

Tickfaw State Park—located near Baton Rouge and New Orleans
27225 Patterson Rd.
Springfield, LA 70462
225-294-5020
888-981-2020
Reservations: 877-226-7652
Reservation website: www.ReserveLaStateParks.com
November 2019
\$20/night

Special memories of my youth color my review of Tickfaw State Park. As a young mother I stayed here and shared nature with friends and family. We cooked out, tube floated down the Tickfaw River, played cards outside late into the night, and forgot about the outside world for a while (it was obviously before the time of cell phones).

After nagging my husband John, who has never been to Tickfaw, to take me back, he became curious about its appeal. We were on our way to volunteer in Texas, but we took four days to reconnect with my youth and this great park.

I discovered its appeal hasn't changed. We visited in November, a time when the mosquitos are pretty much non-existent, the temperatures are in the 70s, and there were only three or four other campers in the park.

Our dog Angel enjoyed long walks. There are four trails. We went down a familiar trail to a fishing pond where alligator swim near the dock, birds fly overhead, and the only sounds you hear are of nature. So peaceful.

The RV sites are also generously spaced. Surprisingly, there were quite a few with pads long enough to fit our 45 foot RV. Each site had 30 and 50 amp electricity, water, a fire pit, and a picnic table. Although the sites don't have sewer hookups, the dump was conveniently located and easy to maneuver.

Tent camping and cabins are also available, along with overflow parking. The bathhouse was clean enough to use—and I'm very picky. The campground also has free laundry, in a clean building that has a folding table.

WiFi reception was quite good. We were able to stream movies (playing cards would have been better).





Gates lock at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, 9 p.m. on weekdays. Guests enter with a code.

Check-in is 2 p.m.; check-out is 1 p.m.

Come visit Tickfaw and get refreshed. It's a good thing.

French Quarter RV Resort
500 N. Claiborne, New Orleans
May 10-12, 2018
\$108/night

Let me start by saying that I am from Louisiana, lived there until I was in my 40's, so I have spent MANY a day in New Orleans. I love the town, especially the food and culture. HOWEVER, I do not like getting ripped off as a tourist, paying over \$100 a night for a small slab of concrete, brick, and grass.

Adding "resort" to its title doesn't make a place a resort. If it did, every fleabag hotel would be a "resort." Now, the French Quarter RV Resort isn't a fleabag. It's a nice enough place to put your camper. But having a small pool and laundry room doesn't make one a resort.

We were in New Orleans for my son's wedding. Michael chose to get married in May—hot and muggy May in New Orleans. So we needed a camping spot that had electricity for our dogs. Air conditioning was a must. We also wanted to be centrally located for all the parties and planning that needs to take place for a wedding.

That's where they get you—convenience. If you want to be in the heart of New Orleans, you have to pay for it. Plain and simple. This parking lot is also safe. It has high walls with barbed wire along the top. And that's probably needed, because just outside the gates is where a large contingent of homeless people live. And don't get me started there. Big cities need to provide better accommodations than dirt underneath a bridge for those who have lost their way. The contrast between the haves and the have nots couldn't be made clearer than when you leave North Claiborne Street and drive through the gates of the French Quarter RV Resort.

What do you get for \$108 a night? Relatively good internet. After all, you're in a large city. Cable is also provided, as well as water, sewerage, and electricity. The receptionist said each lot was 30 feet wide. Maybe. The concrete and brick pads are level, but once you put your slides out, you are within just a few feet of your neighbors.

Shade isn't provided. And in New Orleans, that would help a ton, where temperature soar almost year round. Basically, it's a big parking lot with a small patch of grass so your dogs can use the bathroom.

All the sites are back ins. That's always fun, especially when you're new to driving an RV. And since the lots aren't deep, all the cars are forced to park at the front of their slots, which means navigating space is limited for those trying to park.

So, bottom line. If you don't need to be in the heart of New Orleans, park outside the town at the more reasonably priced options, just check reviews carefully. But if money is no object or you plan to drink alcoholic beverages in the French Quarter, this might be your spot.