LOUISIANA

ABITA SPRINGS RV RESORT

• n the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, where southern Louisiana's highways relax into country roads, Abita Springs RV Resort has been on a roll since Ocean Canyon Properties purchased it several years ago. These days the Coast Classic Resort has a lot more going for it than just pine trees, a private lake and proximity to New Orleans.

Last year the folks at Abita Springs built up the RV campsites, refurbished restrooms, renovated the laundry room and installed a handsome pool deck with a covered pavilion. Another cabin joined the ranks of lakeside rentals, and new pedal boats arrived just in time for



summer. In previous years the resort paved it roads, remodeled the clubhouse and spruced up the cabins.

In between freshening up the facilities, the staff greets guests like family and plans activities for all ages, from Mardi Gras to fishing derbies to nightly poker games. The warm hospitality extends to the café, where you'll get a friendly smile along with a great meal. The Friday lunch special ranges from \$5 all-you-can-eat tacos to Louisiana catfish with all the fixings for just \$6.99. Still hungry? Bring your appetite to Saturday's steak dinner or head to the Tiki Bar for a juicy burger with regular or sweet potato fries.

You'll want to set aside some time to explore the lushly wooded grounds, starting at the lake that's home to ducks, herons, egrets and plenty of biting bass. Try your luck with your fishing pole, then head off along the walking trail, drinking in the view from the double swing and winding up at the lending library in the clubhouse. Make a peaceful afternoon of it, reading a novel in your camp chair beneath the trees or relaxing in a chaise lounge beside the pool.

If you have kids, they'll love the outdoor pool and wading pool, as well as the playground and ladder golf. In the evening the whole family can roast hot dogs over the fire pit and use the Wi-Fi to connect to friends, then be lulled to sleep by a choir of frogs.

When you're ready to venture out and sample the metropolitan pleasures of one of America's most magical cities, drive south on the 24-mile Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, the world's longest continuous bridge over water, straight to New Orleans.



LOCATION: Abita Springs, Louisiana RESORT TYPE: Coast Classic SEASON: Year-round WEBSITE: oceancanyon.com GOOD SAM RATING: 8.5/9★/8.5



