

Places to Go, Attractions to See, Good Stuff to Eat, Things to Drink!

Allyse Ferrara and Quenton Fontenot (well, mostly Allyse!) have put together a list of popular things to see and do in New Orleans. There is information on Museums and Attractions, Famous Bars and Great Restaurants, cheap places to eat. There is also information on local radio stations, places to buy Louisiana Music, and a list of local fishing charter guides. (The order of items is irrelevant – we like everything on this list!)

Museums and Attractions

Preservation Hall

www.preservationhall.com

726 St. Peter St.

504-522-2841

Open 7 nights a week, 8-11:00 pm

\$10 per person

Step back in time and experience New Orleans jazz in a quaint theater. Preservation Hall Jazz Band is a New Orleans classic.

New Orleans Museum of Art and Besthoff Sculpture Garden

www.noma.com

1 Collins Diboll Circle

504-658-4100

Museum: Wednesday noon – 8:00 pm, Thursday – Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sculpture Garden: Wednesday 10 am - 7:45 pm, Thursday – Sunday 10 am - 4:45 pm

Free admission through Sunday, 18 January 2009

The New Orleans Museum of Art is located in New Orleans City Park, an area that suffered tremendous damage from Hurricane Katrina. Both the Park and Museum are beautiful city landmarks. The Besthoff Sculpture Garden is beautifully landscaped and contains 57 sculptures.

Botanical Gardens

<http://neworleanscitypark.com>

City Park

1 Palm Drive

504-482-4888

Ogden Museum of Southern Art

www.ogdenmuseum.org

925 Camp Street

504-539-9600

Aquarium of the Americas (Audubon Institute)

www.auduboninstitute.org

Canal Street at the River/#1 Canal Street

1-800-774-7394

Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Adults \$17.50, Children (2-12) \$10.50, Seniors (65+) \$13.50

* Please check Audubon Institute website for combo packages (visit 2 or more and save)

Audubon Zoo (Audubon Institute)

www.auduboninstitute.org

6500 Magazine St.

1-800-774-7394

Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Adults \$12.50, Children (2-12) \$7.50, Seniors (65+) \$9.50

* Please check Audubon Institute website for combo packages (visit 2 or more and save)

Audubon Insectarium (Audubon Institute)

www.auduboninstitute.org

423 Canal Street, U.S. Customs House (corner of North Peters and Canal Street)

1-800-774-7394

Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (last entry at 4:00 pm)

Adults \$15.00, Children (2-12) \$10.00, Seniors (65+) \$12.00

* Please check Audubon Institute website for combo packages (visit 2 or more and save)

Entergy IMAX Theatre (Audubon Institute)

www.auduboninstitute.org

Canal Street at the River/#1 Canal Street

1-800-774-7394

Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Adults \$8.50, Children (2-12) \$5.50, Seniors (65+) \$7.50

* Please check Audubon Institute website for combo packages (visit 2 or more and save) and for show times and titles

The National World War II Museum

www.ddaymuseum.org

945 Magazine Street

(504) 527-6012

Tuesday – Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Louisiana Children's Museum

www.lcm.org

420 Julia Street

(504) 523-1357

Tuesday – Saturday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday Noon - 4:30 pm

French Market

www.frenchmarket.com

Artists Market

<http://www.artistsmarketnola.com/>

1228 Decatur Street

Café Du Monde

www.cafedumonde.com

800 Decatur Street (at the French Market)

504-525-4544

Open 24 hours a day

Try the original New Orleans pastry, the beignet, and coffee with chicory.

Magazine Street

www.magazinestreet.com

Six miles of unique New Orleans shops, boutiques, galleries, and restaurants.

Mardi Gras World

www.mardigrasworld.com

1-800-362-8213

Seven days a week; 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Adults \$17.50, Children (4-11) \$10.50, Seniors (65+) \$13.50

Take free Canal St. Ferry to Old Algiers, Mardi Gras World vans will pick you up

For more information on the many museums in the New Orleans area, please visit

www.neworleansmuseums.com

Bars to Visit

Pat O'Brien's Piano Bar

<http://www.patobriens.com/pianobar.htm>

718 St. Peters St.

800-597-4823

If you have never been to a piano bar, this is the one to see! This is a very entertaining way to spend an afternoon. Performers are fantastic.

Carousel Piano Bar and Lounge at the Monteleone Hotel

<http://www.hotelmonteleone.com/leisure/carouselbar.html>

214 Rue Royal (Royal Street)

(800) 535-9595

Historic revolving carousel-style bar and piano lounge.

Napoleon House

www.napoleonhouse.com

500 Charters Street

504-524-9752

Café is open MON-SUN 11:30 am to 5:30 pm

Bar is open 11:30 am - until

Don't expect fancy décor at the Napoleon House, this place doesn't need it. It's all about the history and ambiance.

Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop Bar

941 Bourbon Street

(504) 523-0066

Built before 1772, this is one of the oldest buildings in the French Quarter. The building was believed to be used by the pirate Jean Lafitte. The Blacksmith Shop is quieter than other Bourbon Street bars but is filled with ambiance and candle light.

Restaurants (Local Top Ten and our Favorites)

This is by no means a comprehensive guide to New Orleans cuisine. New Orleans is one of the culinary capitals of North America. We selected local favorites that are within walking or cab ride distance from the Royal Sonesta.

Central Grocery

923 Decatur Street (near the French Market)

Try a New Orleans original, the muffaletta, a masterpiece of Italian meats, cheeses, and olive salad on a round, sesame seed topped bread. The Central Grocery is an Italian market that opened in 1906. The market sells a wide variety of meats, cheeses, spices, and olive salad (key to a great muffaletta).

Rio Mar

www.riomarseafood.com

800 South Peters St. (corner of South Peters St. and Julia St.)

504-525-FISH (3474)

Lunch (tapas): Monday – Friday 11:30 am – 2:00 pm

Monday - Thursday 6:00 -10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 6:00 -11:00 pm

Rio Mar specializes in Spanish-inspired fresh fish and shellfish. Rio Mar has an extensive wine list and prepares a variety of Latino cocktails.

Muriel's

www.muriels.com

801 Charters St. (at Jackson Square)

504-568-1885

Lunch: Monday – Saturday 11:30 am – 2:30 pm, Sunday Jazz Brunch 11:00 am -2:00 pm

Dinner: Monday – Friday 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 5:00 pm -10:00 pm

Specializes in contemporary Creole cuisine. This historic restaurant is beautifully decorated and serves upscale local cuisine.

Galatoire's Restaurant

www.galatoires.com

209 Bourbon St.

504-525-2021

Dining Room: Sunday noon-10:00 pm, Tuesday – Saturday 11:30 – 10:00 pm

Bar: Sunday 11:30 am – til, Tuesday – Saturday 11:00 - til

Step back in time into a New Orleans classic that opened in 1905. Galatoire's won the 2005 James Beard Foundation's San Pellegrino Outstanding Restaurant Award.

Nirvana Indian Cuisine

www.insidenirvana.com

4308 Magazine St.

504-894-9797

Lunch and Dinner buffet available Thursday –Sunday, varies daily but is hearty and unique.

Lunch and Dinner menu available Tuesday – Sunday

Local favorite for Indian cuisine. Offers an extensive buffet.

Bayona

www.bayona.com

430 Dauphine St.

504-525-4455

Bayona is owned by one of the best loved chefs in New Orleans, Susan Spicer. Bayona serves updated and classic Creole cuisine and has won multiple local, national, and international awards.

NOLA

www.emerils.com

534 St. Louis St.

504-522-6652

NOLA, one of Chef Emeril Lagasse's many top quality restaurants is a blend of Creole and Cajun cuisine and is a favorite of visitors.

Antoine's

www.antoines.com

713 St. Louis St.

504-581-4422; 4044

Antoine's is the oldest restaurant in New Orleans, opening in 1840. Antoine's serves upscale French and Creole cuisine. The 15 unique, well-appointed dining rooms are decorated with local, national, and international memorabilia.

Cochon

930 Tchoupitoulas St.

504-588-2123

Cajun and southern cuisine specialties, as well as everything pork.

Commander's Palace

1403 Washington Ave.

504-899-8221

New Orleans landmark restaurant with an attentive and well informed wait staff. Ever want a personal waiter, you will have one at Commander's Palace. Unique dining experience that only New Orleans can offer.

Casamento's

4330 Magazine St.

504-895-9761

Family-owned, neighborhood restaurant since 1919. Regular winner of cleanest restaurant in New Orleans, known for raw oysters and fried seafood. Cash only – no credit cards accepted.

Drago's at the Hilton Riverside Hotel

2 Poydras St.

504-561-0500

Drago's, another New Orleans must and local favorite, serves the best charbroiled oysters as well as a wide variety of local seafood.

Herbsaint

701 St. Charles Ave. (near Lee Circle)

504-524-4114

Run by one of New Orleans' favorite chefs Donald Link. Herbsaint serves a contemporary blend of European bistro and Louisiana classics.

Liborio's

321 Magazine St.

504-581-9680

Fantastic authentic Cuban cuisine – ropa vieja, pressed Cuban sandwiches, and daily specials.

K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen

416 Charters St.

504-524-7394

Everything Chef Paul Prudhomme and his staff serve is wonderful. Chef Paul is a Cajun cuisine icon, has authored many cookbooks, and has created his own line of cooking products and seasonings.

Lüke

www.lukeneworleans.com

333 St. Charles Ave.

504-378-2840

Return of German-style food to New Orleans. Run by Chef John Besh – a local favorite. Lüke is John Besh's recreation of an old New Orleans brasserie.

Napoleon House

www.napoleonhouse.com

500 Charters Street

504-524-9752

Café is open MON-SUN 11:30 am to 5:30 pm

Bar is open 11:30 am - until

Don't expect fancy décor at the Napoleon House, this place doesn't need it. It's all about the history and ambiance.

Port of Call

www.portofcallneworleans.com

838 Esplanade Ave.

504-523-0120

Port of Call is famous for their giant burgers and baked potatoes. This is a local favorite and often has lines out the door.

ACME Oyster House

www.acmeoyster.com

724 Iberville St.

504-522-5973

Best place for a bloody Mary, oysters on the half shell and a seafood poboy. Check out the "Oyster Cam" on the website.

Desire Oyster Bar (in hotel)

Royal Sonesta Hotel, overlooking Bourbon Street

Open daily 11:30 am – until

Great seafood and New Orleans favorites. Try the Desire's version of shrimp and grits.

Begue's (in hotel)

www.beguesneworleans.com

Royal Sonesta Hotel, 300 Bourbon Street

504-553-2278

Open for breakfast and Sunday brunch

The first owner of Begue's (Madame Begue) created "brunch". Serves French and Creole cuisine. Don't miss the Sunday Champagne brunch!

Arnaud's

www.arnauds.com

813 Rue Bienville

866-230-8895 or 504-523-5433

Open for dinner, 7 nights a week starting at 6:00 pm

Serves classic Creole cuisine.

Grand Isle Restaurant

www.grandislerestaurant.com/home.php

575 Convention Center Blvd.

504-520-8530

Sunday - Thursday 11:00 am – 11:00 pm; Friday, Saturday 5:00 pm – midnight

Open and airy, decorated with Grand Isle photos and memorabilia. Specializes in seafood.

House of Blues – New Orleans

www.hob.com

225 Decatur Street

504-310-4999

Monday – Saturday 11:30 am – until

Sunday Gospel Brunch; call for reservations (504-310-4999)

Check out the webpage for listing of shows.

Serio's Po-Boys and Deli

133 St. Charles Ave.

(504) 523-2668

Open Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Serio's beat Bobby Flay in a muffaletta throwdown!

Inexpensive Places to Eat – near hotel (some serve breakfast)

Jester Daiquiris (and pizza)

Corner of Bourbon and Conti, across from hotel

French Quarter Deli and Grocery

504-592-1288 (will deliver to hotel)

806 Conti at Bourbon (behind Famous Door)

Jäger House

833 Conti Street

504-525-9200

Bistro and coffee shop that serves breakfast

Dé Jàvu

400 Dauphine Street (Corner of Conti and Dauphine)

Serves breakfast 24 hours a day.

Compac General Store

Corner of Dauphine and St. Louis

Rouse's Grocery Store (Market #30)

<http://rouses.com>

Corner of St. Peter and Royal (701 Royal Street)

504-523-1353

Open daily 7:00 am to 1:00 am

Full service grocery with many Cajun specialties. Cheap place to buy local food-related gifts. Rouse's makes many local sauces and dressings.

Lucky Dogs (vendor carts – you can't miss them!)

www.luckydogs.us

Music Stores

Louisiana Music Factory

www.louisianamusicfactory.com

210 Decatur Street

504-586-1094

Probably the most extensive collection of Louisiana and New Orleans music. You can find everything from brass bands to all types of jazz to Cajun to zydeco to swamp pop. Staff is very knowledgeable and several listening stations are available. Even if you don't plan to buy cds, you may change your mind after visiting the LA Music Factory.

Street Musicians

You may be taking a chance buying a cd off-the-street but we have never been disappointed (most of the off-the-street cds we have bought were from brass bands). Prices are usually \$10-15, cash only. Look for one of our favorites, TBC Brass Band, near the corner of Bourbon Street and Canal Street or at Jackson Square.

Radio Stations

WWOZ – Independent radio station (90.7 FM; www.wwoz.org). This station rocks with local music! There are a few non-local programs but overall this is a local music station.

WWNO – Local National Public Radio Station (90.5 FM; www.wwno.org) that airs news, and music shows – our favorite is American Roots on Sunday evenings, beginning at 6 pm CST.

Fishing Charters in New Orleans/southeast Louisiana Area – please call ahead to make sure your desired guide is fishing in January.

Johnny Glover

Coco Marina

106 Pier 56

Chauvin, LA 70344

504-594-6626

Capt. Kenny Kreeger

136 Bermuda Drive

Slidell, LA 70458

985-960-3068

Capt. John Aucoin
Hawkeye Fishing Charters
125 E. 52nd Street
Cut Off, LA 70345
985-637-1103

Kenny Campo
1301 Yscloskey Hwy
St. Bernard, LA 70085
504-427-8530

Capt. Tim Ursin, Sr.
Escape Charters
210 Blackfin Cove
Slidell, LA 70458
985-847-0672

Capt. Phil Robichaux
Phil's Fishing Charters
4775 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Lafitte, LA 70067
504-689-2006

Capt. Hildreth Wegener
703 Plantation Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448
985-674-0342

Johnny Nunez
Fishing Magician Charters
504-239-3159
504-676-3317