

Franklin Facts

- Home to former Governor Murphy J. “Mike” Foster, Jr. – the grandson of Governor Murphy J. Foster who governed Louisiana from 1892 to 1900.
 - Former Governor of Louisiana, Murphy J. “Mike” Foster’s private home, Oaklawn Manor is a tourist attraction open to the public.
 - Home to five Governors, three U.S. Senators, a Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, an Attorney General, a Lt. Governor, and two State Senators.
 - Teche is an Indian word meaning “snake.” Franklin follows Bayou Teche. Chitimacha legend has it that the Bayou Teche was formed when Chitimacha warriors battled a huge venomous serpent that terrorized the region.
 - A bayou is a slow moving body of water. A swamp is low ground filled with water and trees.
 - Easy access to an abundance of waterways.
 - Named as a top 100 small town in America two consecutive years by Norman Crampton in his book *The Best 100 Small Towns in America*.
 - Franklin’s Historic District includes more than 420 noteworthy structures, many of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
 - Over 44,000 acres of sugar cane within St. Mary Parish.
 - One of the largest producers of carbon black with three carbon black plants.
 - Battle of Irish Bend fought in Franklin. Significant because it thwarted the Union’s efforts to capture Avery Island’s salt mines and the capture of Texas.
 - Described as “hauntingly beautiful land” by *National Geographic Traveler*.
 - Described as “...one of the prettiest of Louisiana towns, all cool and green and white, with old homes standing back on smooth green lawns...” by Lyle Saxon in *Old Louisiana*.
 - Home to the Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, a critical habitat for the management and protection of the federally threatened Louisiana black bear.
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