

At the Heart of *Agriculture*

Day One

Begin with a tour at Inglewood Farm, Louisiana's largest organic farm, where you can ride along the rows of fresh fruit and produce offered on the farm. Take a look at the chicken bus (yes – you read that right!) which houses their free range roosters and hens. Learn how they maintain their organic pecan orchards before tasting their delicious pecan oils and honey.

Continue to Rosalie Plantation, home of Rosalie pecans, for a tour of their historic sugar mill. The mill serves as the center of the family pecan orchard which includes 2500 pecan trees.

Grab lunch at Lea's LUNCHROOM in Lecompte, La. Lea's is known for their ham and pies. Established in 1928, Lea's offers Ham sandwiches, a special-of-the-day plate lunch, strong Louisiana coffee and homemade pies. And the pies draw in locals and travelers alike. Whether you choose the coconut crème, chocolate, pecan or cherry, they are all worth the stop!

Depart on a windshield tour of the Forest Hill, La. area – home to more than 200 plant nurseries. Stop at a nursery to learn why there are so many nurseries in the area and tour the nursery.

Then continue south to the Southern Forest Heritage Museum, located in Long Leaf, where the group can learn more about the forestry industry, both past and present, while touring the oldest complete sawmill facility in the South. A brand new addition to the museum is the Leche Lodge, an original Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) building built at Camp S-63 in what is now the Alexander State Forest just south of Alexandria, housing an expanded CCC exhibit.

Day Two

Begin your day with a tour of Kent Plantation House, the oldest standing structure in central Louisiana. The tour includes the milk house, main house, kitchen, blacksmith shop, outbuildings, and sugar mill. There the group can learn about the working plantation in the early 1800s.

Learn more about controlled environment agriculture with a tour of GrayWalk Farms, specializing in tomatoes and leafy green vegetables. This farm is able to produce tomatoes, lettuce and herbs throughout the year due to being grown hydroponically in environmentally controlled greenhouses.

See the Booker Fowler Fish Hatchery, a fish production facility producing freshwater sportfish fingerlings. The Booker Fowler Fish Hatchery is home to a Visitors Center boasting over 10,000 gallons of aquaria. Native Louisiana fish, reptiles, amphibians, and crustaceans can all be found on display.

Enjoy a local farm to table dinner at Loyd Hall Plantation. Listed on the National Historic Register, Loyd Hall, circa 1820, is the heart of a 640-acre working farm. Framed by stately oaks and surrounded by sugar cane and pasture land, Loyd Hall provides a perfect conclusion for a well-rooted tour.

To learn more, contact:

Shirley Ingram,
Tour & Travel Sales Manager
Alexandria/Pineville Area CVB
Shirley@apacvb.org

(318) 442-9546 (800) 551-9546
www.AlexandriaPinevilleLA.com/tours

