**[WWW.GRAND-ISLE.COM](http://WWW.GRAND-ISLE.COM)**





Fishing

With more than 280 species of fish, Grand Isle invites anglers of all ages and skill levels to cast their line in the abundant waters. Start your adventure shore fishing from the beach, at the Old Fishing Bridge or at Grand Isle State Park's fishing pier.

Bring your boat and test the waters around Fort Livingston or one of the oil rigs close to the island. Don't have a boat? No problem. There are more than a dozen chartering services that provide inland fishing for those big specks and reds or offshore charters for red snapper, king mackerel, tarpon, tuna and marlin. Before leaving, load up on fresh shrimp and crabs from the dock or local fishermen.

For those feeling competitive, almost every weekend the island hosts a fishing rodeo, including the three-day Tarpon Rodeo—the oldest fishing tournament in the United States. Stay up-to-date on our events at [www.grand-isle.com](http://www.grand-isle.com).

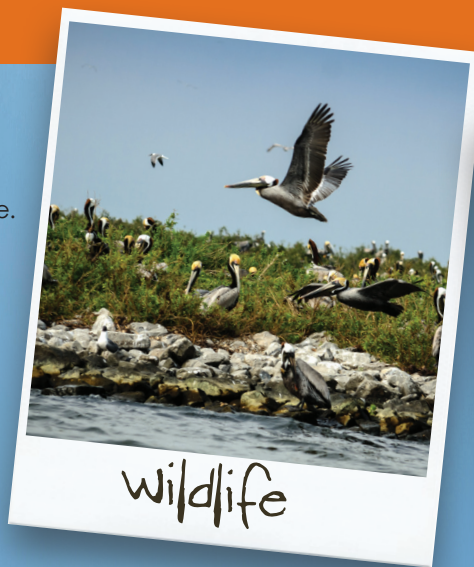


From the Gulf's dune grasslands to the bay's tidal salt marsh, Grand Isle is a haven for wildlife. On the beach, you might catch a glimpse of dolphins playing just offshore while lines of brown pelicans fly overhead. Meanwhile, butterflies abound at the Butterfly Dome.

A migration hot-spot, the island hosts thousands of birds during their flights to and from North America. A compact tract of live oak/hackberry forest, mostly preserved by the Nature Conservancy, offers a welcome resting spot for nearly 100 species of birds after making a 500-mile trek across the Gulf of Mexico. Every April, the annual Grand Isle Migratory Bird Festival draws birdwatchers from across the globe.



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Wildlife



Beaches

Miles of sand coupled with expansive ocean views make Grand Isle a top beach destination year round. The island's beaches are back open and more beautiful than ever after massive clean-up efforts followed the 2010 BP Oil Spill. Come see for yourself and discover why Budget Travel rated Grand Isle

one of the country's top 10 winter beaches.

Wake up early and take a walk to find colorful seashells, or stop by Grand Isle State Park for a picnic, overnight camping and views of historic Fort Livingston. It's the perfect place to unwind, relax and enjoy the simpler side of life.

