

Explores!

HISTORIC Sainte Genevieve MISSOURI



Perched on the west bank of the Mississippi River, the village of Ste. Genevieve was settled in the late 1740s about two miles south of its present location. The village was one of several important French communities forming a region known as the “Illinois Country”, part of the vast

territory held by France in North America at the time. Many of Ste. Genevieve’s earliest residents were French-Canadian *habitants* who farmed the rich, alluvial soil adjacent to the village, producing salt and lead from nearby creeks and mines.

World events impacted the *habitants* of Ste. Genevieve in 1762, when France ceded all her holdings west of the Mississippi River to Spain at the close of the French and Indian War. Despite the transfer and new Spanish government in the region, Ste. Genevieve retained its distinctive French character and language. A disastrous flood in 1785 triggered the gradual relocation of the village to higher ground between the forks of the Gabouri Creek, the site of present-day Ste. Genevieve.

Much of historic Ste. Genevieve’s charm and ambiance is due to the remarkable preservation of the features of the colonial settlement. Its narrow streets and fenced gardens surround some of the most significant eighteenth-century architecture of the nation. These “French-colonial” style buildings were constructed from massive logs, hewn and set vertically to form the walls of the home. Heavy timbers were mortised and pegged into sturdy trusses that supported the impressive hipped roof covering the house and its wide porches. Fascinating variations of this architectural style, known as *poteaux-en-terre* and *poteaux-sur-sole*, are found in the historic homes of colonial Ste. Genevieve, as well as in Quebec and Normandy. Historians and architects continue to study these buildings, absorbed by these links with our French colonial past.

As the Louisiana Purchase of 1803 propelled Ste. Genevieve into another chapter in history, its French-speaking residents suddenly found themselves citizens of the United States. Soon the rush of Americans into the Louisiana Territory left its mark in Ste. Genevieve as well. Merchants, lawyers and entrepreneurs settled in the village, building their homes and businesses among the old French houses, creating the delightful mix of early nineteenth-century architecture found today. German immigrants in the mid-century left a legacy of charming brick homes and stores throughout the community.

Today Ste. Genevieve’s National Landmark Historic District offers visitors an unparalleled glimpse into its colonial past. Its residents join together to preserve and interpret this most remarkable community.

DINING – HISTORIC DISTRICT

Anvil Saloon and Restaurant

46 South Third • 573-883-7323

Hotel Ste. Genevieve

N. Main & Merchant • 573-883-3562

Historic Old Brick House

Third and Market • 573-883-2724

Sirro's

261 Merchant • 573-883-5749

The Restaurant St. Gemme Beauvais

78 N. Main at The Inn St. Gemme Beauvais • 573-883-5744

Twister's Merchant Street Grill & Pub

299 Merchant • 573-883-9565

Treasured Memories Tea Room (lunch menu only)

234 Merchant • 573-883-5109



SHOPPING – HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Bolduc House Museum Gift Shop

Cadeaux

Candle Corner

Charleville Wine Tasting Room & Gift Shop

Collage

First Settlement Country Store

Galleria Ste. Genevieve

InKleined To Stamp

Ivy & Twigs

Joyce & Choyse's Antiques

Monia's Unlimited

Le Techniques Salon

Lulu's

Material Things

The Mill Antique Mart

MO's Art Studio – Missouri Art Studio

Nancy Dee's Antiques & Collectibles

Odile's Linen & Lace, Etc.

Only Child Originals

Papin Photography

Sara's Ice Cream & Antiques

The Show-Me Shop

The Stained Glass Shop

Steiger Jewelers

Sweet Things

Treasured Memories Florist & Tea Room

Zielinski's



www.saintegenevietourism.org

E-mail: sgtourism@brick.net • 800-373-7007

WINE COUNTRY

Cave Vineyards

Charleville Vineyards and

Microbrewery

Chaumette Vineyards and Winery

Crown Valley Winery

Sainte Genevieve Winery

PARKS AND TRAILS

Hawn State Park

John J. Audubon Trail

Magnolia Hollow Conservation Area

Mississippi River Trail

Pere Marquette Park

Pickle Springs Natural Area

RECREATION

Ste. Genevieve County Community Center

21390 Highway 32 • 573-883-5244

Ste. Genevieve Golf Club

17450 Clubhouse Court • 573-883-2949

National Tiger Sanctuary

Highway Y, 2 miles west of I-55. Exit 158

573-483-3100 • 877-317-3100

ANNUAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

First Saturday in February

King's Ball

Second Sunday in February

Open house at the Felix Vallé House State Historic Site

First full weekend in May

Bolduc House Museum Herb and Plant Sale

Third full weekend in May

Annual Spring Garden Walk and Sale

Second full weekend in June

The French Festival and Antique Show and Sale

July 4th

Independence Day Celebration

Free Musical Concert in Pere Marquette Park

Thursday evenings from June to Mid-August

Ste. Genevieve Municipal Band Concerts – Valle School Parking Lot

Second full weekend in July

County Fair in Pere Marquette Park

Second full weekend in August

Jour de Fête

Area's largest annual craft fair, food and entertainment

Second full weekend in October

Autumn Daze & Promenade des Arts

First full weekend in December

Annual Country Christmas Walk

Second Sunday in December

French Christmas at Felix Vallé House State Historic Site

THE STE. GENEVIEVE MUSEUM

The museum contains varied collections of local memorabilia.

Items of interest include: prehistoric and historic Indian relics, old documents and Spanish land grants, artifacts from Missouri's first industry, the Saline Creek

Salt Works and a scale model of the Mississippi River Railroad Transfer Boat "The Ste. Genevieve." Gift shop on site. Open daily. Admission charge. **Merchant & DuBourg Place • 573-883-3461**



LA MAISON DE GUIBOURD-VALLE

This important National Register property was constructed in 1806 for

Jacques Jean Rene Guibourd de Luzinai, an educated native of France. Recognized for its authentic poteaux-sur-sole (posts on a sill) and vertical log construction, the home features an elegant collection of French antiques, lovely gardens and a gift

shop. Visitors can enter the large attic to see the massive hand-hewn and numbered Norman truss system. Located just off the city square, only 1/2 block from the Church of Ste. Genevieve and Memorial Cemetery. Open daily April through December. Heated and A/C. Guided tours, small admission includes house and garden. Discounts for groups and Seniors. **One North Fourth • 573-883-7544**



BOLDUC HOUSE *Preserve America Presidential Award 2005*

A National Historic Landmark, the Bolduc House was built about 1785 by Louis Bolduc, incorporating timbers from the owner's earlier home located in the original village of Ste. Genevieve. The structure's vertical-log

walls are mortised into massive sills that rest on a limestone foundation, a sophisticated poteaux-sur-sole construction. Its double pitched hip roof is supported by a series of heavy oak timbers that constitute a Norman truss system. The Bolduc

House is regarded as the first most authentically restored Creole house in the nation, earning the respect of architectural historians everywhere. Accurately restored with original 18th century furnishings, living quarters, stockade fence, 18th century French herb gardens and grape arbor, the Bolduc House is unquestionably an architectural treasure. The Bolduc House Herb Cottage, for gardeners and herb enthusiasts, offers pre-arranged wreath-making workshops, lectures and demonstrations. Admission includes house and garden tours. **125 S. Main • 573-883-3105**



Photos submitted by Bill Naeger.

FELIX VALLÉ HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

This historic site, built in 1818, was the home of Felix and Odile Pratte Vallé, members of one of Ste. Genevieve's premier colonial families. This important Federal-style limestone building features the authentically restocked mercantile store of the historic trading

firm of Menard and Vallé. The family's living quarters display beautiful early Empire furnishings with original mantels and interior trim. A back porch staircase leads to second floor bedrooms. The charming garden features original brick and frame outbuildings. Gift shop on site. Admission charge. **Merchant & Second Streets • 573-883-7102**



BAUVAIS-AMOUREUX HOUSE



The Bauvais-Amoureux House was built ca.1792 by Jean Baptiste St. Gemme Bauvais overlooking le grand champ, the agricultural fields of Ste. Genevieve. Its upright cedar log walls are set directly in the earth, in the rare poteaux-en-terre

method of construction. Heavy, hewn timbers form the Norman truss, which supports the steeply-pitched roof, reminiscent of French Canada. Purchased by Benjamin Amoureux in 1852, the house is now part of the Felix Vallé State Historic Site. An impressive diorama depicting the village of Ste. Genevieve in 1832 is featured. Seasonal opening. Admission charge. **327 St. Marys Road • 573-883-7102**

BOLDUC-LE MEILLEUR HOUSE

The Bolduc-Le Meilleur House was built in 1820 by the grandson-in-law of Louis Bolduc. The brace frame structure with brick noggings is an interesting example of combined French and American influences on local architecture. It has been accurately

restored and furnished with fine examples of early Federal pieces. Vintage herb and scented gardens of the early 19th century complement the house. The gift shop features Quimper faience, santons, books, herbs, soaps and things French. Open April through Mid-December. **123 S. Main • 573-883-3355**



DIRECTIONS TO HISTORIC DISTRICT:

FROM I-55: Exit 150. Turn east onto Hwy 32. Follow Hwy 32 approximately 4.6 miles to the intersection of Hwy 32 and Hwy 61. Continue straight through stoplight. Follow street approximately .9 mile until you reach the intersection of Fourth and Market. Turn right on Market to enter the Historic District of Ste. Genevieve.

BED & BREAKFASTS

Dr. Hertich's House

99 North Main • 800-818-5744 • 573-883-5744
drhertich@brick.net • www.bbhost.com/drhertich
Premier luxury bed and breakfast. King suites have double Jacuzzi tubs with 20+ jets, waterfalls and aromatherapy; fireplaces are at the foot of the king beds. Full breakfast served in suite.



Inn St. Gemme Beauvais

78 North Main • 800-818-5744 • 573-883-5744 • stgemme@brick.net

www.bbhost.com/innstgemme

Located in the heart of the historic district. King and queen suites with private baths, cable/VCRs, fresh flowers. Tea time, hor d'œuvres, and full breakfast served at candlelit tables. Midweek discounts.



La Dee Marie Bed and Breakfast

403 Jefferson • 573-883-2232 • ladeemarie@charter.net

www.ladeemarie.com

Visit our charming, well-crafted bed and breakfast home. Open year-round for you to relax and take refreshments on the large, wrap-around front porch. Enjoy books, games, cards and more. Let your taste buds experience the home-made specialties of our full breakfasts.



Main Street Inn Bed & Breakfast

221 North Main • 573-883-9199 • 800-918-9199

info@mainstreetinnbb.com

www.mainstreetinnbb.com

The romantic, relaxed, and quietly elegant Main Street Inn Bed & Breakfast is the place to stay in Ste. Genevieve. Southern hospitality, excellent food, and fine country antiques make your stay at this historic inn a special experience you will want to repeat again and again.



Somewhere Inn Time

383 Jefferson • 888-883-9397

www.somewhereintime.net

Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at this award-winning Colonial Home. This two-story home possesses the charm and beauty of the early 1900s along with the comfort of the present, pool, spa and that personal touch.



Southern Hotel

146 South Third • 800-275-1412

www.southernhotelbb.com

You are cordially invited to enjoy the fine accommodations of this 200-year-old landmark. Step gently into the time when riverboats plied the mighty Mississippi and weary travelers looked forward to the hospitality of this famous hotel. The graciousness of the past is carefully blended with modern comforts to make your stay a very special experience.

Steiger Haus Downtown

242 Merchant • 800-814-5881 • steiger_haus@msn.com

www.mysteryandhistory.com

Located in the heart of the historic district, murder mysteries are their specialty. The Summer Kitchen, built in 1811, now offers a Jacuzzi. The front door opens onto a parlor, dining room, gift shop, and three upstairs suites. Family antiques and photos have been placed throughout the house.



Chateau Ste. Genevieve Bed and Breakfast

245 Merchant • 800-398-1298 • 573-483-3500

The Bossier House

Second & Market • 573-883-3600

John Hael Gasthaus

159 North Main • 573-883-3600

Hubardeau Guest House

102 North Fourth • 573-883-5307

HOTELS/MOTELS

Microtel of Ste. Genevieve

21958 Highway 32 • 800-230-3734

www.geocities.com/microtelinnandsuites.com

Forty-two double queen rooms plus 6 suites. Meeting rooms available. Tour groups, reunions and weddings welcome. Room includes free continental breakfast, local calls, high speed internet, lobby computer, refrigerator & microwave.



Hotel Ste. Genevieve

Nine North Main • 573-883-3562

Set in a decor of yesterday is one of today's finest restaurants. The hotel has 14 modernly furnished rooms and is situated within walking distance of the many antique shops and historic sites that make Ste. Genevieve special.



Triangle Inn Motel 897 Ste. Genevieve Drive • 883-7191

Wilmar Court Motel 370 Ste. Genevieve Drive • 883-2702

www.saintgenevieveturism.org

E-mail: sgtourism@brick.net • 800-373-7007