

History Beyond the Classroom



Vermilionville's **mission** is to increase appreciation for the **history, culture, and natural resources** of **Native Americans, Acadians, Creoles, and peoples of African descent** in the Attakapas region through the end of the 1800s. Through **historic interpretation and conservation** along the Bayou Vermilion, we strive to educate guests on the interactions of these groups and **the connections between past and contemporary folklife**, empowering guests to apply these lessons from our **shared histories**.

Vermilionville is a reconstructed historical village that sits on a beautiful tree-covered **23-acre site** on the banks of the **Bayou Vermilion** with **19 attractions**, including **seven restored original homes**. Our costumed interpreters

bring history to life with demonstrations of **traditional crafts** and offer **engaging and insightful information** about the history and culture of our region as well as the village's historic homes. **Vermilionville** is a place for **history, music, food, cultural exchange, historic architecture** and much more.

HOURS

Monday: CLOSED Tuesday – Sunday: 10am* – 4pm** *boat tours start at 9:30am * large groups may start at 9:45am ** last admission 3pm

ADMISSION - Admission allows for a **self-guided tour** of the village. To **qualify for discounted rates**, payment must be made as a group.

10-19 students: \$7/student **20+ students:** \$6/student **1 free admission** per 10 students **bus driver(s):** free admission
adults PREPAID with group: \$10/adult **pay day of visit:** \$12/adult

Our guided tours are offered in both **English or French**. Our **interpreters in the historical homes** speak English and most speak French as well.

VISIT THE HISTORICAL VILLAGE

Self guided: self paced tour of the village. Plan to spend **2 hours** with us. This includes a 15 minute orientation, 1.5 hours in the historical village and 15 minutes in the gift shop.

Guided: students will be guided on a journey back in time, exploring life from the late 1700s through the 1800s.

\$50 per guide: 25 max guests per guide. **For the best experience**, we recommend a maximum of 20 guests per guide; however we can accommodate up to 25 guests per guide. **For groups of 25 or more**, we can offer multiple guided tours at the same time. **Plan to spend 2 hours with us**. This includes a 15 minute orientation, 1.5 guided tour and 15 minutes in the gift shop.



WHEN TO BOOK We ask for a minimum of **2 weeks to book a guided tour of the**

village or a boat tour to ensure availability of our tour guides. If interested in a guided tour of the village or a boat tour with **less than 2 weeks notice**, email Brandi at engagement@bayouvermiliondistrict.org to inquire about availability. **Spring time is our busy season** for group tours as well as around **major holidays and festivals in the area**. The earlier you can schedule a fieldtrip, the better. **We can pencil your group in and make adjustments as we get closer to the date of your visit.**

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ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Enhancements accompany a visit of the village and need to be booked in conjunction with a visit.

Beignet-Making Demo: Meet us in our cooking school to discover the fascinating history of the beignet while watching an exciting beignet-making demonstration! The best part? You'll get to sample a delicious, freshly made beignet that's sure to leave your students with a happy belly! **Age: 5+**

10-19 student: \$6/student, includes beignet and refreshment. **20+ guests:** \$5/student, includes beignet and refreshment.

30 minutes 25* max per group

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups with a 15 minute window in between if scheduling allows.

Hands-On Beignet-Making Demo With Toppings Bar: Learn the fascinating history of the beignet, roll and cut the pre-made dough, watch the dough fry up and then top your beignet with powdered sugar, pecans or Steen's Syrup! **Age: 7+**

10-19 students: \$10/student, includes beignet and refreshment. **20+ students:** \$8/student, includes beignet and refreshment. **30 minutes 20* max per group**

*For groups of 20 or more, we can rotate multiple groups with a 30 minute window in between if scheduling allows.



Cut-A-Rug Dance Lessons: learn the basic steps to the Cajun Waltz, Two Step or Native American

Snake Dance. The Cajun Waltz is the simplest to learn for all ages. For students who may be **hesitant to dance in pairs**, the **Native American Snake Dance** is a **great alternative** as it is a group dance and often students are more comfortable than dancing in a pair with another student. **Age: 5+ 10-19 students:** \$5/student **20+students:** \$4/student **30 minutes 25* max per group**

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.



Learn-A-Tune: students team up with one of our resident musicians to learn about the rich musical traditions of South Louisiana! Students get the opportunity to play the traditional percussive instruments T-fers and rub boards and if we're lucky enough maybe an accordion or fiddle! **Ages: 5+**

10-19 students: \$5/student **20+students:** \$4/student **30 minutes 25* max per group**

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Make & Take Rag Dolls: students will learn how children in the past made their own toys using simple materials. Using scrap fabric, each student will create a one-of-a-kind rag doll to take home. It's a fun, creative way to explore resourcefulness and daily life in early Louisiana! **Ages: 7+** Often requires **adult assistance** for the younger students.

10-19 students: \$5/student **20+ students:** \$4/student **30 minutes 25* max per group**

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Woven Traditions: Native American Basket: Using yarn and a cut-out template, students will weave their own small basket while learning about the importance of basket making in Native American communities.

Ages 7+ Often requires adult **assistance** for younger students. **10-19 students:** \$5/student **20+ students:** \$4/student

30 minutes 25* max per group 25* max per group *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Native American Storytelling: Students sit with former Chief of the Avogel Tribe of Louisiana, John "Sitting Bear" Mayeux to listen to Native American History and culturally relevant stories. **Ages: 5+** Can be tailored for all ages.

\$3/student 30 minutes 25* max per group *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

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Colors of Culture: Kente Cloth & Story: Discover the history and meaning behind Kente cloth, a traditional textile of the Ashanti people of Ghana. Then, create your own paper Kente design using colors and patterns to tell a unique story in this engaging, hands-on cultural craft activity! **Ages 6+ 10-19 students:** \$6/student **20+ students:** \$5/student

30 minutes 25* max per group. *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allow

Patchwork Paper Fun: Scrap Paper Quilt: Students use scrap paper to design and assemble their own paper quilts. Inspired by traditional quilting patterns, this hands-on craft encourages creativity while teaching about the history and art of quilting as a form of storytelling and community. **Ages 7+**

10-19 students: \$4/student **20+ students:** \$3/student **30 minutes 25*max** per group

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Macroinvertebrate Sampling: Students identify aquatic macroinvertebrates from pond water samples using simple tools typically found at home, such as magnifying glasses and spoons, to assess water quality and ecosystem health. **Ages 7+**

5-15 students: \$5/student **15+ students:** \$4/student **30 minutes 15* max** per group

*For groups of 15 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.



Crafting with Nature: Students create fun art from nature! Butterflies, fish or binoculars, the possibilities are endless! Students use natural materials like leaves, twigs, and flowers. This creative activity encourages artistic expression while connecting with nature in a fun, hands-on way. **Ages 5+ 10-19 students:** \$4/student **20+ students:** \$3/student

30 minutes 25* max per group *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Raingarden Tour: Students take a walk through our raingarden, identify plants and learn the purpose, function and advantages of raingardens for the watershed. **Ages 7+ Up to 15 students: FREE 30 minutes**

*For groups of 15 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Boat Tour: Students will float down the river and experience the history, geology, flora and fauna of this ecosystem. Students may even see an alligator or two. **Ages 5+ 10*-19 students:** \$10/student **1 hour 20* max** per group, including teachers.

* If a group does not have the minimum number of guests to book a boat tour, we can offer a shared boat tour to the public to ensure the group meets the minimum to book the boat tour. **For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups with 15 minute windows in between if scheduling allows.

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HAVE LUNCH WITH US*!

Group lunches are served in the Performance Center buffet style and are prepared by our onsite restaurant, La Cuisine de Maman. The group must select **ONE option from the student lunch menu options**. If students have **dietary restrictions or allergies**, we will do our best to accommodate. The **entire group must have lunch provided by the restaurant**. Guests, including students, teachers, parents, bus drivers, etc. **are NOT allowed to have lunch in the restaurant when accompanying a student group**. This also includes **no to-go orders** for guests who are with student groups. Our restaurant is **unable to prepare and serve meals within the time frame of a field-trip lunch**.

*We offer a complimentary lunch to one leader of the group and bus driver(s). Price and lunch options are found on the Student Lunch Menu.

PICNIC ON THE GREEN SPACE

Groups are allowed to bring their own picnic lunches. Students will use our **green space along the Vermilion River** just outside of the village. **All lunches should remain on the bus** until the scheduled lunch time unless other arrangements have been made ahead of time to store lunch bags within the village. There are several picnic tables for use in the greenspace, however, it is **recommended to bring blankets or towels to sit on as a backup plan**. It is also recommended to bring a **wagon(s) to carry lunch bags, water bottles and other items**. As a reminder, teachers, chaperones and other adults are **asked NOT to eat on their own in the restaurant** as our restaurant is unable to prepare and serve meals within the time frame allotted for a field-trip lunch.

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PACKAGES

Looking for a simple, stress-free way to **get the most out of your visit**? Our packages combine learning and hands-on fun so you don't have to plan- **just enjoy the experience!** In some cases, **adults accompanying a student group may pay less** than students as we do not include a "goodie bag" for adults nor do we charge adults for crafts. On the other hand, adult lunch prices are higher than student lunch prices. **All guests must be confirmed with final numbers for all of our package options.**



MUSIC & DANCE: guided tour of village, learn-a-tune music experience, dance lesson, gumbo lunch and goodie bag from gift shop. **Ages 5+ 10-19 students: \$32/student 20+ students: \$31/student adults prepaid with group: 10-19 students: \$30/adult 20+ student: \$26/adult adults paying day of visit: 10-19 students: \$28/adult 20+ students: \$26/adult 3.5-4hours 25 max*** per group

*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

CULINARY: garden tour, self guided tour of village, gumbo lunch, hands-on beignet making demo and goodie bag from gift shop. **Ages 5+ 10-19 students: \$34/student 20+ students: \$31/student adults prepaid with group: 10-19 students: \$35/adult 20+ student: \$33/adult 2.5-3 hours 20 max*** per group *For groups of 20 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

BAYOU ADVENTURE: boat tour, guided tour of village, crawfish craft, gumbo lunch and goodie bag from gift shop. **Ages 7+ 10-19 students: \$37/student 20+ students: \$35/student adults prepaid with group: 10-19 students: \$42/adult 20+ student: \$41/adult 3.5-4 hours 25 max*** per group *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

LIVING HISTORY: self guided tour, make & take rag dolls, patch work paper fun, gumbo lunch and goodie bag from gift shop. **Ages 7+ 10-19 students: \$30/student 20+ students: \$28/student adults prepaid with group: 10-19 students: \$24/adult 20+ student: \$23/adult 2.5-3 hours 25 max*** per group *For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

ENVIRONMENTAL FUN: rain garden tour, macro sampling, boat tour, nature craft, gumbo lunch & goodie bag from gift shop. **Ages 8+ 10-19 students: \$32/student 20+ students: \$30/student adults prepaid with group: 10-19 students: \$27/adult 20+ student: \$26/adult 3-3.5hours 15 max*** per group

*For groups of 15 or more, we can rotate multiple groups with a 15 minute window in between if scheduling allows.



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SEASONAL ADD-ONS

Bayou Boogeyman Join us for a day of adventure and imagination! Enjoy a **guided tour of the village, folklore style!** Listen to exciting Louisiana folklore, **craft a fun Rougarou mask**, enjoy a **cup of gumbo** and leave with a **goodie bag with a fun surprise** from La Boutique gift shop. **Ages 7+ 3 hours 25 max* per group**
10-19 students: \$31/student **20+ students:** \$29/student **adults prepaid with group:** **10-19 students:** \$29/ adult **20+ students:** \$27/adult
*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Old Time Winter: During the **second and third weeks of December**, our village is festively decorated with natural greenery and our interpretive team works together to provide insight into the celebrations, crafts and traditions of the various cultural groups of South Louisiana. We **DO NOT offer guided tours** of the village during this time. **Ages 5+**
10-19 students: \$7/student **20+ students:** \$6/student **adults prepaid with group:** **10-19 students:** \$11/adult **20+ student:** \$10/adult
adults paying day of visit: **10-19 students:** \$12/adult **20+ students:** \$11/adult **2 hours 25 max*** per group
*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

Old Time Winter Holiday: guided tour of the village, beignet demo with hot chocolate, winter themed craft & a goodie bag from gift shop.
Ages 5+ 10-19 students: \$27/student **20+ students:** \$25/student
adults prepaid with group: **10-19 students:** \$21/adult **20+ student:** \$19/adult **2 hours 25 max*** per group
*For groups of 25 or more, we can rotate multiple groups with a 15 minute window in between if scheduling allows.



Courir de Mardi Gras: During the **6 weeks leading to Mardi Gras**, students experience the unique cultural traditions of a rural Cajun Mardi Gras celebration. Students will learn about the origins and history of “Courir de Mardi Gras.” They will learn to sing a traditional Mardi Gras song and design their very own Capuchon which they will don before going house to house, to perform the Mardi Gras song for gumbo ingredients. Wrap it all up with a gumbo lunch & slice of king cake for dessert! End the day with a goodie bag from the gift shop. **Ages 9+ 10-19 students:** \$36/student **20+ students:** \$24/student
adults prepaid with group: **10-19 students:** \$34/adult **20+ student:** \$32/adult **2.5-3 hours 15 max*** per group
*For groups of 15 or more, we can rotate multiple groups if scheduling allows.

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HISTORY MADE PERSONAL

Want to make your visit **extra special**? From crafts and demonstrations to unique workshops, you can choose the experiences that **best fit your group**! In the past, we have offered **jambalaya or gumbo cooking demos with our hands-on beignet making demo** added-on, **soap making workshops, how to build a fire demo** and much more! Let us help bring history to life in a way that's just right for you! **For more details**, email **Brandi Simon** at: engagement@bayouvermiliondistrict.org so we can work together to create something special!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have **questions or need clarification**, email **Brandi Simon** at engagement@bayouvermiliondistrict.org.

HOW TO BOOK

Ready to book a visit to Vermilionville? Email **Brandi Simon** at engagement@bayouvermiliondistrict.org and we can get you on the calendar!

BOOKING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Group Lunch Provided By La Cuisine de Maman: We **cannot allow for add-on guests the day of the visit**. See Important Dates for information on final count deadlines.

Cancellation/Refunds: nonrefundable if cancelled **7 days** prior to visit. We do offer the option to reschedule when possible. In the event that Vermilionville must cancel, a full refund will be offered.

Deposits: Guided Tours: full cost of guide **Food:** ½ cost of food, including group meals, coffee and beignet demos. **Boat Tour:** \$50 per boat.

Final Payment Due: day of visit, however we can take payment in full anytime prior to the visit.

Payment Methods: we accept cash, check and all major card payments. For payments by card, we can take a card over the phone or send a payment link to pay electronically. **Group Payments:** in order to qualify for the group rates, the **group must make one payment**.

Important Dates:

21 days prior: final numbers due. Minor adjustments can be made to numbers up until 7 days prior to visit. When the guest count **decreases within the 7 day** window, **you will be charged for the confirmed number** of guests prior to the 7 day window. When the **guest count increases** from the confirmed number at **21 days prior, prior approval is needed** to ensure we have staff and space availability to accommodate the increase in the number of guests.

14 days prior: deposit is due.

7 days prior: all payments made are **nonrefundable**. **Food restrictions** for guests must be turned in. * If the group leader will not have this information until closer to the visit, please advise of this at booking so we can ensure the kitchen is prepared for the group as best as possible.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Groups with 25 or more guests: when working with large groups, we are able to **rotate groups throughout the village**. For example, a group of 50 guests that has booked a guided tour, dance lessons and beignet cooking demo: one group would be in the village on their guided tour while the other group would be doing dance lessons and then move to the beignet cooking demo and then at the end of that "rotation" **each group would switch out activities**.

Parents Joining A Fieldtrip: we ask that parents be reminded that the field trip is **designed with the students in mind** and that they should be standing off to the back of the group. When a large number of parents attend, they may need to stand on the porch of the historical homes. We do ask that when parents attend the field trip that they be **"extra eyes and hands"** in the village, doing crafts, visiting the gift shop or on our boat tour.

Themed Goodie Bags: this is a great way for each student to bring home a little something! Example: Christmas, Mardi Gras, Louisiana, environmental, etc.

Gift Shop Etiquette: our gift shop is small but mighty. When a group would like to visit the gift shop, we schedule a **15 minute window for the group in the gift shop**. The group is not allowed in the gift shop outside of this window of time. This gives enough time for the students to shop, check out and move along to the next scheduled activity to allow time for our walk-in guests to enjoy the gift shop as well. **We ask that teachers and chaperones prepare their students ahead of time:** please make sure students understand that tax is ADDED to the cost on the price tag and are ready with the **correct amount of money to purchase whichever items are chosen**. **This is a time where those extra hands and eyes of chaperones and parents assist with managing students in the gift shop**. Once students have checked out, we ask that a chaperone have those students **move outside to the porch area to avoid the gift shop from becoming too crowded**. Students should not be playing with items, moving items or huddling in the corner "hanging out."

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Student to Chaperone Ratio: we ask for a **10:1 student to chaperone ratio**. This can be a teacher, staff member, parent or other adult chaperoning the group of students. For this reason, we offer complimentary admission to chaperones.

Guest Count: must include ALL guests, whether paid or free (complimentary admission, younger siblings), prepaid or paying the day of the visit. For guide tours of the village and boat tours, it's important to have an **accurate guest count so that we can plan for tour guides and availability of our boat captain**.

Max # of guests: for our guided tours, the max number of guests per group is 25, however, it's **recommended to keep the group size at 20 or less** because some of the historical homes have tight spaces.

Tiping Tour Guides: our tour guides should never request a tip from guests, however, if you feel your guide has **done an exceptional job** and would like to give them a tip after the guided tour, **feel free to do so** but please understand it is not expected of any of our guests.

Weight Requirement & Personal Flotation Devices: all guests must be 18 lbs or heavier to ride on the boat. We provide standard personal flotation devices for guests, however guests are welcome to bring their own PFD if they'd like to. We have a small number of 18-30 lb life jackets. We encourage guests to bring their own PFD if bringing a small child on board. We also have a small number of extra large life jackets.

Additional Fees: All prices as shown are inclusive of all fees. There are **no additional fees for use of credit or debit cards**.