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# **LIVING IN BATON ROUGE**

**General Information**

**Transportation**

**Markets and Grocery Stores**

**Banking**

**Buying Used Items**

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# BATON ROUGE GENERAL INFORMATION

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## **Baton Rouge Water - [brwater.com/water-quality.html](http://brwater.com/water-quality.html)**

Baton Rouge water is safe to drink directly out of the tap without filtering or boiling. The Baton Rouge Water Company adds chlorine to the water at the ratio of 1.4 parts per million to prevent the presence of pathogens. Because of this, the water tastes best immediately, and less good after sitting. If your water has a brown tint it is the naturally occurring mineral manganese. If it has a rotten smell it is the naturally occurring sulfur compounds. Baton Rouge water is tested regularly to maintain safe levels of all minerals, but if you do not prefer the taste you may want to filter it.

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## **Baton Rouge Recycling and Trash - [brgov.com/recycle](http://brgov.com/recycle)**

In the United States each city has different rules about what can be recycled or considered non-recyclable trash.

Baton Rouge recycles <b>only</b> : Clean paper, clean cardboard, food cans, glass food bottles and jars, plastic packaging marked with numbers 1 through 7.	Baton Rouge <b>does not</b> recycle: Plastic bags of any kind, clothing, furniture, batteries, liquids, food stained cardboard or paper, books, dishes, mattresses, foam, electronics.
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All non-recyclable items should be deposited into trash dumpsters or donated to Goodwill or another clothing and furniture donation center (see the page on buying used items).

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## **Baton Rouge Postal Service - [usps.com](http://usps.com)**

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has locations and drop boxes throughout Baton Rouge where you can mail letters and packages, and buy postage. The cost of sending standard letter is 49¢ in the U.S. and \$1.15 internationally. Address as below:

From: Joe Smith 123 Main Street, Apt 2 Baton Rouge LA 70802	Place Stamp Here
To: Lily Juarez 567 Washington Road Phoenix, AZ 85001	

The USPS is the most affordable for shipping, but to explore other options visit [fedex.com](http://fedex.com) and [ups.com](http://ups.com).

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## **Baton Rouge Police - [brgov.com/dept/brpd](http://brgov.com/dept/brpd)**

Police officers in the United States assist the public in times of need, enforce the law, and encourage safety. Police officers can be identified by official vehicles, or a personal police badge with an identifying number. If you experience a crime, traffic accident, urgent need, or otherwise feel unsafe, Baton Rouge Police and LSU Campus Police can be trusted to assist you kindly. Treat officers with respect, obey their instruction, do not lose your temper, and do not offer bribes. To report a crime or accident call 225-389-2000. For emergencies call 911.

# TRANSPORTATION IN BATON ROUGE

## Capital Area Transit System (CATS) - [brcats.com](http://brcats.com)

CATS provides public transportation throughout Baton Rouge with bus routes available 7 days a week. This year many new routes are being added. Check the website [brcats.com/routeinfo](http://brcats.com/routeinfo) for times and locations. Fare is discounted or free with a student ID card.

Below is a popular new route for visiting the Super Walmart on College Drive. It stops at the LSU Student Union and the Journalism Building.

Route 18 - LSU - Cortana Mall											
Cortana Mall → LSU						LSU → Cortana					
Cortana Mall	Jefferson / Corporate	Lee / Perkins	Lee / Highland	Bob Pettit / Nicholson Dr.	LSU Student Union	LSU Student Union	Bob Pettit / Nicholson Dr.	Lee / Highland	College / Perkins	Corporate / Jefferson	Cortana Mall
1003	1521	1531	1535	2695	2123	2123	2694	1567	1574	1581	1003
6:20 <sup>†</sup>	6:35 <sup>†</sup>	6:45 <sup>†</sup>	6:51 <sup>†</sup>	7:03 <sup>†</sup>	7:10 <sup>†</sup>	6:15 <sup>†</sup>	6:24 <sup>†</sup>	6:36 <sup>†</sup>	6:42 <sup>†</sup>	6:52 <sup>†</sup>	7:05 <sup>†</sup>
7:20	7:35	7:45	7:51	8:03	8:10	7:15	7:24	7:36	7:42	7:52	8:05
8:20	8:35	8:45	8:51	9:03	9:10	8:15	8:24	8:36	8:42	8:52	9:05
9:20	9:35	9:45	9:51	10:03	10:10	9:15	9:24	9:36	9:42	9:52	10:05
10:20	10:35	10:45	10:51	11:03	11:10	10:15	10:24	10:36	10:42	10:52	11:05
11:20	11:35	11:45	11:51	<b>12:03</b>	<b>12:10</b>	11:15	11:24	11:36	11:42	11:52	<b>12:05</b>
<b>12:20</b>	<b>12:35</b>	<b>12:45</b>	<b>12:51</b>	<b>1:03</b>	<b>1:10</b>	<b>12:15</b>	<b>12:24</b>	<b>12:36</b>	<b>12:42</b>	<b>12:52</b>	<b>1:05</b>
1:20	1:35	1:45	1:51	2:03	2:10	1:15	1:24	1:36	1:42	1:52	2:05
2:20	2:35	2:45	2:51	3:03	3:10	2:15	2:24	2:36	2:42	2:52	3:05
3:20	3:35	3:45	3:51	4:03	4:10	3:15	3:24	3:36	3:42	3:52	4:05
4:20	4:35	4:45	4:51	5:03	5:10	4:15	4:24	4:36	4:42	4:52	5:05
5:20	5:35	5:45	5:51	6:03	6:10	5:15	5:24	5:36	5:42	5:52	6:05
6:20	6:35	6:45	6:51	7:03	7:10	6:15	6:24	6:36	6:42	6:52	7:05
7:20	7:35	7:45	7:51	8:03	8:10	7:15	7:24	7:36	7:42	7:52	8:05
8:20 <sup>†</sup>	8:35 <sup>†</sup>	8:45 <sup>†</sup>	8:51 <sup>†</sup>	9:03 <sup>†</sup>	9:10 <sup>†</sup>	8:15 <sup>†</sup>	8:24 <sup>†</sup>	8:36 <sup>†</sup>	8:42 <sup>†</sup>	8:52 <sup>†</sup>	9:05 <sup>†</sup>
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Route info as of August 2014. Subject to change, check [brcats.com/routeinfo](http://brcats.com/routeinfo) for updates.

## LSU Tiger Trails Transit System - [tigertrails.lsu.edu](http://tigertrails.lsu.edu)

LSU operates a bus system on campus and in the surrounding area that is free to LSU students, faculty, staff, and visitors, both on and off campus. Visit the website to view stops and schedules. Hours are modified during summer and school holidays. You can also use your phone or mobile device to track the buses in real time using the LSU mobile app: [lsu.transloc.com/info/mobile](http://lsu.transloc.com/info/mobile)

## Bicycles

Baton Rouge is not a bike friendly city, so long distance transport by bike can be dangerous. However, for short distances and around campus, a bike is ideal. Low quality bicycles can be found at WalMart, and higher quality bicycles can be found used on [batonrouge.craigslist.org](http://batonrouge.craigslist.org), at The Bicycle Shop ([bicycleshop.com](http://bicycleshop.com) 3315 Highland Rd, Baton Rouge, LA, 225-344-5624) and at Mid City Bikes (2560 Government St, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225-636-5776).

Bicycles on the LSU campus must be registered with the LSU police department for a fee of \$5. Wearing a helmet while riding is recommended for both adults and children.

# **MARKETS AND GROCERY STORES IN BATON ROUGE**

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## **INTERNATIONAL MARKETS**

### **Akasha Market Greek and Lebanese Market**

*Location:* 1190 Bob Pettit Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-766-6478

*Hours:* Open 7 days (near LSU Campus)

### **Oriental Market - Korean**

*Location:* 162 Lee Drive Suite C, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-361-0812

*Hours:* 225-361-0812 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

### **Vinh Phat Market - Asian Grocery and Gifts**

*Location:* 12361 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-273-1175

*Hours:* Monday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **Tienda Gloria**

*Location:* 13869 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-273-6140

### **Latinos Supermarket**

*Location:* 11435 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-275-8223

### **Le's Oriental Market**

*Location:* 1134 Marque Ann Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-273-9579

*Hours:* Monday - Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

### **Asian Market**

*Location:* 8342 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-768-7268

*Hours:* Monday - Friday 10-7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### **A to Z International Fine Foods - Indian/Middle Eastern**

*Location:* 13461 Tiger Bend Rd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-763-7746

*Hours:* M-Thurs. 10:30-7:00, Friday 3:30-8:00 Saturday 9:30 - 8:00 & Sunday 12-6

### **Fashion India & Groceries**

*Location:* 11802 Coursey Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-293-4719

*Hours:* Monday - Friday 11-7:30, Sat. 10-7:30, Sun. 12-7:00

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## **INTERNATIONAL MARKETS CONTINUED**

### **Olive Tree's International Food - Middle Eastern**

*Location:* 10979 Coursey Blvd #G, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-291-2935

*Hours:* 9am to 9pm everyday

### **Pita Boy International Grocery**

*Location:* 11197 Muriel Ave Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-274-0022

*Hours:* Mon- Sat 10am-7pm, Sun. 12pm-4pm

### **Saigon Hong Kong Seafood Market**

*Location:* 1295 N Sherwood Forest Dr, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-272-8822

*Hours:* Monday - Sunday 8 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

### **La Tiendita/ El Sol de Guerrero - market and restaurant**

*Location:* 6031 Siegen Ln, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 800-733-7330

*Hours:* Always open

### **Barakat International - Indian and Pakistani**

*Phone:* 225-757-6086

*Location:* 191 Woodale Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA (Sells Halal Lamb)

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## **PRODUCE STORES AND FARMER'S MARKETS**

### **Southside Produce Store**

*Location:* 8240 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-763-9001

*Hours:* 6:30am to 6:30pm 7 Days a Week

### **Fresh Pickins**

*Location:* 10375 Coursey Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-291-7473

*Hours:* 7am - 8pm 7 days a week

### **Red Stick Farmer's Market**

Thursday market: 6400 Perkins Rd. 8am-12pm

Saturday market: 5th and Main St., Downtown 8am-12pm

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## **POPULAR AMERICAN GROCERY STORES**

### **Wal-mart Superstore**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 24 hours a day

*Location 1:* 3132 College Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-952-9022

*Location 2:* 10606 N. Mall Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-291-8104

*Products & services:* groceries, pharmacy, household goods, appliances, autocare.

### **Wal-mart Neighborhood Market**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 6am-12pm

5255 Highland Rd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-766-7776

*Products & services:* groceries and pharmacy

### **Albertsons Supermarket**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 6am-11pm

*Location 1:* 2950 College Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-924-6084

*Location 2:* 9960 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-768-7775

*Location 3:* 7515 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-769-6100

*Products & services:* groceries and pharmacy

### **Winn-Dixie**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 7am-12am

*Location :* 5555 Burbank Dr Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-757-0501

*Products & services:* groceries

### **Trader Joe's**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 8am-9pm

*Location:* 3535 Perkins Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70808

*Phone:* (225) 382-0588

*Products & services:* organic groceries, specialty snacks and juices

### **Whole Foods**

*Hours:* Mon-Sun 8am-10pm

*Location:* 7529 Corporate Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

*Phone:* 225-218-0452

*Products & services:* organic groceries, vitamins, coffee and lunches to-go.

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## RECREATION IN BATON ROUGE

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### **Baton Rouge Recreation/Park System (BREC) - [brec.org](http://brec.org)**

BREC maintains 184 parks throughout East Baton Rouge Parish that feature a wide variety of quality facilities open to everyone. Many activities are free, and some include an admission or class fee. Activities include:

Walking & Hiking  
Fishing  
Canoeing & Kayaking  
Nature centers  
Horseback riding  
Swamp walks

Tennis  
Volleyball  
Basketball  
Rugby  
Baseball  
Soccer

Fitness & Dance classes  
Martial Arts classes  
Skateboarding  
Summer camps  
Playgroups  
Playgrounds and more!

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### **East Baton Rouge Parish Libraries (EBRPL) - [ebrpl.org](http://ebrpl.org)**

EBRPL has 16 locations around the city where all varieties of books (English and other languages) can be borrowed for **free** by anyone living in Baton Rouge, including children. To sign up for a library card just bring in a piece of mail that shows your address, and an Identification Card of some kind. The library also has free access to computers, printers, magazines, movies, music, audio books, electronic books and magazines, online language learning software and more.

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### **Baton Rouge Zoo - [brzoo.org](http://brzoo.org)**

Location: 3601 Thomas Road • Baton Rouge, LA 70807

Admission Adults/Teens: \$8.25      Seniors: \$7.25      Children ages 2-12: \$5.25  
under age 2: Free

**Discount:** Wednesday afternoons between 3pm and 4pm admission is \$1.25 per person for all ages.

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### **LSU Rural Life Museum - [rurallife.lsu.edu](http://rurallife.lsu.edu)**

4560 Essen Ln, Baton Rouge, LA

Admission Adults/Teens: \$9.00      Children 5-11: \$8      Children under 5: Free

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### **LSU Museum of Art - [lsumoa.org](http://lsumoa.org)**

Shaw Center for the Arts • 100 Lafayette Street • Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Admission: LSU students : Free      Over age 12: \$5.00      12 and younger: Free

All admission free on the first Sunday of each month.

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### **Live After Five - [downtownbr.org/live-after-five/line-up](http://downtownbr.org/live-after-five/line-up)**

**Free** concerts on North Boulevard in downtown Baton Rouge every Friday evening in September & October (fall series), and April & May (spring series). Visit the website for the lineup of local musicians.

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### **For more information and activities visit:**

- [downtownbatonrouge.org](http://downtownbatonrouge.org) • [visitbatonrouge.com](http://visitbatonrouge.com) •
  - [225batonrouge.com/section/weekender](http://225batonrouge.com/section/weekender) • [lasm.org](http://lasm.org) •
  - [ymcabatonrouge.org](http://ymcabatonrouge.org) • [louisianaoldstatecapitol.org](http://louisianaoldstatecapitol.org) •
  - [crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-museum](http://crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-museum) •
  - [louisianatravel.com](http://louisianatravel.com) • [crt.state.la.us/parks](http://crt.state.la.us/parks) •
  - [kleinpeterdairy.com](http://kleinpeterdairy.com) •
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# BANKING

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Banking in the United States is very helpful for depositing pay checks and paying bills efficiently. Different banks will be best for different individuals based on locations and features desired. Below are some helpful banking definitions and instructions. For more in depth financial tips, visit money blogs like [cashcowcouple.com](http://cashcowcouple.com) or [20somethingfinance.com](http://20somethingfinance.com) .

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## Checking Account

Checking accounts allow you to deposit and withdraw money frequently and are a great way to pay your tuition and monthly bills. When you open a checking account, it usually comes with checks and a debit card to allow you to make purchases and pay bills directly from the account. While choosing a bank ask about annual fees, ATM fees, and low balance fees. Some banks have a “fee free” checking option. Some offer budgeting tools online, if they don't, try [mint.com](http://mint.com) .

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## Savings Account

Savings accounts are bank accounts that earn interest, and are typically used for long term saving of money and cannot be used to pay bills or write checks. The interests, minimum balances, service fees vary from bank to bank. You may not need a savings account, but it is worth asking your bank about.

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## ATM (Automated Teller Machines)

Usually banks will not charge extra fees when you are using your bank's ATM. When you use an ATM in a store or at other banks, you may be charged an extra transaction fee. An alternative to using an ATM is to make a purchase with your debit card and ask for cash back. Most banks do not charge fees for cash back purchases.

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## Opening a Bank Account in the US

To open an account in the U.S. you will need the following items:

- Proof of Address (Apartment Rental Agreement, Utility Bill, etc. with Name and Permanent Address)
  - Passport and a second form of identification (driver's license, School ID, etc.)
  - I-94 Card
  - I-20, DS-2019 or I-797 Approval Notice
  - Enrollment Verification Letter from LSU
  - Social Security Card (you do not need one to open all bank accounts, but some banks may ask for it, so call ahead)
  - Minimum Opening Deposit of \$50 USD
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## Wire Transfer

A wire transfer is the electronic transfer of funds from one financial institution to another. Money can be wired from other countries to your bank, or using a money wiring company such as [moneygram.com](http://moneygram.com)

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## Credit Card

A Credit Card is a card used to make purchases, and serves as line of credit extended by a financial institution. You must pay the bill each month, and any unpaid amount will be charged interest at a very high rate. To be eligible for a credit card you must have a social security number.

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## BUYING USED ITEMS

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### Thrift Shops

Thrift shops are stores that sell discounted used clothing, furniture, household items, and books. Most thrift stores also accept used item donations. The proceeds from some thrift stores benefit charities or provide for low income families. All of the thrift stores below are on the Capital Area Transit System (CATS) bus line.

#### **America's Thrift Store**

*Location:* 9526 Cortana Place, Baton Rouge LA

*Hours:* Mon-Sat 8am-9pm

*Phone:* 225-923-0010

#### **Connections For Life**

*Location:* 2286 Highland Road, Baton Rouge LA

*Hours:* Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-5pm

*Phone:* 225-379-3158

#### **Family Thrift Center**

*Location:* 209 Little John Drive, Baton Rouge LA

*Hours:* Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

*Phone:* 225-272-9900

#### **Goodwill Industries Thrift Store**

*Location 1:* 3121 College Dr.

*Location 2:* 10350 Burbank

*Location 3:* 10778 Coursey Blvd.

*Hours:* Mon-Sat 9am-8pm, Sun 12pm- 6pm

*Phone:* 225-926-1868

*Phone:* 225-778-5642

*Phone:* 225-295-1921

#### **Here Today, Gone Tomorrow**

*Location:* 10240 Burbank

*Hours:* Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 12pm- 6pm

*Phone:* 225-769-2259

#### **Salvation Army**

*Location:* 7361 Airline Highway

*Hours:* Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-4pm

*Phone:* 225-355-4635

#### **St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Stores**

*Location 1:* 5621 Government

*Location 2:* 1871 Staring Lane

*Location 3:* 2655 Plank Rd.

*Hours:* Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

*Phone:* 225-925-5255

*Phone:* 225-819-0460

*Phone:* 225-356-9683

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### Garage Sales & Estate Sales

Garage sales are usually a single household selling items they no longer use, often furniture, electronics and other household items. Estate sales are similar, but larger, and are held when an entire house full of items is being sold. Both are usually held on Friday or Saturdays, and advertised in the newspaper or on [batonrouge.craigslist.org](http://batonrouge.craigslist.org). Go early for best deals.

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### Online

You can find individual used items to purchase from the following websites

- [batonrouge.craigslist.org](http://batonrouge.craigslist.org)
- [theadvocate.kaango.com](http://theadvocate.kaango.com)
- [forsale.oodle.com/furniture/baton-rouge-area](http://forsale.oodle.com/furniture/baton-rouge-area)
- [ebay.com](http://ebay.com)

When meeting someone you found online always meet in a public place and bring a friend. Never pay before reviving your item, and never provide bank information via email.

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