

# BAYOU TECHE/LOWER ATCHAFALAYA PADDLING TRAIL

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### NEARBY CITIES

Patterson, Bayou Vista, Berwick, Morgan City

### MILEAGE

- Jesse B. Hayes Landing to Calumet Locks: 3.9 miles
- Jesse B. Hayes Landing to Two Sisters Landing: 6.3 miles
- Jesse B. Hayes Landing to Berwick Locks: 9.6 miles

### TYPE OF TRAIL

Linear route: shuttle service may be necessary.

### SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

### DIFFICULTY

Easy

### APPROXIMATE PADDLING TIME

7 hours

### USUAL CURRENT

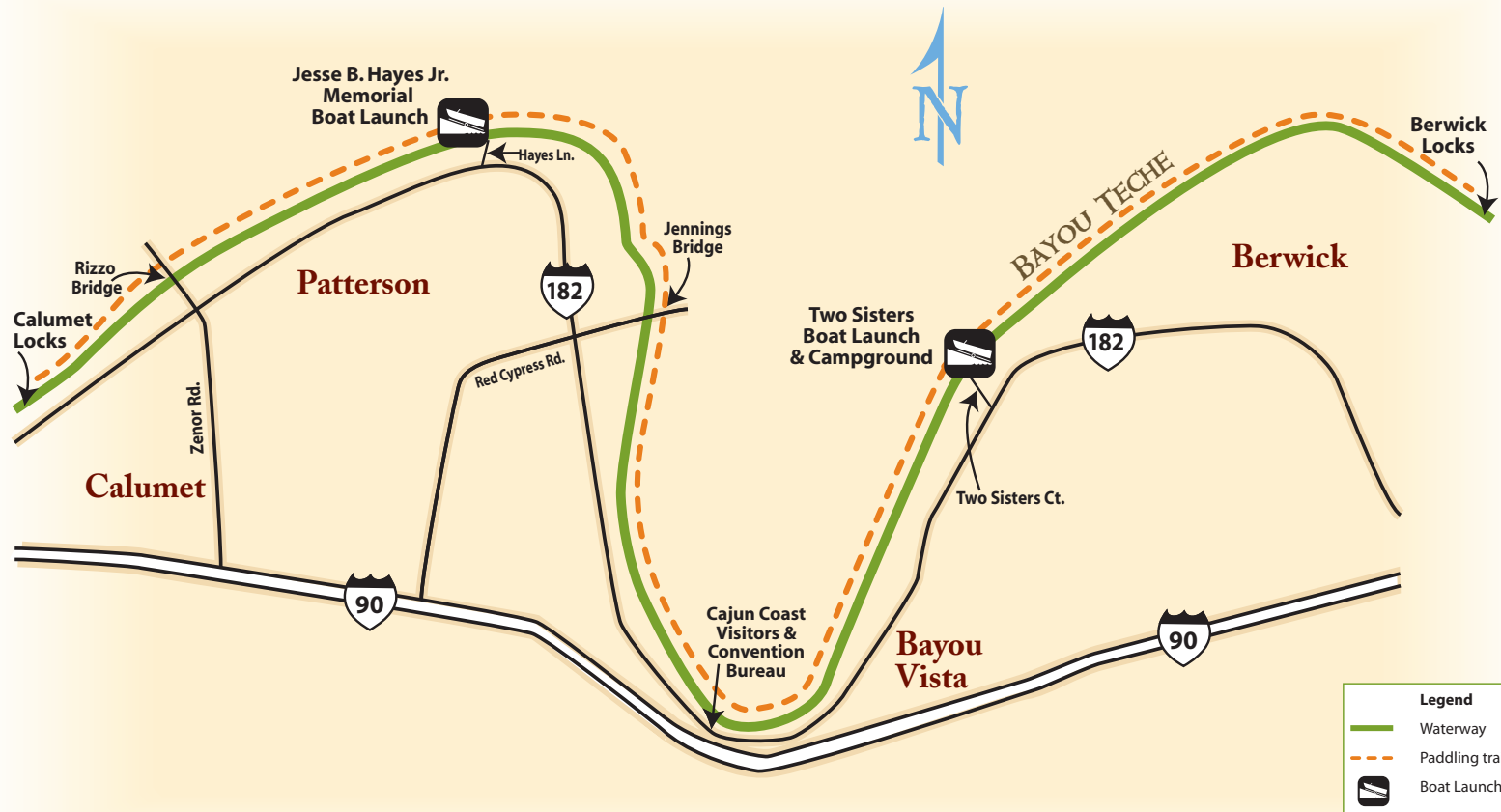
One mph from north to south (Calumet to Berwick)

### NOTES & PRECAUTIONS

Bayou Teche and Lower Atchafalaya are very wide and wind can be a problem, but the water is usually calm. May through September can be very hot! Bring sunscreen, plenty of water and bug spray.

### ACCESS

- Jesse B. Hayes Jr. Memorial Boat Launch (Hwy. 182, Patterson)** – Located on Hayes Lane off Hwy. 182, Patterson. From Hwy. 90, turn onto Red Cypress Road in Patterson. Turn left onto Hwy. 182 W. Travel 1.5 miles. The landing will be on your right.
- Two Sisters Boat Landing (Hwy. 182, Bayou Vista)** – From Hwy. 182, turn onto Two Sisters Court, located in the 2700 block of Hwy. 182 in Bayou Vista.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This trail begins at the Calumet Cut and takes you through Patterson to the mouth of the Bayou Teche at the Atchafalaya River. The name *calumet* is a French word meaning “pipe.” Calumet is the site of the Civil War Battle of Bisland, where the gunboat *Cotton* was sunk in the Bayou Teche. When paddling along the Bayou Teche from Calumet to the Atchafalaya River, you will see homes along the right side of the river and mostly natural vegetation along the left side.

The town of Patterson, named after Captain John Patterson in 1907, was once home to the largest cypress sawmill in the world, owned by Frank B. Williams. His two sons, Kemper and Harry,

were prominent citizens and left an outstanding mark on the community. Kemper Williams, an extraordinary philanthropist, left behind a foundation for the support of the Kemper Williams Park and Campground in Patterson. Harry Williams, on the other hand, was a wealthy playboy with a love for speed. He and Jimmie Wedell, a daredevil with innovative ideas, developed the Wedell-Williams Air Service. Today, the Louisiana State Museum (Wedell Williams Aviation and Cypress Sawmill Museum), which is located in Kemper Williams Park, displays numerous aircraft, 1930s air race trophies and memorabilia.

The Atchafalaya Golf Course at Idlewild is the newest addition to Kemper Williams Park and Campground. This championship 18-hole golf course, designed by internationally renowned Robert Von Hagge, Smelek & Baril, reflects the natural beauty of the Atchafalaya Basin. The grounds feature over 40 native Louisiana flora and fauna and a picturesque view from the elevated, plantation-style clubhouse.

You are welcome to stop at the Cajun Coast Visitors & Convention Bureau, located along the Bayou Teche in Patterson, for a picnic lunch on the grounds. Camping is available at the Two Sisters Boat Launch in Bayou Vista.