



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2026

THE BAYOU CLASSIC HOTEL BLOCK OPENS FOR THE 53rd ANNUAL EVENT

NEW ORLEANS – The official hotel block for the 53rd Annual Bayou Classic, Presented by Procter & Gamble, is now open, giving fans access to special discounted rates at hotels throughout the New Orleans area for Thanksgiving Weekend.

With thousands of alumni, students, families, and supporters expected to travel to New Orleans for one of the nation's premier HBCU traditions, more than 15 participating hotels are offering exclusive Bayou Classic rates, with rooms starting as low as \$129 per night. Many of the participating properties are located within walking distance or a short distance from the Caesars Superdome and downtown festivities.

Fans can review hotel options and book accommodations directly through the official Bayou Classic website at www.mybayouclassic.com.

The Bayou Classic remains one of the most anticipated events on the HBCU calendar, bringing together Southern University and Grambling State University for a celebration of culture, tradition, pride, and excellence that extends far beyond football. The weekend begins on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26, with the Bayou Classic Thanksgiving Day Parade, followed by the Battle of the Bands & Greek Show on Friday, November 27, and culminates with the Bayou Classic football game on Saturday, November 28, inside the Caesars Superdome.

"Bayou Classic weekend is more than a game; it's a homecoming, a family reunion, and a celebration of a culture that continues to inspire generations," said Dottie Belletto, President and CEO of NOCCI (New Orleans Convention Company, Inc.), the event management firm for the Bayou Classic. "New Orleans is proud to welcome Southern and Grambling fans back for another unforgettable Thanksgiving weekend. With strong demand already building, we encourage fans to secure their hotel rooms and event tickets early to ensure they are part of every moment of this incredible experience."

Fans can also purchase tickets now for both the Bayou Classic football game and the Battle of the Bands & Greek Show.



Presented by 

TICKET INFORMATION:

- Football game tickets are available beginning at \$20, with a variety of seating options offered throughout the Caesars Superdome.
- Battle of the Bands & Greek Show general admission starts at \$25, with reserved seating options available. (Prices increase by \$10 on event day.)

SEATING ASSIGNMENTS:

Football Game:

- Southern University Jaguars will serve as the home team and will be seated primarily on the West Side (Sections 129–156).
- Grambling State University Tigers will be the visiting team and will be seated primarily on the East Side (Sections 101–128).

Battle of the Bands & Greek Show:

- The Southern University Human Jukebox Marching Band will perform on the South End Zone side (near Sections 115–117).
- The Grambling State University World Famed Tiger Marching Band will perform on the North End Zone side (near Sections 111–113).

For complete event details, tickets, and hotel accommodations, visit www.mybayouclassic.com and follow Bayou Classic on social media at @MyBayouClassic (Facebook) and @bayouclassic74 (Instagram).

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ABOUT BAYOU CLASSIC

Celebrating its 53rd year, the Bayou Classic continues to uphold its legacy as a symbol of excellence and camaraderie within the HBCU community. Year after year, fans gather in New Orleans over Thanksgiving weekend to witness the thrilling football matchup between Southern University and Grambling State University, accompanied by the electrifying Battle of the Bands & Greek Show and the highly anticipated halftime show featuring two of the greatest marching bands in the nation. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.mybayouclassic.com.

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