James Burton



On August 21, 1939, James Burton was born in Dubberly, Louisiana, but he grew up in Shreveport. As a young kid, James saw a '53 Fender Telecaster and knew that this was the guitar for him.

At only 14, James went professional and began an incredible career and at 13, he wrote the music for the famous record "Suzie Q". James became a staff musician on the Louisiana Hayride radio show. Burton then joined Bob Luman's Band and went to Los Angelas to perform in a movie "Carnaval Rock".

He met Ricky Nelson and joined him on the Ozzie & Harriet Shows. He also continued touring and recording with Ricky until he became a full-time studio musician.

Burton's unique guitar style placed him in the Hollywood Rock 'n' Roll and Country universe. He has played on thousands of recording sessions with artists such as Frank Sinatra, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Buck Owens, Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, John Denver, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Costello, Linda Ronstadt, Tina Turner, The Beach Boys, Glen Campbell, Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison just to name a few

James became a key figure in the group of legendary session musicians referred to as, 'The Wrecking Crew'

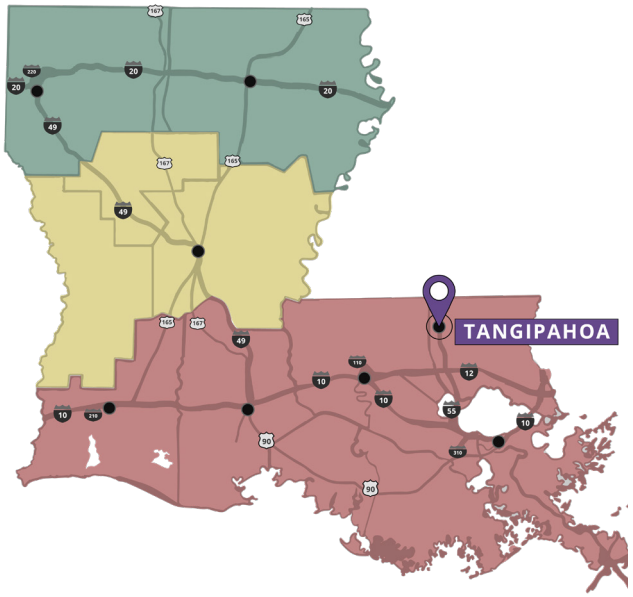
Then one day James got a call from Elvis, who wanted to hire him to play the Las Vegas show in 1969. Elvis explained to James he was told by people in the music industry from New York to Nashville to Los Angelas to get James Burton and let him put together the "Best of the Best" band. Elvis said he had followed his career since the Louisiana Hayride days. James and Elvis became very close friends and respected each other's talent.

James was the band leader and would remain with Elvis until Elvis' untimely passing in 1977.

James has been inducted into many honorabl institutions such as the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame (inducted by Keith Richards), The Musicians Hall of Fame, The Academy of Country Music Hall of Fame, The Rockabilly Hall of Fame, The Louisiana Music Hall of Fame, The Fender Guitar Hall of Fame and is also a multi Grammy winner.

To this day, James still tours and records regularly all over the world.

Welcome to a place with enough flavor, style and soul for two cities - Shreveport-Bossier, Louisiana. From mouthwatering cuisine to thrilling experiences and riverfront gaming and entertainment, Shreveport-Bossier has a cultural blend you won't find anywhere else. A little bit this, a little bit that and you'll find a whole lotta yourself.



Shreveport-Bossier, Louisiana is a metropolitan area of about 350,000 people. It is ideally situated in northwest Louisiana about 15 minutes from the Texas border on the west and 30 minutes from the Arkansas border on the north.

The Red River connects the two cities and since Shreveport's early inception, the riverfront has served as the hub of the city's commercial life. What began life as a log-jammed river port has now become home to a splendid convention center, five riverfront casinos, year-round festivals and a riverfront shopping/dining/entertainment venue.

The people are charming and the dining is unparalleled mixing the wide-open Texas spirit with the spicy Louisiana Cajun attitude.

The area has a lively arts, craft brewery and music scene. The diverse museums tell the story of famous musicians, galaxies, cultures, and explorers. The festivals showcase Louisiana's traditions of good music, great food and all-night entertainment.

Located just west of Downtown Shreveport, lies one of Shreveport's most treasured buildings - The Shreveport Municipal Auditorium. On April 3, 1948, a new program named The Louisiana Hayride began a weekly showcase from the auditorium. The Louisiana Hayride became known as The Cradle of the Stars. Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Johnny Horton, are just a few of the acts that went on to stardom after performing on The Louisiana Hayride. Perhaps the most prominent performer to begin his career on the stage was Elvis Presley!

Learn more at VisitShreveport-Bossier.org.

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