

# Yolo List

You Only Live Once (YOLO!), so live life to the fullest and indulge in the true Southeast Texan experience!



**SPOT A SPOONBILL.** With its hot pink feathers, impressive wingspan and spoon-shaped bill, the roseate spoonbill is a remarkable sight to see. So bring your binoculars to **Sea Rim State Park** for your chance to view these beautiful birds.



**Feed the koi at the Beaumont Botanical Gardens.**



**Snap a selfie**

in front of the **Fire Museum's** gigantic, dalmation-spotted fire hydrant.

**Catch every flick in Jefferson Theatre's Classic Movie Night series.**

What better place to watch an old or new classic such as *Singing in the Rain* or *The Princess Bride* than in this historic movie theater in Beaumont? You'll want to see the entire series—and we're happy to oblige. Or as Wesley would say in the *Princess Bride*: "As you wish."



**Dive into crawfish**

**before two-stepping your way across the dance floor at Larry's French Market.**

Ooh la la! Dig into a boiled crawfish platter at the legendary Larry's. Then hit the floor to boot scoot and two-step to a live band. Can't dance? No problem. The restaurant offers free Cajun dance lessons on Saturday nights.

**Grip a gator**

(ever so carefully) at **Gator Country**

**Wildlife Adventure Park.** When was the last time you held a real-life alligator? Never? So don't miss this opportunity to cradle a croc at Gator Country.





## Go crabbing

To catch a crab, you've got to think like one. Try "old-school" crabbing with a net and a chicken bone tied to a string. Or go "high-tech" with a ring trap. Either way, you're bound to haul in enough for a Southeast Texan crab boil.



## GO GHOST HUNTING down Sarah Jane Road.

**IF. YOU. DARE.** (Cue ghostly laugh.) When the night is inky black—save for the soft glow of the moon—drive down Sarah Jane Road between the cities of Groves and Port Neches in search of the namesake specter said to haunt the roadway and bridge.

## Catch some Mardi Gras beads.

Southeast Texas' Mardi Gras parades are spectacular celebrations, complete with decked-out floats, prancing horses, unusual characters (it's Mardi Gras after all) and those coveted beads.



## CHEER ON THE HOME TEAM at a high school football game.

If you've ever seen the television series, *Friday Night Lights*, you understand just how seriously we take high school football in Texas. Don't believe us? Then check out **Mid-County Madness**—a 91-year-old tradition between rivalry high schools in Nederland, Groves and Port Neches.



**GO CLOGGING.** Bring home a little Holland with a pair of clogs from the **Dutch Windmill Museum** in Nederland.



**Catch the big one on Sabine Lake.** No need for "the one that got away" excuses when you're fishing on Sabine Lake. Chances are good that the redfish, trout or flounder are biting.

## Pose with a painted Porsche.

Take your photo beside a replica of Blues singer—and Port Arthur native—Janis Joplin's psychedelic-painted 1965 Porsche 356C Cabriolet. It'll have you humming, "Oh Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz" the rest of the day. (You're singing it to yourself right now, aren't you?) The replica Porsche is located at the **Museum of the Gulf Coast**.



**Find the baby in a king cake.** A Mardi Gras tradition, each king cake includes a toy baby baked inside. The person who finds the slice with the toy brings the next king cake.





**SHHHH—** take a secret tour of **The McFaddin-Ward House**. Sneak a peek behind the curtains of this turn-of-the-20th-century manse owned by some of the area's earliest movers and shakers.

**Seek seashells down by the seashore of Sea Rim State Park.**

Comb the 5-plus miles of gulf shoreline at Sea Rim State Park for shells and sea glass.



**STUFF YOURSELF** with BBQ crabs at **Sartin's Seafood**. This iconic crab shack is *the* place to go to try barbecued crabs—no other place compares!

*See the Gusher blow*  
at **Spindletop**.



## Bring the kids to **Tugboat Island**

Put a smile on your kids' faces by bringing them to the imaginative playground Tugboat Island, where they can storm the castle or captain the tugboat.



**Feed the ducks at Doornbos Park.** Relax pond-side and feed the ducks of Doornbos Park. Be sure to bring plenty of bread-crumbs, however, or the ducks might accuse you of being "cheap, cheap."



*Eat your weight in pecan pie*  
at the **Groves Pecan Festival**.

There are carnival rides, arts and crafts, fair food and a parade, but the number one reason to attend the Groves Pecan Festival is all the slices of pecan pie you can eat!

**GO ANTIQUING** at the eclectic **Grandma's Basement** or in the more than 36,000 square feet (and five showrooms) of **Snooper's Paradise**.



**Watch a tunnel boat speed across the surface of the Neches River.** Cheer on the competitors of **RiverFest's Thunder on the Neches** races.



**Flip the switch**  
and discover electricity at the **Edison Museum**. Learn all about the genius of Thomas A. Edison, “America’s inventor,” through the interactive exhibits of this Beaumont museum.

## Chart your family tree

at the **Tyrrell Historical Library**. If you have roots in Southeast Texas, you’ll want to explore the collections at the Tyrrell Historical Library. Featuring diaries, newspapers, documents, photographs, and more, the library is a treasure trove for amateur—and professional—genealogists.



## MUNCH ON A JUDICE’S HAMBURGER AND WATCH THE SHIPS PASS BY.

Some of the best burgers around can be found at **Judice’s Cajun Café**. Grab one and watch the boats go by on the ship channel.



## RUN A 10K

Lace up your running shoes and hit the streets for the **Pleasure Island Bridge Half Marathon, 10K and 2 mile**.



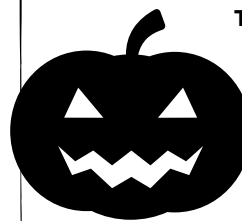
## Meditate

at the **Buu Mon Buddhist Temple**. On Wednesdays at 7 p.m., visit this temple in Port Arthur to meditate for free with the resident Buddhist monks.



## Brunch waterside

at the **Neches River Wheelhouse**.



**Trick or treat at the John Jay French Museum**. Each year this historic home hosts a Pumpkin Walk and Haunted Halloween Tour. Decorate pumpkins before going on a ghostly tour of the property. Maybe the ghost of John Jay French himself will join you! ★



Hey!

**YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE.**

So make time to enjoy everything there is to see and do Southeast Texas.