



THE ATCHAFALAYA HERITAGE AREA

HOW DO YOU SAY IT? IT'S LIKE A SNEEZE:
ah•CHA•fa•lie•ah

THE COASTAL ZONE

St. Mary, Assumption, and Terrebonne Parishes

The Coastal Zone is the heart of Louisiana fishing, shrimping and crawfishing industries. Waterfronts in small fishing villages are dotted with fishing boats, reminders of how land and water influence lifeways. In the 1930's oil and natural gas discoveries in the area began a petroleum boom that transformed the landscape and played a major role in the area's economics.

In addition to its dynamic wildlife and scenery, the region is also recognized for its rich cultural heritage. Home to Cajuns, Creoles and two Native American groups - the Houma and Chitimacha - the area abounds with tasty cuisine, music, arts and folk traditions.

The ecological drama of this area is as intriguing as it's cultural landscape. Construction of a levee system years ago along the Mississippi River and the Atchafalaya Basin affected the natural flow of water, dramatically altering the delicate ecosystem. Levees, canals, silt deposit, saltwater intrusion and sea-level rise continue to challenge the Coastal Zone.

For visitor information:

NAPOLEONVILLE-PIERRE PART AREA
<http://www.assumptionla.com/Tourism> | 985-369-7435
<http://www.assumptionla.com/fishing/hunting>

MORGAN CITY - PATTERSON - FRANKLIN - CHARENTON AREA
<http://www.cajuncoast.com/home.html> | 800-256-2931
 -or- 985-395-4905

HOUMA - CHAUVIN - DULAC - COCODRIE AREA
<http://www.houmatravel.com> | 800-688-2732 | 985-868-2732
 Regional Music: WLRZ 100.3 FM

Paddling Information: www.cajuncoastpaddle.com - or -
www.fws.gov/bayouteche

