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MORRIS COMMUNICATIONS

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Q: You’re a former funeral director. How is that similar to being a concierge?
A: If I do my job right, there’s almost no crying. No, really, the greatest joy I get out of this job is when people leave loving New Orleans and experiencing something they would not have done if they didn’t have a concierge. I don’t see me doing anything else—until I’m serviced through my old industry.

Q: Your hotel is located on Lee Circle, which is a prime parade-viewing spot.
A: Every parade either stalls or brakes down at the corner of Lee Circle and St. Charles. Last year I got eight Muses shoes; it looked like I had mugged a drag queen. I ended up giving them to guests.

Q: You also conduct a trivia night at Crescent City BBQ (p. 21) Mondays at 7 pm. Share a piece of NOLA trivia.
A: Dr. Teeth from “The Muppet Show” house band was inspired by Dr. John.

Q: Suggest a hidden dining gem.
A: The Bombay Club (p. 21); it’s almost the perfect place. Also Mandina’s (p. 25), which has the best red beans and rice. You’ll need a nap after; they feed you like you’re going to the electric chair.

Q: The Tennessee Williams Festival or the New Orleans Bourbon Fest?
A: I’d flask bourbon and go to the Tennessee Williams Fest…which is much easier than reading Tennessee Williams at the Bourbon Festival.
The Essential New Orleans

Spring officially arrives March 20, which is nature’s way of telling you to get out and explore the city a bit. Visitors will find the Garden District in full bloom this month, green beer flowing in the Irish Channel and crawfish boils popping up all over town, from Bywater to Algiers Point. Dig in, and get your hands dirty.

Algiers Point

That area across the river from the French Quarter? That’s Algiers, New Orleans’ second-oldest neighborhood, which is easily accessed via the Algiers ferry. Established in 1719, the Point—the neighborhood near the ferry—is a network of small streets lined with charming houses in an array of architectural styles. Landmarks include the Jazz Walk of Fame, just to the right of the ferry landing; the circa-1896 Algiers courthouse; Holy Name of Mary Church, an enormous Gothic cathedral with stunning stained glass; and Rosetree Glass Studio, located in a 1930s art deco theater. Grab a bite at one of the neighborhood cafés, tip a pint at the British-themed Crown & Anchor Pub or catch a band at the Old Point Bar, one of the city’s best-kept live music secrets.

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TOP STOPS

28 additional ideas worth entertaining.

CIVIC THEATRE
Mar. 10: Kurt Vile and the Violators. 510 O'Keefe St., 504.272.0865

THE FILLMORE
Mar. 1: Dropkick Murphys; Mar. 4: Steel Panther; Mar. 9: Franco Escamilla; Mar. 17: Ben Rector; Mar. 19: Nothing More; Mar. 21: Brothers Osborne; Mar. 23: Haters Roast; Mar. 24: Bob Weir; Mar. 27: The Hooters; Mar. 29: Jason Isbell. 6 Canal St., 504.881.1555

HOUSE OF BLUES
Mar. 5: Wiz Khalifa; Mar. 15: Blues Traveler; Mar. 29: Reverend Horton Heat. 225 Decatur St., 504.529.2583

JOY THEATER
Mar. 1: Noname; Mar. 14: Travis Greene. 1200 Canal St., 504.528.9569

ORPHEUM THEATER
Mar. 19: Amos Lee. 129 Roosevelt Way, 504.274.4870

SMOOTHIE KING CENTER

HOT DATES

MARCH 12-31: Hamilton
Who would have imagined rapping revolutionaries would revolutionize Broadway? Lin-Manuel Miranda’s adaptation of Ron Chernow’s best-selling bio of Alexander Hamilton has done just that, playing to sold-out audiences since its 2015 debut, and garnering 11 Tony Awards, a Grammy and a Pulitzer along the way. Melding hip-hop, R&B, jazz and pop with good old Broadway show tunes, the game-changing musical follows the life of the nation’s first Secretary of the Treasury, from his orphan youth (“The 10-dollar Founding Father without a father”) to his death by duel at the hands of vice president Aaron Burr. Catch the touring production at the Saenger Theatre. 1111 Canal St., 800.745.3000

Great Things Not to Be Missed

1 FREEDIA GRAS > MARCH 2 & 3
Think Carnival couldn’t get any crazier? Think again. The “Queen of Bounce” joins with rapper Pell and indie rockers Sweet Crude for this build-up to the big blowout. One Eyed Jacks, 615 Toulouse St., 504.569.8361

2 FAT TUESDAY > MARCH 5
Zulu, Rex, the Society of St. Anne, the Bourbon Street Awards, the Mardi Gras Indians, St. Charles Avenue, Frenchmen Street, Orleans Avenue. There’s no way to see everything and be everywhere on Mardi Gras Day…but it sure is fun trying. Pace yourself for the “biggest free party on earth.”

3 AVETT BROTHERS > MARCH 15 & 16
Americana, alt-country, bluegrass-rock: The hard-to-peg group breaks in the new Fillmore New Orleans with back-to-back performances. 6 Canal St., 800.745.3000

4 PINK > MARCH 17
She flies through the air with the greatest of ease, all the while belting out 18 years of solid gold hits. Catch the pop icon’s “Beautiful Trauma” tour when it swings into the Smoothie King Center. 1501 Dave Dixon Dr., 504.881.1555

5 WEDNESDAY AT THE SQUARE > MARCH 20 & 27
This free outdoor concert series features weekly performances by local musicians, from 5 to 8 pm, at Lafayette Square. St. Charles Ave. and Lafayette St., ylc>nola.org

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LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Secrets of the City

15 hidden gems worth seeking out
WINDOWS INTO NOLA
Pass in front of Brennan’s (p. 22) and, through a window to the far right of the entrance, you’ll see the kitchen staff preparing such signature dishes as eggs Hussarde and steak Diane. You can also peek in on the muffuletta-making action through a side window at the Napoleon House (p. 24), while a small, barred window between 519 and 521 Royal Street affords views of Antoine’s legendary wine cellar. Love the beignets at Café Du Monde (p. 22), but hate the long lines? Skip the table wait, grab a to-go order and take a seat along the wall in the back, where you can watch them being made through a rear window.

THE ART OF DISCOVERY
With its covered-over windows, passersby might think A Gallery (p. 34) had long been shuttered. But the barrier actually serves as a sunshade, protecting the wealth of fine-art photography that lies within. Enter M.S. Rau (p. 36) and you’re greeted by a security guard, which makes sense given the $10-million blue diamond on display. Pass the silver pirate swords and gilt-bronze candelabras, hang a right at the Ice Age cave-bear skeleton and head for the faux bookshelf in the back. There you’ll find a secret door that leads to the really good stuff—three floors of fine art and furnishings from the 16th through 21st centuries. Free tours are offered Saturdays at 2 pm.

GREEN-SPACE GETAWAYS
Until recently views the mighty Mississippi were limited to a small area of the French Quarter. That all changed with the opening of the riverfront Crescent Park (p. 40), which connects the Quarter to the Bywater and offers sweeping skyline vistas. The Lafitte Greenway (p. 42) was once a canal linking Bayou St. John to the Quarter. It’s now a public promenade dotted with wildflowers, recreation fields and beer gardens; check it out during Hike Fest (March 23). From his arrival in 1929 to his death in 1999, Enrique Alférez established himself as one of New Orleans’ most popular artists. The Enrique Alférez Sculpture Garden in City Park (p. 40) brings together 14 of his most important—and beautiful—pieces in one tranquil setting.

MURAL, MURAL ON THE WALL
It’s hard to miss the sunny exterior of Studio BE (p. 39), but step inside to really be wowed. The sprawling space is the perfect fit for artist Brandan Odums’ massive, statement-making murals. For all of the destruction Hurricane Katrina wrought, there was one positive that followed in its wake: After five decades of being shrouded in sheetrock at the art deco Lakefront Airport (6001 Stars & Stripes Blvd.), Xavier Gonzalez’s circa-1938 depictions of famous travel destinations have been uncovered, restored and returned to public view. At Union Passenger Terminal (1001 Loyola Ave.), you’ll discover Conrad Albrizio’s 1954 fresco, which traces 400 years of Louisiana history and ranks as one of the largest in the U.S.

ARCHITECTURAL WONDERS
Despite its name, the majority of French Quarter architecture is actually from the city’s Spanish-ruling period. For a real piece of Paris, head to the Garden District, home to the Eiffel Society (2040 St. Charles Ave.), an events space constructed from the famed tower’s former restaurant. A short streetcar ride away is the Milton H. Latter Memorial Library (5120 St. Charles Ave.), a must-visit for bibliophiles, housed in a 1907 neo-Italianate mansion. It takes a car to access the Holy Cross neighborhood’s historic “steamboat houses” (400 and 503 Egania St.). But the twin ornamental beauties, built in the early 1900s for husband-and-wife riverboat pilots Milton and Mary Doullut and their son Paul, are worth going the distance for.
GET YOUR GROOVE ON

- **THE BUKU MUSIC + ART PROJECT** makes a big noise along the riverfront March 22-23, with Lana Del Ray, ASAP Rocky, Dog Blood and 60 additional alternative, hip-hop, EDM, R&B and indie acts sharing multiple stages in and around Mardi Gras World. Between sets, check out the cool art installations. thebukuproject.com

- **THE CONGO SQUARE RHYTHMS FESTIVAL** celebrates the Afro-Caribbean music and culture that put the square on the map (it’s said jazz originated at the site) and helped shape the city’s musical legacy. African drumming and dance, Mardi Gras Indians, brass bands, New Orleans and Caribbean cuisine—you’ll find it all and then some during this free fling March 30-31 at Armstrong Park. jazzandheritage.org/congo-square

**Tenn Types**

The French Quarter gets lit March 27-31 during the 33rd annual Tennessee Williams Literary Festival. Headquartered at the Hotel Monteleone (a national literary landmark), the salute to “America’s greatest playwright” features panel discussions with writers from around the country. But it’s not as heady as it may sound. There are also performances of “Suddenly Last Summer” and “Baby Doll,” a burlesque tribute, literary walking tours and the raucous Stanley and Stella Shouting Contest. See…reading can be fun. tennesseewilliams.net

**Triple Treat**

Mardi Gras isn’t the only parade game around town this month.

**ST. PATRICK’S DAY**

Irish eyes will be shining March 15, when *Jim Monaghan’s Irish Parade* kicks off from Molly’s at the Market (1107 Decatur St.) at 6 pm. Magazine Street (between Napoleon and Jackson) is the place to be the following day when the *Irish Channel St. Patrick’s Parade* rolls at 1:30 pm. Rounding out the green scene is the *Downtown Irish Club Parade*, which starts in the Bywater neighborhood (Burgundy and Piety streets) March 17 at 6 pm.

**SUPER SUNDAY**

March 17 is also when *Mardi Gras Indian tribes* strut their feathered-and-beaded finery around the Central City neighborhood. Follow the crowds to A.L. Davis Park (Washington and Lasalle streets) at noon.

**ST. JOSEPH’S DAY**

On March 19 Catholic churches citywide erect food-laden altars in homage St. Joseph. The 49th annual *Italian-American St. Joseph’s Parade* follows March 23, starting at 6 pm at Canal and Chartres and continuing through the Quarter.

**BEAD TOWN**

March roars in like a lion with 15 Mardi Gras parades hitting the streets in its first five days. Don’t let them pass you by.

- **March 1**
  - Hermes, Uptown, 6 pm
  - Krewé d’Etat, Uptown, 6:30 pm
  - Morpheus, Uptown, 7 pm

- **March 2**
  - Iris, Uptown, 11 am
  - Tucks, Uptown, noon
  - Endymion, Mid-City, 4:15 pm

- **March 3**
  - Mid-City, Uptown, 11:45 am
  - Thoth, Uptown, noon
  - Bacchus, Uptown, 5:15 pm

- **March 4**
  - Red Beans/Dead Beans, Marigny/Mid-City, 2 pm
  - Proteus, Uptown, 5:15 pm
  - Orpheus, Uptown, 6 pm

- **March 5**
  - Zulu, Uptown, 8 am
  - Rex, Uptown, 10 am
Hot Dish
What’s new, now and not to be missed

CLESI’S
Traditional New Orleans dishes, a few fusion items and boiled seafood form the foundation of this casual Mid-City spot. Grab a pile of napkins and order a messy roast beef po’boy or go wild with the carb-bomb Jambalaya Cheese Fries. A classic meal is the way to go: gumbo, some boiled seafood (whatever is in season), fried seafood, onion rings and sweet bread pudding. It’s can’t-miss good. 4323 Bienville St., 504.909.0180

ESPIRITU
In the middle of a quiet Warehouse district block, between Camp and Magazine streets, there is mezcal and Mexican food. Go heavy on the avocado options with a properly tart, salty and creamy guacamole, topped (or not) with “chipulines” (dried grass-hoppers), and the stuffed avocado that pairs tender chunks of avo and octopus. End with straight shots of smoky mezcal and cinnamon-sugar-dusted churros to dunk in spiced, melted chocolate. 520 Capdeville St., 504.267.4975

QUE RICO
New Orleans is experiencing a bit of Cuban food moment. At Que Rico, the dining room is simply appointed, with good energy, and the menu follows suit. This is Cuban food 101. Best options include tender roasted pork (lechon asado) with garlicky sour-orange sauce; ham croquetas; Bistec a la Palomilla (thin strip steak with sautéed onions); the Medianocche sandwich; and two really interesting vegan options: a Vegan Cubano and Cauliflower Criolla. A sweet cafecito (Cuban coffee demitasse) goes well with the dense cinnamon flan. 4200 Magazine St., 504.827.1398 —LG

FOOD+DRINK
Noshing Under the Radar
New Orleans’ food scene is a crown filled with gems both obvious and hidden. It’s those lesser-known spots, tucked into neighborhoods across town, that give heft to that headline. Here are a handful worth mining.

A particularly interesting and delicious way to understand Louisiana’s foodways is through farmers’ markets. For some time, the Crescent City Farmers Market (crescentcityfarmersmarket.org) has been operating Tuesday mornings in Uptown, Thursday late-afternoons in Mid-City and Saturday mornings in the Warehouse District. The scene recently expanded, with a new market in Bywater near Crescent Park (p. 40) and a Friday market at Bucktown Harbor along the lakefront. Both take place from 3 to 7 pm, and are exurberatingly close to iconic restaurants with everything from pizza to po’ boys.

Just off Metairie Road behind Nor-Joe’s (an incredible Italian market and eatery), Kelly Mayhew, a reformed fine-dining chef now baker extraordinaire, throws open the window of his Mayhew Bakery (131 Nursery Ave., Metairie, 843.814.3020). From 1 to 6 pm Mondays and Fridays, he retails jaw-dropping baguettes, specialty breads, pastries, cookies and whatever he damn well pleases.

There are other former white-tablecloth chefs keeping their skills razor-sharp in smaller, more low-key spaces. On the French Quarter side of the river, chef Alfredo Nogueira (formerly of Publican in Chicago) explores his Cuban roots at Cane & Table (p. 22), with Havana-inspired dishes dotting both the dinner and brunch menus. Across the Mississippi, world cuisines and American comfort foods are the playground for chef Pete Vazquez, whose tiny (no seating) Appetite Repair Shop (p. 27) is just a quick ferry hop away. His place inspired chef Bob Iacovone’s cool micro-café, Iacovone Kitchen (5033 Freret St., 504.533.9742). Daily menus include stunning handmade pastas, soups and more. There is a small amount of seating for dining in and lots of opportunities for killer people-watching.

More than diamonds in the rough, these hidden dining gems complete New Orleans’ culinary crown. —Lorin Gaudin

ON THE SIDE
Long ago there was a local pub called Audubon Tavern II, where the feature was late-night burgers, cheese-covered steak fries and easy-drinking American beer. Heaven. Call it nostalgic food memory, there’s something special about foods and places that operate with an old-school attitude. The Vintage (3121 Magazine St., 504.324.7144) lives that what’s-old-is-new-again life. The concept is simple—coffee, beignets, spirits and bites—casual, comfortable and delicious. Bringing basic back, the menu offers AT2’s Cheese Fries with Miller ponies. Put on some chinos and Sperry topsiders, hit a show at a local music venue, then pop by The Vintage and relive that ‘70s/’80s coed life with beer and cheese fries...and maybe a Negroni or two. Vintage is cool. —LG
Central Business/Warehouse District

THE AMERICAN SECTOR—American. A nostalgic homage to wartime classics, this National WWII Museum eatery features such kicked-up throwbacks as Frito pie served in the bag, meatloaf with garlic-mashed potatoes and “Victory Garden” carrot cake. $$ L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.ww2eats.com. 945 Magazine St., 504.528.1940.


BRIQUETTE—Seafood. Contemporary coastal is the catch at this sprawling Warehouse District space. Follow the caramelized sea scallops with lump crab bisque, then dive into Louisiana redfish with crawfish relish or crispy-skin salmon with seaweed-wakame salad. $$$ D (nightly). www.briquette-nola.com. 701 S. Peters St., 504.302.7496.

CHOPHOUSE NEW ORLEANS—Steaks. Forget the standard sauces and heavy sides; the focus at this upscale-casual steakhouse is on its top-quality, USDA prime-only meats. An uncomplicated menu, easygoing atmosphere and live entertainment make Chophouse a cut above. $$$ D (nightly). www.chophousenola.com. 322 Magazine St., 504.522.7902.

COCHON—Louisiana. Many restaurants profess to be “better than your mama’s,” but chefs Donald Link and Stephen Stryjewski’s lives up to the claim with haute twists on simple standards, such as deep-fried hog head cheese with field peas or rabbit and dumplings. The adjacent Cochon Butcher offers sandwiches and house-cured meats. $$ L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.cochonrestaurant.com. 930 Tchoupitoulas St., 504.588.2123.

COMPÈRE LAPIN—Caribbean. A native of St. Lucia, chef Nina Compton’s island upbringing is evident in dishes such as conch croquettes with pickled pineapple tartar sauce, spiced pig ears with smoked aioli and curried goat with sweet potato gnocchi. $$ L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.comperelapin.com. 535 Tchoupitoulas St., 504.599.2119.

COPPER VINE—American. Along with 30 varietals on tap and an additional 20 by the glass, this easygoing “wine pub” serves up caviar-topped oysters, a wide variety of flatbreads and heartier fare, such as skirt steak with duck fat fries. $$ L, D (daily). www.coppervinewine.com. 1001 Poydras St., 504.208.9535.

EMERIL’S—Louisiana. Emeril Lagasse’s flagship sets the course for the Lagasse empire. Opened in 1990, this is where the celebrated chef created many of his classic dishes, including barbecued shrimp, andouille-crusted drum,
Patio Dining - Happy Hour - Dinner - Sunday Brunch

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SATURDAY NOON - 2AM
SUNDAY 10 AM - MIDNIGHT

JOSEPHINE ESTELLE—Italian. At this casual Ace Hotel eatery snapper crudo with browned butter dances elegantly between raw and cooked, the pastas are toothy and each dish has some beautifully surprising element that lingers long after the meal. $$ B (M-F); L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.josephineestelle.com. 600 Carondelet St., 504.930.3070. Map 3, C5

MAYPOP—Vietnamese. Chef Michael Gulotta expands on his Asian-fusion food theme in a bright, open space. Tear pieces of warm roti bread to scoop whole roasted pumpkin, apple and house coppa, or go spicy with vindaloo chicken. $$$ L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.maypoprestaurant.com. 611 O’Keefe St., 504.518.6345. Map 3, B4


PÊCHE—Seafood. Donald Link and Stephen Stryjewski (the award-winning team behind pork-centric Cochon) have another winner on their hands. The focus here is on chef Ryan Prewitt’s simple seafood grilled over hardwood coals… and it couldn’t be better. From the raw bar to the whole grilled fish, you can’t go wrong. $$ L, D (daily).

RED GRAY—Italian. This cozy brunch bistro is known for its traditional Italian dishes and not-so-typical breakfast and lunch specials. Try the Sicilian egg pie or cannoli pancakes. Skillet cakes, waffles, overstuffed sandwiches, handmade pasta and baked goods round out the menu. $$. Open W-M. www.redgraycafe.com. 125 Camp St., 504.561.8844. Map 3, C5

WILL JEAN BAKERY—Bakery. Pastry chef Kelly Fields, known for her beautiful baked goods, shows off her savory sides as well in dishes such as braised lamb pasta with mint pesto. Need a biscuit? This is the place. $$. Open B, L (M-F); D (daily). www.willajean.com. 611 O’Keefe Ave., 504.509.7334. Map 3, B4

Central City


MAIS AREPAS—Latin. An upscale Creole-Colombian restaurant that puts overstuffed, filled corn pockets (arepas) front and center, the best of which is loaded with sweet plantains, skirt steak and melted Oaxaca cheese. $$. L (Tu-Sa), D (Tu-Su). 1200 Carondelet St., 504.930.3071. Map 3, C5

TOUPS SOUTH—Southern. Chef Isaac Toups creates museum-quality Southern cuisine at the Southern Food & Beverage Museum’s in-house eatery. Homey fare, such as biscuits with crab fat butter, goat tamales and fried black-eyed pea salad with cornbread croutons, offer a taste of the region’s delicious diversity. $$$. L, D (M, W-Sa); Br (Su). www.toupssouth.com. 1504 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd., 504.304.2147. Map 1, D3

French Quarter

ACME OYSTER HOUSE—Seafood. For locals, the name Acme is synonymous with raw oysters. Since 1910, Acme’s signature marble-topped bar has served up countless bivalves on the half shell. Other regional specialties include fried oyster po’boys, gumbo Poopa and jambalaya. $$$. Open W-M. www.acmeoyster.com. 724 Iberville St., 504.522.5973. Map 3, E4; 3000 Veterans Blvd., Metairie, 504.309.4056. Map 1, C2; 8 Canal St. (inside Harrah’s Casino), 504.708.2409. Map 3, E6

ANTOINE’S—Creole. Established in 1840, Antoine’s is New Orleans’ oldest restaurant and a living treasure. The great-great-great-grandchildren of founder Antoine Alciatore run the place as he wanted, which means rich French-Creole food, courtly waiters and an atmosphere of hospitality and tradition. $$$$ L, D (M-Sa); Br (Su). www.antoines.com. 713 St. Louis St., 504.581.4422. Map 3, F4

ARNAUD’S—Creole. In this magic castle of dining rooms, Arnaud’s continues a tradition begun in 1918. The restaurant was assembled piecemeal over the decades, which is part of its charm. Shrimp Arnaud, Oysters Bienville and Café Brûlot are three of the many famous dishes. $$$$ D (daily); jazz brunch (Su). www.arnauds.com. 813 Bienville St., 504.523.5433. Map 3, B4

BAYONA—American. Nestled in a 200-year-old Creole cottage, Bayona continues its reign as one of the city’s best restaurants. Chef Susan Spicer’s menu continually surprises with fresh specials, but still includes her signatures: grilled shrimp with black-bean cakes and cornander sauce, and that nonpareil garlic soup. $$$. L (W-Sa), D (M-Sa). www.bayona.com. 430 Dauphine St., 504.325.4455. Map 3, F3

THE BOMBAY CLUB—Louisiana. Chef Phillip Todd’s European-inspired Louisiana cuisine is a perfect fit for this swanky spot tucked into the Prince Conti Hotel. Cultures combine in dishes such as boudin Scotch eggs and Abita beer-battered fish and chips. Great cocktails and live music nightly. $$. D (nightly), Br (Sa-Su). www.bombayclubneworleans.com. 830 Conti St., 504.577.2237. Map 3, F4
BOURBON HOUSE—Seafood. A standout addition to Dickie Brennan’s restaurant empire. Stylish seafood dishes are complemented with outstanding filets and sides—don’t miss the redfish on the half shell with jumbo lump crab or the bourbon-glazed shrimp, a unique twist on the classic barbecued version. $$ B, L, D (daily). www.bourbonhouse.com. 144 Bourbon St., 504.522.0111. Map 3, E4


BROUSSARD’S—Creole. Broussard’s, established in 1920, remains one of the city’s premier fine dining spots, with one of the most elegant courtyards in the Quarter. Chef Jake Shapiro turns out long-popular classics, such as turtle soup and bronzed redfish with lump crab and mirliton slaw. Tradition never tasted so good. $$$ D (nightly); jazz brunch (F-Su). www.broussards.com. 819 Conti St., 504.581.3866. Map 3, F4

CAFÉ BEIGNET—Coffee. Along with the city’s signature pastry and all-day breakfast, this trio of casual cafés serves up small bites in a Big Easy atmosphere. Dive into Cajun classics, such as jambalaya and gumbo, while enjoying live music and libations. www.cafebeignet.com. $ B, L, D (daily). 311 Bourbon St., 504.525.2611. Map 3, F4; 334-B Royal St., 504.524.5530. Map 3, F4; 600 Decatur St., 504.581.6554 Map 3, G5

CAFÉ DU MONDE—Coffee. No visit to the Crescent City is complete without a stop at Café Du Monde, in operation since 1862. On the menu: café au lait (made with ground chicory root) and beignets, the unofficial doughnuts of New Orleans. $ Open 24h (daily). www.cafedumonde.com. 800 Decatur St., 504.525.4544. Map 3, G5

CANE & TABLE—Cuban. This rum-centric restaurant provides a taste of the tropics and the city’s Caribbean connection. Classic cocktails are given clever contemporary twists, while island flavors inform the “seasonal smart” menu in dishes such as ropa vieja and crispy ribs with pepper jelly-papaya glaze. $$ D (nightly), Br (Sa-Su). www.caneandtablenola.com. 1113 Decatur St., 504.581.1112. Map 3, I5

CENTRAL GROCERY—Deli. This Italian deli-grocery is a shrine to old New Orleans, and is the place to acquaint yourself with the classic muffuletta sandwich: layers of provolone cheese, olive salad, pickled vegetables, mortadella, salami and ham. $ L (daily). www.centralgrocery.com. 923 Decatur St., 504.523.1620. Map 3, H5

COURT OF TWO SISTERS—Creole. No French Quarter visit would be complete without a meal at this romantic restaurant, which features a daily jazz brunch and a nightly a la carte menu. Creole and Cajun cuisine, combined with southern hospitality and a magical patio setting, makes for a memorable dining experience. $$ Br, D (daily). www.courtoftwosisters.com. 613 Royal St., 504.522.7261. Map 3, G4


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His Chartres Street restaurant is an elegant spot to sample some K-Paul classics, including okra gumbo, jambalaya, bronzed swordfish and blackened beef tenders. $$$$ D (M-Sa). www.kpauls.com. 416 Chartres St., 504.596.2530. Map 3, F4

KILLER POBOYS—Contemporary. This tiny hole-in-the-wall has garnered big buzz with its “internationally inspired, chef-crafted” takes on the standard po’boy. Try the rum-braised pork belly version with lime-infused slaw and seared shrimp with sriracha aioli. $$$ L (W-Su); D (nightly). www.killerpoboys.com. 219 Dauphine St., 504.462.7231. Map 3, F3; 811 Conti St., 504.252.6745. Map 3, F4

KRISTAL—American. Since 1932 Krystal has been satisfying big appetites with its small, square burgers, making it the oldest quick-service chain in the Southeast. $24h (daily). www.krystal.com. 116 Bourbon St., 504.523.4030. Map 3, F4

LATITUDE 29—Eclectic. Tiki guru Jeff “Beachbum” Berry’s seriously cool, new-school tiki bar and restaurant recalls the spirit of Trader Vic’s. Classic tiki cocktails and Caribbean confections are paired with “PolynAsian” fare, such as sticky ribs and Hawaiian Cuban sandwiches. $$ L (F-Sa), D (daily). www.latitude29nola.com. 321 N. Peters St., 504.609.3811. Map 3, F5


MÉAUXBAR—French. A proper tiki bar with a deliberate, modern menu. Dishes include escargot with shiitakes in brandy cream sauce and foraged mushrooms will make you linger a while. $ L (F-Su), D (nightly). www.longwaytavern.com. 719 Toulouse St., no phone. Map 3, H4

MR. B’S BISTRO—Louisiana. Bustling Mr. B’s is another outstanding Brennan family restaurant, famed for its deceptively casual power-lunch scene. Must-tries include the barbecued shrimp and bread pudding in Irish whiskey sauce. $$ L (M-Sa), D (nightly); jazz brunch (Su). www.mrbbsbistro.com. 201 Royal St., 504.523.2078. Map 3, E4

MIURIEL’S JACKSON SQUARE—Creole. Overlooking Jackson Square, Muriei’s features several dining rooms and a cozy bar. Enjoy chef Erik Veney’s contemporary Creole dishes such as crawfish-and-goat cheese crepes, pecan-crusted puppy dum and pain perdu bread pudding. $$ L, D (daily); Br (Su). www.muriei’s.com. 201 Royal St., 504.548.1885. Map 3, G4

NAPOLEON HOUSE—Louisiana. Napoleon never slept here, but this historic café and bar, with its peeling walls and worn charm, has its share of French ambiance. The café serves soups, seafood gumbo, salads, sandwiches and warm muffuletas; the bar serves its famous Pimm’s Cups. $ L, D (daily). www.napoleonhouse.com. 500 Chartres St., 504.524.9752. Map 3, F4


NINE ROSES CAFÉ—Vietnamese. The Westbank Vietnamese food haven now offers a smaller French Quarter location. An edited version of its giant menu features such signature dishes as pho, banh mi, rice plates, noodle bowls and spring rolls. $$ L, D (M-Sa). 620 Conti St., 504.324.9450. Map 3, F4


OLE SAINT KITCHEN & TAP—Louisiana. At former Saints running back Deuce McAllister’s eatery, diners score New Orleans classics (such as oyster stew and soft-shell crab sandwiches), along with 50-plus beers on tap and an additional 40 offered by the bottle. $$$ B, L, D (daily). www.olesaint.com. 152 Royal St., 504.309.4797. Map 3, E4

PALACE CAFÉ—Creole. Part of the Brennan restaurant empire, the Palace offers a sweeping view of Canal Street. Standouts include the savory crab-and-cheddar oysters, meat cheesecake, andouille-crusted Gulf fish and white chocolate bread pudding. $$ B, L (M-F), D (nightly); Sa-Su jazz brunch. www.palacecafe.com. 605 Canal St., 504.523.1661. Map 3, E4

RED FISH GRILL—Seafood. Grilled fish too plain? Not here. The hickory-grilled redfish topped with crab or crawfish is a modern classic, and the other specialties (barbecued oysters, double-chocolate bread pudding) are all exceptional. $$ L, D (daily). www.redfishgrill.com. 115 Bourbon St., 504.598.1200. Map 3, E4

REMOULADE—Louisiana. Arnaud’s operates this tres casual bistro spin-off of its adjacent restaurant, serving favorites such as po’boys, spicy boiled seafood and jambalaya. $ L, D (daily). www.remoulade.com. 309 Bourbon St., 504.523.0377. Map 3, F4

RESTAURANT R’EVOLUTION—Louisiana. Famed chefs John Folse and Rick Tramonto are the tour de force behind this elegant-yet-relaxed fine dining venue. The rooms are gorgeously appointed, while the menu is made up of modern reinterpretations of classic Cajun and Creole cuisine. Swamp chic, city sleek. $$$$ L (F), D (nightly); Br (Su). www.revolutionnola.com. 777 Bienville St. (inside the Royal Sonesta Hotel), 504.553.2277. Map 3, F5

STANLEY—Eclectic. Retro soda fountain ambiance meets a modern menu at this upscale diner. The adventuresome can try the eggs Benedict po’boy, while Reuben sandwiches, burgers and ice cream sundaes fulfill more conventional cravings. $$ B, L, D (daily). www.stanleyrestaurant.com. 547 St. Ann St., 504.587.0093. Map 3, H4

SYLVAIN—Contemporary. Elegant chandeliers dangle overhead at this sophisticated gastro pub just off Jackson Square. As diners sip on handcrafted cocktails and nibble refined comfort classics, such as “Chick Syl-vain” sandwiches and pasta Bolognese. $$ L (nightly); Br (F-Su). www.sylvainnola.com. 625 Chartres St., 504.265.8123. Map 3, G4

TABLEAU—Creole. Housed in historic Le Petit Theatre, Dickie Brennan’s Jackson Square bistro

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The Garden District offers two bars, balcony and courtyard dining and applause-worthy French-Creole dishes by chef John Martin. $$. L (M-Sa), D (nightly); Br (daily). www.tableaufrenchquarter.com. 616 St. Peter St., 504.934.3463. Map 3, G4

TRINITY—Louisiana. The menu here pays homage to the “trinity” of flavors, elements and techniques in New Orleans cuisine. Hush puppies get richness from duck fat, while the cucumber salad refreshes with crisp apples and pears perfectly with the citrusy seared snapper. $$$ D (Tu-Su); Br (Sa-Su). www.trinityrestaurantneworleans.com. 1117 Decatur St., 504.325.5789. Map 3, I5

Garden District/
Lower Garden District

COMMANDER’S PALACE—Creole. This beloved turquoise palace is a shrine for food worshippers. Chef Tory McPhail carries on the Brennan family tradition of adventurous food based on Creole principles, served in a courtly atmosphere. $$$. L (M-F), D (nightly); jazz brunch (Sa-Su). www.commanderspalace.com. 1403 Washington Ave., 504.899.8221. Map 1, D4

COQUETTE—French. What do you get when you mix traditional Louisianian cooking with spicy Italian and refined French? Coquette, where the menu changes daily but is always stellar with standouts like the must-have crab cakes making repeat appearances. $$$. D (nightly); Br (Sa-Su). www.coquettenola.com. 2800 Magazine St., 504.265.0421. Map 1, D4

JACK ROSE—Contemporary. This bold, contemporary space in the tony Ponchartrain Hotel turns out playful versions of familiar foods. Think tableside Caesars of kale and cauliflower or squid-ink pasta with shrimp in a cayenne-kicked barbecue sauce. Cool cocktails; gorgeous desserts. $$$ L (F), D (W-Su); Br (Sa-Su). www.jackroserestaurant.com. 2031 St. Charles Ave., 504.323.1500. Map 1, D4

MOLLY’S RISE & SHINE—Breakfast. The sandwich gurus behind Turkey and The Wolf also operate this equally funky breakfast spot. Collard greens and grits, sweet potato burritos, deviled egg tostadas, roasted-carrot yogurt—expect the unexpected. $$ B (W-M); Br (Sa-Su). www.jacksroserestaurant.com. 2031 St. Charles Ave., 504.323.1500. Map 1, D4

SUCRÉ—Dessert. This chic spot is worth a visit for the décor alone. But while you’re there, might as well try some of the elegant chocolates, house-made gelato and must-have macarons. $ Open daily. www.sucrosce.com. 3025 Magazine St., 504.520.8311. Map 1, D4; 622 Conti St., 504.267.7098. Map 3, F4; Lakeside Shopping Center, 3301 Veterans Blvd., Metairie. 504.834.2299. Map 1, C2

TURKEY AND THE WOLF—Eclectic. Sandwiches are the menu mainstay at this casual café: fried baloney with American cheese and chips, chicken fried steak, crab meat and crab-boat potatoes served open-face. Don’t miss the wedge salad with blue cheese and “everything bagel!” crunchies. $. L (W-M); www.turkeyandthewolf.com. 739 Jackson Ave., 504.218.7428. Map 1, D4

Marigny/Bywater

BACCHANAL—Eclectic. This combo wine retail shop/bar/live music venue is also a full-blown restaurant. Dive into “international bistro” fare, while local bands perform in the shady backyard. Upstairs offers indoor seating and a full bar. $$ L, D (daily). www.bacchanalwine.com. 600 Poland Ave., 504.948.1111. Map 1, E3

BYWATER AMERICAN BISTRO—American. The menu at this casual neighborhood spot focuses on local, seasonal ingredients. Farro risotto with mushrooms and minted breadcrumbs, fried Gulf oysters with oyster gravy and jasmine rice, try the rabbit curry. $$ D (W-Su); Br (Sa-Su). www.bywateramericanbistro.com. 2900 Chartres St., 504.605.3827. Map 1, E3

THE COUNTRY CLUB—Louisiana. Known for its swimming pool, this long-popular Bywater hangout also offers casual fine dining. Dive into big-flavored small plates (crabmeat beignets, clams and chow- rizo), salads, sandwiches or full-on entrees, such as chateaubriand for two. $$$ L, D (daily); Br (Sa-Su). www.thecountryclubneworleans.com. 634 Louisa St., 504.945.0742. Map 1, E3

ELIZABETH’S—American. “Real food done real good” is the motto at this homey neighborhood spot, which draws loyal locals as well as national foodies. Two words to remember: praline bacon. $$ B, L (Tu-F), D (Tu-Sa); Br (Sa-Su). www.elizabeths-restaurant.com. 601 Gallier St., 504.944.9272. Map 1, E3

NOLA CANTINA—Mexican. Tacos, tacos and more tacos, filled with everything from fried oysters to cauliflower. Other menu highlights include Ecuadorian-style shrimp ceviche, whole roasted fish, chicken or grilled rib eye and top-shell margaritas. $$$. D (nightly); Br (Sa-Su). www.nolacantina.com. 437 Esplanade Ave., 504.266.2848. Map 3, J5

PALADAR 511—Contemporary. California cooking in New Orleans-style means lots of frolly salads and fish left au naturel. Pizzas, smartly topped with farm eggs, summer squash and the like, take center stage on the menu. $$ D (W-M); Br (Sa-Su). www.paladar511.com. 511 Marigny St., 504.509.6782. Map 3, J5

PIZZA DELICIOUS—Italian. This pop-up pizzeria grew so popular that it now has its own brick-and-mortar space. New York-style pies with an ever-changing array of market-fresh toppings are offered whole or by the slice. $$ L, D (Tu-Su). www.pizzadelicious.com. 617 Piety St., 504.676.8482. Map 1, E3

ST. ROCH MARKET—Eclectic. Dating to 1875, this long-shuttered marketplace recently received a massive makeover while retaining its historic character and 24 steel columns. The stunning space features 13 food vendors, along with a bar and both indoor and outdoor dining. $$ L, D (daily). www.strochmarket.com. 2381 St. Claude Ave., 504.609.3813. Map 1, E3

Mid-City

BLUE OAK BBQ—Barbecue. Ronnie Evans and Philip Moseley draw raves for their crisp-skinned barbecued chicken, spare ribs, killer nachos and fried Brussels sprouts. When the barbecued pork egg rolls make an appearance on the menu, get them. $ L, D (Tu-Su). www.blueoakbbq.com. 900 N. Canal St., 504.822.2583. Map 1, D3

MANDINA’S—Italian. This local treasure, established in 1932, still hums with full-flavored fried trout, almandine, veal Parmesan, golden-brown shrimp, tender pork chops and perhaps the best roast beef po’boy in the Gulf South. Nothin’ says N’awlinns like Mandina’s perfect bread pudding with soft raisins.
$5 L, D (daily). www.mandinasrestaurant.com. 3800 Canal St., 504.482.9179. Map 1, D2

PIECE OF MEAT—Deli. The menu at this petit butcher shop and restaurant is loaded with tempting options: cheese-and-boudin eggrolls, brisket sandwiches, tender ribs. Grab a pint of smoked chicken salad from the take-away fridge. $ L (Th-Tu), D (Th-Sa); Br (Sa-Su). www.pieceofmeatbutcher.com. 3301 Bienville St., 504.372.2289. Map 1, D3

RALPH’S ON THE PARK—Louisiana. Veteran restaurateur Ralph Brennan serves up globally inspired local cuisine in this beautifully restored historic building overlooking scenic City Park. One of the loveliest (and most romantic) locations in town. $$ L (Tu-F), D (nightly); Br (Sa-Su). www.ralphsonthepark.com. 900 City Park Ave., 504.488.1000. Map 1, D2

1000 FIGS—Mediterranean. Classic falafel sandwiches and plates are joined by seared squid salads, baba ghanouj, lamb and more. $5 L, D (Tu-Sa). www.1000figs.com. 3141 Ponce de Leon St., 504.301.0848. Map 1, D2

TOUPS’ MEATERY—Louisiana. Chef Isaac Toups is known for his masterful charcuterie. Start with the Meatery Board, a selection of house-cured meats and condiments, before moving on to the lamb neck with fennel and black-eyed pea salad. $$ L, D (Tu-Sa); Br (Su). www.toupsmeatery.com. 845 N. Carrollton Ave., 504.252.4999. Map 1, D3

Uptown

AVO—Italian. Chef Nick Lama does his fourth-generation Sicilian ancestry proud with such standouts as charred octopus with pork butter and pineapple, cippolini, gnocchi with wild mushrooms and lasagna with short rib ragout. $$ D (M-Sa); Br (Sa-Su). www.restaurantavo.com. 5908 Magazine St., 504.509.6550. Map 1, D4

BOUCHERIE—Southern. Looking for an off-the-beaten-path place where you can get in and out for under $20? Chef/owner Nathaniel Zimet’s culinary creations are as delicious as their prices. Collard greens with grit fries, duck confit po’boys, Krispy Kreme bread pudding—trust us on this one. $$ L, D (Tu-Sa); D (M-Sa); Br (Su). www.boucherie-nola.com. 8115 Jeannette St., 504.862.5514. Map 1, C3

BRIGTSEN’S—Creole. A protegé of Paul Prudhomme, chef Frank Brigtsen serves up food that is rooted in Louisiana tradition, but moves into a sphere of its own with his genius for combining tastes and ingredients. $$$ D (Tu-Sa). www.brigtsens.com. 723 Dante St., 504.861.7610. Map 1, C3

CARROLLTON MARKET—Louisiana. Chef Jason Goodenough’s market-driven menu spins both modern and traditional with dishes such as crispy pork “tail tots” and New Orleans-style cassoulet. No one can get enough of oysters Goodenough—flash-fried oysters with smoky bacon, creamed leeks and béarnaise. $$ D (Tu-Sa); Br (Sa-Su). www.carrolltonmarket.com. 8132 Hampston St., 504.252.9928. Map 1, C3

CASAMENTO’S—Seafood. Open since 1919, this Uptown landmark is oyster heaven for those with a taste for plump Gulf bivalves. $ L (Th-Sa), D (Th-Su). www.casamentosrestaurant.com. 4330 Magazine St., 504.895.9761. Map 1, D4

CAVAN—Southern. This Victorian home’s “beautiful deterioration” is an ideal setting for chef Nathan Richard’s modern Southern cuisine. Start with the boudin tater tots before devouring the chicken
fried rabbit or turtle carbonara with garfish tasso.

DEL FUEGO—Mexican. Chef David Wright’s ramped-up taqueria is based on recipes and techniques gathered during travels to Mexico. Housemade tortillas wrap around duck enchiladas with Oaxacan mole, while tostadas are topped with smoked Gulf fish. $$ L, D (M-Sa). www.delfugotaqueria.com. 4518 Magazine St., 504.309.5797. Map 1, D4

LA PETITE GROCERY—French. An intimate French bistro with gas lighting and pressed-tin ceilings, where local specialties share menu space with French favorites. Try the blue crab beignets, shrimp and grits or a Gruyère cheeseburger with onion marmalade. $$$ L (Tu-Sa), D (nightly); Br (Su). www.lapetitegrocery.com. 4238 Magazine St., 504.891.3377. Map 1, D4

PASCAL’S MANALE—Italian. A New Orleans landmark since 1913, Pascal’s is famous for inventing barbecued shrimp (a must-get) and eternally popular for its traditional Italian food. Pascal’s has an army of regulars who devour the gumbo, steaks and those succulent barbecued shrimp. $$ L (M-F), D (M-Sa). www.pascalsmanale.com. 1838 Napoleon Ave., 504.895.4877. Map 1, D4

PATOIS—Louisiana. Aaron Burgau has earned all of the praise heaped on him in recent years as a chef “to watch.” Patois is one of the city’s hottest venues, combining Burgau’s inventive French cooking with a cool neighborhood bar scene. $$$ L, D (W-Sa); Br (Su). www.patoisnola.com. 6078 Laurel St., 504.895.9441. Map 1, D4

PICNIC PROVISIONS & WHISKEY—Southern. Crawfish boil hot fried chicken anchors the menu at this playful Commander’s Palace offshoot near Audubon Park. Start with the smoked fish dip on house-made saltines or melted pimento cheese and finish with cookie-dough s’mores. $ L, D (daily). www.nolapicnic.com. 741 State St., 504.266.2810. Map 1, D4

SABA—Mediterranean. Chef Alon Shaya provides a taste of modern Israel with a menu full of hummus, kebabs and labneh, along with intriguing entrees, such as octopus with shawarma spices and hanger steak with celery root, tabouleh and pomegranate. $$ L (W-F), D (W-Su); Br (Sa-Su). www.eatwithsaba.com. 5757 Magazine St., 504.324.7770. Map 3, D4

SAFFRON NOLA—Indian. Chic Indian fare with contemporary flair. Top picks include the pakoda choti and roti sathi. $$$ L (F-Sa), D (Tu-Sa). www.saffronnola.com. 4128 Magazine St., 504.323.2626. Map 1, D4

THE APPETITE REPAIR SHOP—Eclectic. From this hard-to-find Algiers hole-in-the-wall, chef Pete Vazquez serves up delicious—and deliciously healthy—prepared foods to go. Grab some chicken curry, chickpea salad and a few veggie samosas, then picnic along the nearby levee. $ D (Th-Su). 400 Vallette St., 504.602.9990. Map 1, H8

DONG PHUONG—Vietnamese. The menu at this “Little Vietnam” restaurant is crammed with pho, noodle dishes and a variety of rice plates. But it’s the adjacent bakery that draws foodies from far and wide for what the New York Times has called the most authentic banh mi bread in the U.S. $ Open 9 am-4 pm (W-M). www.dbphanhmi.com. 14207 Chef Menteur Hwy., 504.254.0214. Map 1, G1
Spring Refresher

Slough off winter and rejuvenate for spring at one of the city’s many spas. The Spa at Windsor Court (windsorcourthotel.com/spa, shown) makes you feel like visiting royalty with its Regal Retreat, which includes a dry body brush and scrub, a steam shower and an 80-minute aromatherapy massage, while the Spa at the Ritz-Carlton (p. 32) incorporates notes of absinthe, cypress, moss and vetiver in its spellbinding Voodoo Ritual. The elegant Waldorf-Astoria Spa (p. 32) encourages couples to “share the bliss” with a dual massage in a private suite. For an extra-extravagant experience, add on a bottle of bubbly, chocolate truffles and an additional half hour of pampering.

Books & Music

BECKHAM’S BOOKSHOP—Thousands of rare, antique and secondhand books line the shelves at this sprawling emporium. An essential stop for collectors. www.beckhamsbookshop.com. 228 Decatur St., 504.522.9875. Map 3, E5

FAULKNER HOUSE BOOKS—For six months in 1925, William Faulkner lived at this address, and it was here he penned his novel “Soldiers’ Pay.” First editions of his works are sold, as well as contemporary fiction. faulknerhousebooks.com. 624 Pirate’s Alley (behind St. Louis Cathedral), 504.524.2940 Map 3, G4

GARDEN DISTRICT BOOK SHOP—This well-stocked shop offers hundreds of current titles, in addition to a large selection of New Orleans-related books. www.gardendistrictbookshop.com. 2272 Prytania St., 504.895.2266. Map 1, D4

LOUISIANA MUSIC FACTORY—There’s no better place in town to stock up on new or used CDs by local artists. Select posters, books and videos also offered. Live performances on Saturdays. www.louisianamusicfactory.com. 421 Frenchmen St., 504.586.1094. Map 3, J5

PEACHES RECORDS—For nearly five decades, this local chain has been promoting area musicians with a large selection of New Orleans music. 4318 Magazine St., 504.282.3322. Map 1, D4

SKULLY’Z RECORDZ—This small music shop is big on new and used CDs, DVDs and vinyl recordings. Imports, obscure albums and works by independent local artists are also offered. 907 Bourbon St., 504.592.4666. Map 3, H4

Clothing

BILLY REID—Award-winning designer Reed’s chic boutiques are found all over the country—and now in his home state as well. Women’s and men’s fashions are featured, along with shoes, bags and accessories. www.billyreid.com. 3927 Magazine St., 504.208.1200. Map 1, D4

DIRTY COAST—Just when you thought New Orleans couldn’t possibly fit another T-shirt shop, along comes Dirty Coast. But you won’t find your standard Bourbon Street garb here. Catering to locals and in-the-know visitors, the shop’s slick designs feature funky graphics with cool Crescent City-inspired slogans. www.dirtycoast.com. 713 Royal St., 504.388.6803. Map 1, D4

H&M—This Swedish-based retail chain is known around the globe for its fab fashions and hard-to-resist prices. Women’s, men’s and children’s clothing is featured, along with hip home accents. www.hm.com. 418 N. Peters St., 504.522.8861. Map 3, G4, 2044 Magazine St., 504.522.5566. Map 1, D4, 2048 Magazine St., 504.299.8777. Map 1, D4, 2050 Magazine St., 504.265.0973. Map 1, D4

QUEORK—Cork is the draw at this sleek shop, where the resilient material is fashioned into chic handbags, totes, belts, phone cases, pet collars and more. www.queork.com. 838 Chartres St., 504.481.2585. Map 3, H4, 3005 Magazine St., 504.388.6803. Map 1, D4

TASC—Originating in New Orleans, this popular line of active wear is now found nationwide. The secret to its success is its eco-conscious fabric that blends bamboo with organic cotton and merino wool, resulting in soft, durable performance apparel. www.tascperformance.com. 3913 Magazine St., 504.304.5030. Map 1, D4

TRASHY DIVA—Featured in such publications as Elle and Lucky, Candice Gwinn’s NOLA-based clothing company features original and vintage-inspired designs with a modern sensibility. The stylish shop offers women’s clothing, shoes, lingerie, jewelry and accessories, along with numerous locations. www.trashydiva.com. 829 Chartres St., 504.581.4555. Map 3, H4, 537 Royal St., 504.522.4233. Map 3, G4, 712 Royal St., 504.522.8861. Map 3, G4, 2044 Magazine St., 504.522.5566. Map 1, D4, 2048 Magazine St., 504.299.8777. Map 1, D4, 2050 Magazine St., 504.265.0973. Map 1, D4

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Guidelines

This directory, grouped by category, is a compendium of establishments recommended by the editors of Where magazine and includes regular advertisers. Information was accurate as of press time, but is subject to change. Call to verify hours, accessibility, etc.

Louisiana Tax-Free Shopping provides refunds of state and local sales tax to international visitors on items purchased in Louisiana from participating retailers. To learn more, visit www.louisianataxfree.com.

MAP LOCATIONS
Note that the references at the end of each listing (Map 3, F4, etc.) apply to the coordinates on the street maps on pages 61-63.

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all here at drastically reduced prices. www.shopual.com. 518 Chartres St., 504.301.4437. Map 3, F4

Gifts & Collectibles

BUNGALOWS—This shop mixes jewelry (including designs by Pandora, Brighton and other popular lines) and women’s accessories (hats, handbags) with cool home accents and great gift items. www.shopbungalows.com. 719 Royal St., 504.522.9222. Map 3, G4

DERBY POTTERY & TILE—Mark Derby’s elegant hand-pressed Victorian reproduction tile, featuring historically authentic patterns and finishes, can be found in showrooms nationwide. But you’ll see it being made here, along with Derby’s decorative pottery. www.derbypottery.com. 2029 Magazine St., 504.586.9003. Map 1, D4

ELLEN MACOMBER FINE ART & TEXTILES—Searching for cool Crescent City collectibles? Set the GPS for this shop, where artist Ellen Macomber’s street map-inspired designs are offered on everything from clothing to housewares. www.ellenmacomber.com. 1720 St. Charles Ave., 504.314.9414. Map 1, D3

HEX: OLD WORLD WITCHERY—This magical emporium offers everything from herbal enchantments and candles to bless your home to voodoo dolls crafted by true practitioners and psychic readings by real New Orleans witches. www.hexwitch.com. 1219 Decatur St., 504.613.0558. Map 3, I5

LITTLE TOY SHOP—You’ll find plenty to keep small hands and minds busy here, from entertaining games to historical action figures. New Orleans-themed toys and books are also offered. www.littletoyshopnola.com/. 513 St. Ann St., 504.314.9414. Map 3, G5

THE MASK GALLERY—Austrian crystals, hand-tooled leather and fanciful feathers are the signature touches of maskmaker Massoud Dalili’s colorful Carnival creations. www.neworleansmask.com. 841 Royal St., 504.523.6664. Map 3, F4

MIETTE—Out-of-the-ordinary gifts and souvenirs are showcased at this colorful and crowded boutique. A mix of locally made jewelry, crafts, clothing and

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Gourmet Food & Spirits

KEIFE & CO.—A charming, beautifully curated wine and spirits shop in the Warehouse District. There's a hushed library feel to the place, with floor-to-ceiling shelving stocked deep with wines, booze, liqueurs and unique quaffs. Gourmet food items are also offered. www.keifeandco.com. 801 Howard Ave., 504.523.7272. Map 3, B5

MARTIN WINE CELLAR—Wine Spectator has recognized Martin Wine as one of the country’s premier emporiums of fine vintages and gourmet food items. www.martinwine.com. 3827 Baronne St., 504.899.7411. Map 1, D4, 714 Elmeer Ave., Metairie, 504.896.7300. Map 1, C2

SIMONE’S MARKET—A small, independent grocery devoted to thoughtfully selected local and regional products. Prepared foods are also available, along with daily deli specials. www.simonesmarket.com. 8201 Oak St., 504.273.7706. Map 3, C3

SOUTHERN CANDY MAKERS—You can catch a sugar buzz just walking through the door of this French Quarter sweets shop, known for its pralines, toffees and tortues (turtles). www.southerncandymakers.com. 334 Decatur St., 504.523.5544. Map 3, F5, 1010 Decatur St., 504.525.6710. Map 3, H5

VIEUX CARRÉ WINE & SPIRITS—The French Quarter’s most popular spot for fine wines, top-shelf liquors and imported and domestic beer. Free delivery is available throughout the Quarter. 422 Chartres St., 504.568.WINE. Map 3, F4

WHOLE FOODS—The organic grocery offers a wealth of all-natural goods, along with an excellent selection of prepared food items and three locations. www.wholefoodsmarket.com. 5600 Magazine St., 504.899.9119. Map 1, D4, 300 N. Broad St., 504.434.3364. Map 1, D2, 3420 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, 504.888.8225. Map 1, C2

Health & Beauty/Spas


MADAME AUCOIN PERFUME—"The oldest perfumer in the South." Lives on thanks to her great-grandnephew, who recently reopened shop in her former residence. Artisanal fragrance lines, such as "Ormond Jayne, Memo and Eight & Bob, are featured. www.madameaucoinperfume.com. 608 Bienville St., 504.259.5975. Map 3, F4

THE SPA AT THE RITZ-CARLTON—This luxurious, award-winning spa features 22 treatment rooms, two couples suites, a separate esthetician wing, sauna and steam rooms and a health-conscious café. Named the best hotel spa in the nation by Travel + Leisure. www.ritzcarlton.com. 921 Canal St., 504.670.2929. Map 3, E3

WALDORF ASTORIA SPA—This luxe spa offers 10 private treatment rooms and a full menu of body treatments and services, including indulgent therapies that incorporate French clay, roses and water lilies. Located on the 1st floor of the Roosevelt Hotel. www.rooseveltneworleans.com. 130 Roosevelt Way, 504.648.1200. Map 3, E3

THE WOODHOUSE DAY SPA—The Mid-City branch of this nationwide franchise offers a variety of relaxing body treatments—reflexology, volcanic stone massages and seaweed wraps—along with rejuvenating facials, manucures, pedicures and more. www.neworleans.woodhousespas.com. 4030 Canal St., 504.482.6652. Map 1, D3

Jewelry

ART & EYES—The eyes have it at this hip eyewear boutique, which specializes in hand-picked frames, both new and vintage. www.artandedyesneworleansla.com. 3708 Magazine St., 504.891.4494. Map 1, D4

FLEUR D’ORLEANS—French Quarter cast iron, St. Louis Cathedral’s cross and ornamental Uptown cornices are among the architectural elements incorporated in the jewelry at this shop. www.fleurdorleans.com. 818 Chartres St., 504.475.5254. Map 3, G4, 3701A Magazine St., 504.899.5585. Map 1, D4

GOGO—Contemporary jewelry? Get thee to Gogo, where locals flock for homegrown designer Gogo Barogerding’s Elle-approved anodized aluminum bracelets and yummy acrylic “sushi” rings. www.lovegogojewelry.com. 2036 Magazine St., 504.529.8868. Map 1, D4

KENDRA SCOTT JEWELRY—Along with its signature line of go-anywhere and -with-anything designs, this innovative jewelry shop lets you customize pieces to your own taste. www.kendrascott.com. 5757 Magazine St., 504.613.4227. Map 1, D4

KREWE—Eye-wear maker Stirling Barrett has garnered a national following with his locally designed line of glasses. Each of his iconic styles is named after New Orleans neighborhoods and landmarks. www.krewe.com. 809 Royal St., 504.407.2925. Map 3, H4, 1818 Canal St., 504.342.2462. Map 1, D4

MIGNON Faget—Beloved local designer Mignon Faget has created extraordinary jewelry, from semiprecious stones and precious metals, for more than four decades. New Orleans icons and images figure prominently in her work. www.mignonfaget.com. 3801 Magazine St., 504.891.7545. Map 1, D4, Lakeside Shopping Center, 3301 Veterans Blvd., Metairie, 504.835.2244. Map 1, C2, The Shops at Canal Place, 333 Canal St., 1st fl., 504.524.2973. Map 3, E5

PORTER LYONS—Jewelry designer Ashley Lyons is a hit in Hollywood, but it’s her New Orleans roots that inspire her creations and made the French Quarter her first choice for her first brick-and-mortar space. www.porterlyons.com. 631 Toulouse St., 800.585.0348. Map 3, G5

Malls/Major Retailers

LAKESIDE SHOPPING CENTER—Lakeside is conveniently located near the city and Louis Armstrong Airport. The mall has come a long way, including Apple, Coach, Macy’s, Michael Kors and Sephora. www.lakesideshopping.com. 3301 Veterans Blvd., Metairie, 504.835.8000. Map 1, C2

THE OUTLET COLLECTION AT RIVERWALK—Located along the Mississippi River at the foot of Poydras Street, the Outlet Collection at Riverwalk offers the nation’s first urban outlet center and more than 70 shops, including Neiman Marcus Last Call Studio and Coach. www.rialwilkeyorleans.com. 500 Port of New Orleans Place, 504.522.1555. Map 3, D7

THE SHOPS AT CANAL PLACE—Canal Place features some of the world’s finest retailers in an elegant setting. Stores include Tiffany & Co., Louis Vuitton, Saks Fifth Avenue, Tory Burch and Brooks Brothers, as well as local retailers and a state-of-the-art, dine-in movie theater. www.theshopsatcanalplace.com. 333 Canal St., 504.522.9200. Map 3, E5

Shoes

JOHN FLUEVOG—“Unique soles for unique souls.” This forward-thinking footwear shop is a “shoe-lover’s paradise” among French Quarter fashionistas and trendy travelers. www.fluevog.com. 321 Chartres St., 504.523.7296. Map 3, F4

NOLA FOOT CANDY—Sweet treats for your feet. Located across Jackson Square, this women’s shoe shop stocks a wide variety of fun and fashionable styles. www.nolafocandy.com. 510 St. Peter St., 504.252.9144. Map 3, G4

SHOE BE DO—“New Orleans’ greatest addiction” offers a large selection of high-fashion women’s shoes from around the globe. Get a step ahead with this cutting-edge from international designers. www.shoebedouusa.com. 324 Chartres St., 504.523.SHOE. Map 3, F4

Special Services

PACK RAT SHIPPING SERVICES—Why bother with baggage claim? This all-in-one spot offers international shipping (DHL, FedEx, UPS), along with more than 40 additional related services, from computer and copying needs to notary public and passport photos. www.packratshipping.com. 3436 Magazine St., 504.899.5415. Map 1, D4

PLANET BEACH—This French Quarter spa provides a variety of services, from massages and facials to spray tanning and teeth whitening. www.planetbeach.com. 301 Burgundy St., 504.525.8266. Map 3, F3

TAO SPA—Have a half hour to spare? Step into these centrally located relaxation stations, which specialize in reflexology treatments, and walk out a brand new you. 837 Canal St., 210.843.8276. Map 3, E3, 212 Chartres St. Map 3, E4, 4123 Magazine St., 500 Port of New Orleans Pl., Level A. Map 3, D7
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**BRAND NEW ORLEANS ART GALLERY**—Contemporary Louisiana artists, both established and emerging, are spotlighted here. www.brandartnola.com. 646 Tchoupitoulas St., 504.509.6598. Map 3, D6

**CALLAN CONTEMPORARY**—This chic gallery offers contemporary works by American and international artists with an emphasis on abstract and figurative paintings and sculpture. www.callancontemporary.com. 518 Julia St., 504.525.0518. Map 3, C6

**JONATHAN FERRARA GALLERY**—This gallery is home to the cutting-edge work of proprietor Jonathan Ferrara and other local and national artists. Sculpture, glass, metal and installation art are featured. www.jonathanferraragallery.com. 400A Julia St., 504.522.5471. Map 3, C6

**LEMIEUX GALLERIES**—Contemporary paintings, sculpture, pottery, jewelry and glassworks are among the media exhibited here. www.lemieuxgalleries.com. 332 Julia St., 504.522.9988. Map 3, C6

**MARTINE CHAISON GALLERY**—Contemporary is the key word here, from the sleek space itself to the cutting-edge creations on its walls. www.martinechaisongallery.com. 727 Camp St., 504.302.7942. Map 3, C5

**NEW ORLEANS SCHOOL OF GLASSWORKS AND PRINTMAKING STUDIO**—This working artists’ studio features free demos by local master crafters in blown glass, printmaking and fine silver. Designs made in the studio are for sale. www.neworleansglassworks.com. 727 Magazine St., 504.529.7277. Map 3, C6

**OCTAVIA ART GALLERY**—This contemporary space spotlights local and international artists working in a wide range of media, including sculpture by Carole Eiser and photography by Debbie Fleming Caffery. www.octaviaartgallery.com. 454 Julia St., 504.309.4249. Map 3, C6

**SOREN CHRISTENSEN GALLERY**—Paintings, sculpture and photography by nationally recognized as well as emerging contemporary artists is the focus here. www.sorengallery.com. 400 Julia St., 504.569.9501. Map 3, C6

**STELLA JONES GALLERY**—New Orleans’ preeminent exhibition space for African-American artists, featuring works by Elizabeth Catlett, Richmond Barthé, Charly Palmer and Samella Lewis, among others. www.stellajonesgallery.com. 201 St. Charles Ave., #132, 504.568.9050. Map 3, D4

**French Quarter**

**A GALLERY FOR FINE PHOTOGRAPHY**—The city’s most extensive collection of fine art photographs for sale. Artists represented include Ansel Adams, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Herman Leonard and Yousuf Karsh, among others. www.agallery.com. 241 Chartres St., 504.568.1313. Map 3, F4

**ANGELA KING GALLERY**—One of the French Quarter’s leading contemporary art galleries. Sculptors and painters represented include Peter Max, Raymond Douillet, Andy Baird, Woodrow Nash, Aaron Reichert, Charles Thysell and Patterson & Barnes. www.angelakinggallery.com. 241 Royal St., 504.524.8211. Map 3, F4

**ANTIEAU GALLERY**—Folk artist Chris Roberts-Antieau’s offbeat textile appliqué works are found in the American Visionary Art Museum and her New Orleans galleries. Each of her one-of-a-kind “fabric pictures” feature individually crafted, hand-painted frames. www.antieaugallery.com. 927 Royal St., 504.304.0849. Map 3, D4

**ANTIQUES DE PROVENCE**—A bit of southern France on Royal Street, featuring 17th- and 18th-century antiques, including armoires, chandeliers, limestone fountains and a huge selection of olive jars. www.antiquesdeprovencelc.com. 623 Royal St., 504.524.8211. Map 3, F4

**BEVOLO GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHTS**—The vast majority of copper and brass gas lanterns adorning French Quarter shops, restaurants and homes are made at Bevolo. Choose from a selection of available styles, or have fixtures custom-built on-site. www.bevolo.com

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**THE GUIDE**

Galleries+Antiques

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**A Dreamer and a Doer**

“It’s amazing, when you line everything up from the beginning and go through it, just how it all developed,” said the late artist George Rodrigue, when Where interviewed him in 2008 on the eve of a 40-year career exhibit. The Blue Dog master’s legacy (which includes three presidential commissions and being dubbed the “the Louisiana Rousseau” by France’s Le Figaro magazine) lives on at Rodrigue Studio (p. 38), which is celebrating its 30-year mark with George Rodrigue’s American Dream. The ongoing exhibit spotlights each of the artist’s genres and periods, from early Cajun country landscapes and his famed Blue Dog paintings to later works in metal and chrome.

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**Real Gems**

Missed Mardi Gras? You can still catch some really cool beads with a visit to Gallery 2 (p. 36), where you’ll find the surrealist assemblages of mixed-media artist Betsy Youngquist. Incorporating oddball doll parts and prosthetic glass eyes, the three-dimensional works are encrusted with beads, crystals and other found objects.
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FRANK RELLE PHOTOGRAPHY—Award-winning photographer Relle’s moody “nightscapes,” which have been featured in National Geographic and The New York Times, are counted among the permanent collections of the Smithsonian National Museum of History and the New Orleans Museum of Art and the private holdings of Brad Pitt, Wynton Marsalis and others. www.frankrelle.com. 910 Royal St., 504.388.7601. Map 3, H4

FRENCH ANTIQUE SHOP—Founded in Paris, this shop relocated to New Orleans in 1939. Today it carries French antique furniture from the 18th and 19th centuries and Oriental accents, including vases with bronze mountings. www.gofrenchantiques.com. 225 Royal St., 504.524.9861. Map 3, E4

FUNERAL GALLERY—Offset illustrations, macabre assemblage dolls, quirky circus banners. If it’s edgy and eccentric, you’ll spot it here. Works by local and national artists are featured in a wide range of media. www.funeralgallery.com. 811 Royal St., 504.603.6038. Map 3, H4

GALLERY 2—Part animal/part human, Betsy Youngquist’s stunning beaded sculptures will draw you into this shared space, which also showcases Ann Marie Cianciolo’s whimsical sculptural jewelry. www.gallery2nola.com. 831 Royal St., 504.513.8312. Map 3, H4

GALLERY ORANGE—Modern-minded collectors will be drawn in by the fresh contemporary works at this super-hg gallery. A vibrant mix of local and international artists, both emerging and established, is featured. www.gallery-orange.com. 819 Royal St., 504.875.4006. Map 3, H4

GALLERY RINARD—This contemporary gallery features colorful originals and limited-edition serigraphs by artist-owner Matt Rinard, as well as Robert Guthrie’s watercolors and whimsical pet portraiture by Georg Williams. galleryrinard.com. 611 Royal St., 504.522.6536. Map 3, H4

GRAPHITE GALLERY—Seeking something cutting-edge and cool? This is the place. Works by emerging and mid-career artists from around the globe, ranging from fine paintings to sculpture, are the draw at this contemporary space, which also features up-and-coming local talents. www.graphitegallery.com. 936 Royal St., 504.565.3739. Map 3, H4

HALL-BARNETT GALLERY—During the 1980s, Howard Barnett shook things up with one of the first contemporary galleries in the Quarter. Today daughter Holly continues her father’s legacy with an eclectic mix of emerging and established artists. www.hallbarnett.com. 237 Chartres St., 504.522.5657. Map 3, F4

HAROUNI GALLERY—David Harouni has an eye for hidden, as evidenced by the paintings that populate his gallery. Harouni’s expressionistic oilworks and sculptures have been exhibited worldwide, but you’ll find them—along with the artist—at his French Quarter studio. www.harouni.com. 933 Royal St., 504.299.4393. Map 3, H4

IDA MANHEIM ANTIQUES—This impressive show-room features 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century French, English, Dutch and Continental furniture. You’ll also discover a selection of fine paintings and European porcelain, in addition to marble and bronze statuary. www.idamanheimantiques.com. 409 Royal St., 504.620.4114. Map 3, F4


JAMIE HAYES GALLERY—The colorful works of artist and children’s book author Hayes have been said to capture “the true spirit of New Orleans,” and acquired by such famous collectors as Robin Williams, k.d. lang and Muhammad Ali. Original paintings, prints and fun gift items are featured. www.jamiehayes.com. 617 Chartres St., 504.590.2344. Map 3, G4

KAKO GALLERY—Original Louisiana art is this off-beat gallery’s draw. Paintings, photos, jazz-themed pottery, bottle-cap-covered crosses—you’ll find it all and then some. www.kakogallery.com. 536 Royal St., 504.565.5445. Map 3, G4

KEIL’S ANTIQUES—Founded in 1899, Keil’s established its reputation with rare 18th- and 19th-century French and English furniture. The shop also specializes in chandeliers, mantels, mirrors and fine jewelry. www.keilantiques.com. 325 Royal St., 504.522.4552. Map 3, F4

KEZIC GALLERY—Diego Lueke is triple talented. Perhaps best known for his popular “Dingo Dog” series, the local artist also creates New Orleans architectural images using the pseudonym “Martin Luke” and 4D florals as “Kezic.” www.kezic.com. 337 Royal St., 504.298.1096. Map 3, F4

KURT E. SCHON LTD.—This fine art gallery deals in international oil paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries for collectors, museums and investors. www.kurtschondltd.com. 510 St. Louis St., 504.524.5462. Map 3, F8

LUCKY ROSE GALLERY—Devoted to the stunning porcelain sculpture of artist-owner Cathy Rose, who often incorporates repurposed pieces of New Orleans into her works. www.cathyrrose.com. 840 Royal St., 504.309.8000. Map 3, H4

LUCULLUS—An antique shop specializing in objects for almost every culinary passion. Fine dining tables, porcelain and silver, 19th-century glassware, rustic farmhouse implements and bistro equipment are among the offerings. www.lucullusantiques.com. 610 Chartres St., 504.529.9620. Map 3, G4

M CONTEMPORARY—Resident artist Frederick Guess painting on site will draw you into this gallery, where George Alexander’s ceramic sculptures and Andrew Blanchard’s prints on panel will make you linger a while. www.handselgallery.com. 906 Royal St., 504.523.2022. Map 3, H4

M.S. RAU ANTIQUES—This third-generation family business is one of the nation’s oldest dealing in 19th-century antiques. M.S. Rau is known for its American, French and English furniture, fine silver, glass, porcelain, clocks, watches and quality jewelry. www.rauantiques.com. 630 Royal St., 504.523.3560. Map 3, G4

MARTIN LAWRENCE GALLERY—This branch of the nationwide Martin Lawrence galleries features contemporary paintings, sculpture and limited-edition graphics by such renowned artists as Picasso, Chagall, Dalí, Miró, Warhol, Haring and Erte, among others. www.martinalawrence.com. 433 Royal St., 504.299.9055. Map 3, F4

MICHALOPOULOS—The off-kilter architectural renderings of James Michalopoulos are instantly recognizable. You’ll find them here, along with his figurative paintings, still lifes and landscapes.
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THE GUIDE


MODERNIST CUISINE GALLERY—Renowned photographer Nathan Myhrvold focuses on the science of cooking and cutting-edge culinary techniques. Large-scale, limited-edition prints of his incredible edible recipes are offered. www.modernistcuisiniegallery.com. 305 Royal St., 504.571.5157. Map 3, F4

MOSS ANTIQUES—Fine art objects fill this gallery, which offers jewelry, porcelain, humidors and cigar accessories. Merchandise here comes primarily from England and France. www.mossantiques.com. 411 Royal St., 504.522.3981. Map 3, F4

NEW ORLEANS SILVERSMITHS—Since 1938, this Chartres Street boutique has specialized in antique and modern gold, platinum and sterling silver jewelry, in addition to a wide range of antique and new silver and silverplate. A large selection of estate jewelry is also offered. www.neworleanssilversmiths.com. 600 Chartres St., 504.522.6333. Map 3, G4

PENNINGTON FINE ART—With no formal training, Jim Pennington honed his craft studying (and copying) the paintings of Degas, Sargent, Whistler and others at Boston’s Museum of Fine Art and New York’s Museum of Modern Art. His French Quarter gallery offers original oilworks, along with giclées. www.penningtonart.com. 829 Royal St., 985.789.5547. Map 3, H4

PHOTO WORKS—This gallery showcases the work of photographer Louis Sahuc, known for his dramatic shots of the city, which have been called “the quintessential images of New Orleans.” Sahuc specializes in black-and-white, but also creates vivid color prints. www.photoworksneworleans.com. 521 S2 St. Ann St., 504.593.9090. Map 3, G5

RED TRUCK GALLERY—“Beautiful, unexpected art” by contemporary up-and-comers will make you want to park here for a while. www.redtruckgallery.com. 940 Royal St., 504.231.6760. Map 3, H4

RODRIGUE STUDIO—This French Quarter landmark is devoted to the works of the late great George Rodrigue. Paintings and silkscreens representing Rodrigue’s Cajun roots period and popular Blue Dog series are available. www.georgerodrigue.com. 730 Royal St., 504.581.4244. Map 3, G4

SCENE BY RHYS—“New Orleans music inked into art,” is the adage of artist Emile Rhys, who you’ll likely spot sketching away in a local club. Like her legendary father, Noel Rockmore, known for his Preservation Hall paintings during the 1960s, Rhys captures the beat of the city through portraits of its musicians. www.scenebyrhys.com. 708 Toulouse St., 504.258.6760. Map 3, F4

TANNER GALLERY & STUDIO—Home to local artist Tanner’s colorful-yet-haunting “treescapes.” Originals are offered. www.michalopoulos.com. 830 Royal St., 504.524.8266. Map 3, H4

VINTAGE 329—A mecca for vintage jewelry buffs, this hip shop is filled with Chanel, Memento Mori and Christian Lacroix. Vintage sunglasses, French-, Shag- and fashion-inspired posters, plus retro barware are among the offerings. 329 Royal St., 504.525.5642. Map 3, G4

WINDSOR FINE ART—This gallery features fine works in a variety of media by the great masters, from Duerr to Rembrandt, as well as modern masters such as Picasso, Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Dalí, along with original works by Toulouse-Lautrec. Contem-
New Orleans music is not a genre but a story of diverse styles, influences, and musicians coexisting across history. In *New Orleans Medley: Sounds of the City*, The Historic New Orleans Collection leads visitors on a procession through three centuries of music in the Crescent City. Admission is free.
Cooking With Class
Bring a taste of New Orleans to your home kitchen by signing up for a Cajun/Creole cooking class. The New Orleans School of Cooking (p. 42, shown) offers twice-daily courses on jambalaya, pralines and other local dishes, which students get to enjoy afterward. Barbecue shrimp, etouffée and bananas Foster are on the how-to menu at Crescent City Cooks! (p. 40), while the recently opened New Orleans Culinary & Hospitality Institute (nochi.org) caters to visiting foodies with hands-on courses on the fundamentals of cheese, bread and soup-making, as well as classes on gumbo and seafood boils. Not in the mood to cook? Grab a bite at the in-house NOCHI Café.

The Unmasked Singer
Since she hit town in 2004, Aurora Nealand has proven something of an enigma: Is she a soprano sax-playing jazz vocalist, an accomplished cabaret performer, a progressive electronic-pop artist—or all of the above? See (and hear) for yourself, when she plays the Contemporary Arts Center (p. 44) March 29-31.

Attractions & Landmarks
ARMSTRONG PARK—Named for the late jazz great Louis Armstrong, this recently refurbished 34-acre green space is home to the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts. Also known as Congo Square, it was here that free people of color would gather during the 1700s to dance and drum—and where jazz is believed to have first taken root. N. Rampart and St. Ann streets. Map 3, H2

AUDUBON AQUARIUM OF THE AMERICAS—This award-winning aquarium includes the largest and most diverse collection of sharks and jellyfish in the U.S. Admission includes a ticket for the Entergy Giant Screen Theater. $29.95 adults, $24.95 seniors and $21.95 ages 2-12. Open Tu-Su at 10 am; call for closing hours. www.audubon-institute.org. 6500 Magazine St., 504.581.4629 or 800.774.7394. Map 1, C4

CEMETERIES—New Orleans’ aboveground “cities of the dead” act as windows on the past, offering insight into local history and customs. St. Louis No. 1, just outside the French Quarter, is the city’s oldest; Lafayette No. 1 in the Garden District draws fans of vampire novelist Anne Rice, who set a number of her works there. Many are located in high-crime areas. Tours are available; do not venture in alone, day or night.

CITY PARK—Abundant live oaks provide a lush canopy for this 1,300-acre outdoor oasis, larger even than New York’s Central Park. www.neworleanscitypark.com. 1 Dreyfous Ave., 504.482.4888. Map 1, D2

CRESCENT CITY COOKS!—Learn the secrets of New Orleans-style cuisine from chefs who conduct two-hour classes daily (10 am)—and taste the results afterward during lunch. Hands-on classes are also offered, along with a large selection of spices, culinary utensils and New Orleans-themed serving ware. www.crescentcitycooks.com. 201 Chartres St., 504.529.1600 Map 3, F4

CRESCENT PARK—Looking for a unique view of the city? Hop on the Elysian Fields Avenue elevator or climb the arching footbridge at Piety and Chartres streets, and stroll along this 1.4-mile riverfront promenade. Stretching from the French Quarter to the Bywater neighborhood, the park offers jogging and biking paths, a dog run and picture-perfect picnic areas. www.crescentparknola.org. Map 3, J6

ESCAPE MY ROOM—The concept of this live, interactive game is simple—solve the puzzle within an hour and you and your teammates “escape” the mystery room—but it’s way more complex (and fun) than that. A great activity for families and group team-building. Reservations required. www.escapeymyroom.com. 633 Constance St., 504.475.7580. Map 3, D6

FRENCH MARKET—America’s oldest public market dates to pre-colonial days. Along with homegrown specialties, the market also features a number of food stalls, retail shops and flea market merchants. www.frenchmarket.org. 1100 N. Peters St., 504.522.2621. Map 3, H5

HARRAH’S CASINO—The South’s largest casino is located at the foot of Canal Street. This mammoth pleasure palace features five New Orleans-themed areas comprising 2,100 slots and 104 table games, live entertainment and a lavish buffet. www.harrashneworleans.com. 8 Canal St., 504.533.6000. Map 3, E6

HISTORIC CEMETARY TOUR—Learn about the city’s past during a guided tour led by a cassette that provides a commentary on 15 sites along the route. $12 adults, $6 children. www.crescentparknola.org. Map 3, J6

THE DESIRE STREETCAR, made famous by Tennessee Williams’ “A Streetcar Named Desire,” was replaced by bus in 1948, the year the play won a Pulitzer Prize.
In the wake of Japan’s attack, American soldiers marched into battle while citizens rallied on the Home Front. In ration lines and victory gardens and factories across the United States, they built an Arsenal of Democracy. Experience how the Home Front supported the front lines and helped win the war—at The Arsenal of Democracy, a new permanent exhibit at The National WWII Museum.

945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 | 877-813-3329
NationalWW2Museum.org
Guidelines

This directory, grouped by category, is a compendium of establishments recommended by the editors of Where magazine and includes regular advertisers. Information was accurate as of press time, but is subject to change. Call to verify hours, accessibility, etc.

MAP LOCATIONS

Note that the references at the end of each listing (Map 3, F4, etc.) apply to coordinates on the maps on pages 61-63.

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JACKSON SQUARE—The heart of the Quarter was originally known as Place d’Armes, and was renamed to honor President Andrew Jackson, whose statue anchors the square. A quintessential photo op. Decatur Street at St. Ann Street. Map 3, G5

LAFITTE GREENWAY—This 2.6-mile bike and pedestrian trail connects Armstrong Park to City Park. The ADA-compliant green corridor, dotted with recreation fields, offers quiet retreat in the heart of the city. www.lafittegreenway.org. Map 3, F2

LASER TAG OF METAIRIE—Looking for high-energy, adrenaline-pumping, family fun? This is the place. Between bouts of laser tag, go a few rounds on the bumper cars or try your hand at the 50-plus arcade games. Worked up an appetite? Dig into pizza, wings and more. Open daily. www.ltag.org. 8855 Veterans Blvd, Metairie, 504.469.7475. Map 3, A2

MARDI GRAS WORLD—It’s Carnival time all year long inside the workshops of Kern Studios, the world’s largest float builder. The tour features a video on the history of Mardi Gras. $22 adults/children, $17 seniors/students with college ID, $14 ages 11-12. Tours daily, 9:30 am-4 pm. www.mardigrasworld.com. 1380 Port of New Orleans Pl., 504.361.7821. Map 3, A8

MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME—The recently re-vamped and rebranded Superdome, home of the New Orleans Saints, remains the largest covered arena in the world. www.mbsuperdome.com. 1500 Poydras St., 504.587.3663. Map 3, B2

NATIONAL SHRINE OF BLESSED FRANCIS SEELOS—Just one block from the Magazine Street shopping corridor, this popular pilgrimage site—a sanctuary of hospitality, hope and healing—is located in historic St. Mary’s Assumption Church, Louisiana’s oldest German Catholic church. Free tours are offered M-F, 9 am-3 pm; Sa, 10 am-3:30 pm. Large groups by appointment. www.seelos.org. 919 Josephine St., 504.525.2495. Map 1, D3

NEW ORLEANS MUSICAL LEGENDS PARK—This pocket-size park celebrates Bourbon Street’s bigger-than-life musical legacy with statues of Al Hirt, Pete Fountain and others. An on-site café and bar offers cool libations, lite bites and, naturally, live music. www.neworleansmusicallegends.com. 311 Bourbon St., 504.888.7608. Map 3, F4

NEW ORLEANS SCHOOL OF COOKING & LOUISIANA GENERAL STORE—Creole/Cajun cooking demonstrations are offered daily at 10 am and 2 pm. Private group and hands-on sessions are also available; reservations required. The store is open M-Sa, 9 am-6 pm; Su, 9 am-5 pm. www.nosoc.com. 524 St. Louis St., 504.208.5320. Map 3, F5

OLD URSULINE CONVENT—Dating to 1827, this is the oldest edifice in the Mississippi River Valley and the sole surviving building from the French Colonial period in the U.S. Tours given M-F, 10 am-4 pm; Sa, 9 am-3 pm. $8 adults, $7 seniors, $6 students/military; ages 8 and under free. www.stlouiscathedral.org. 1100 Chartres St., 504.529.3040. Map 3, I4

PONTALBA BUILDINGS—Erected in 1851, the stately red-brick townhouses flanking Jackson Square rank as the first apartment complex in the United States. Map 3, G5

SMOOTHIE KING CENTER—Cousin to the Superdome, the Center is the home of the New Orleans Pelicans basketball team, as well as the site of major concerts. www.smoothiekingcenter.com. 1501 Dave Dixon Drive, 504.587.3663. Map 3, A2

ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH—Founded by free people of color in 1841, St. Augustine, located in the his-
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AIRBOAT ADVENTURES—Explore secluded areas of south Louisiana swamplands via guided, high-speed airboat. Excursions geared to groups of all sizes. Big boat, $55; small boat, $75. Hotel pickups available for an additional fee. www.airboatadventures.com. 504.689.2005 or 888.GO.SWAMP.

CITY SEGWAY TOURS—Why walk when you can glide? Guided two- and three-hour Segway tours of the French Quarter and Tremé are offered daily. Private excursions are also available. www.citysegwaytours.com. 214 Decatur St., 877.734.8687. Map 3, E5

CITY SIGHTSEEING—This fun and informative double-decker bus tour allows you to hop off—then back on again—at top attractions throughout the city. The open-top buses run a continuous loop every 30 minutes from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Unlimited hop-on, hop-off sightseeing. Adult 1-day ticket: $39; adult 3-day ticket (includes free guided walking tours of the French Quarter and Garden District): $49; children (ages 3-12): $10 any tour. www.citysightseeingneworleans.com. 700 Decatur St., 504.207.6200; 800.362.1811. Map 3, G5

CONFEDERACY OF CRUISERS—These guided bicycle tours take visitors out of the French Quarter and Tremé into some of the city’s most vibrant and un-explored nabes. Cocktail and culinary excursions are also offered, along with customized bike tours. www.confedcrucys.com. 634 Elysian Fields Ave., 504.400.5468. Map 3, J8

CREOLE QUEEN PADDLEWHEELER—Daily 2.5-hour Chalmette Battlefield tours (10 am and 2 pm) and two-hour dinner jazz cruises (7 pm). Depart from Spanish Plaza (Poydras Street at the Mississippi River). www.creolequeen.com. 1 Poydras St., 504.529.4567. Map 3, D7

DRINK & LEARN—Culinary historian Elizabeth Pearce leads these fun and informative tippling tours through the French Quarter. www.drinkandlearn.com. 504.578.8280.

FRENCH QUARTER PHANTOMS TOURS—All tours depart from The Voodoo Lounge (718 N. Rampart Street), run about two hours and cover close to one mile. Custom and private excursions are also available. Reservations required. Ghost & Vampire Tour—$20. Departies nightly, 6 and 8 pm. St. Louis #1 Cemetery Tour—$20. Departs M-Sa at 11 am and 1 pm; Su at 10 am. Tremé Tour—$20. Departs Sa-M at 10 am. Tales & Tastes: Your Ultimate Food and Cocktail Tour—Th-Su, 7 pm; call for reservations www.frenchquarterphantoms.com. 718 N. Rampart St., 504.666.8300. Map 3, H4

FRIENDS OF THE CABILDO—Informative, two-hour walking tours of the French Quarter are offered daily at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm. $20 adults, $15 students/seniors/active military, children under 12 free. www.friendsofthecabildo.org. Departs from the 1850 House museum store. 523 St. Ann St., 504.523.3999. Map 3, G5

GRAY LINE NEW ORLEANS—Gray Line offers a variety of tours—Plantations, Ghost, Garden District, Cemeteries, Hurricane Katrina, Swamp & Airboat, Cocktail, French Quarter, City, Steamboat and River Cruises—and all possible combinations. Walking, bus and boating tours all depart from the courthouse Square Wharf. Call for tour information and reservations. www.grayline-worleans.com. Toulouse St. at the Mississippi River, 504.569.1401. Map 3, F5


NEW ORLEANS JOGGING TOURS—Get fit and informed at the same time. Guided jogs through the French Quarter and Garden District are offered daily; customized tours are also available. Meetings group at the corner of Decatur and Barracks streets. www.neworleansjoggintours.com. 504.858.9988. Map 3, I8

NEW ORLEANS SPIRITS AND SPELLS TOUR—These guided spirited journeys through the French Quarter explore the ghosts, gris-gris and witchery associated with the world’s most magical city. Departs nightly at 7 pm from Hex: Old World Witchery. www.spiritsandspellstour.com. 1219 Decatur St., 504.667.5570. Map 3, J8

RIVERBOAT CITY OF NEW ORLEANS—The city’s newest riverboat has all of the flair and flavor of the city, with great dining, jazz, bars, history and culture. Daily jazz brunch and dinner cruises are offered; explore Marli Gras World as an optional stop. www.riverboatcityofneworleans.com. Toulouse St. at the Mississippi River, 504.569.1401. Map 3, E7

SAVE OUR CEMETERIES—St. Louis No. 1: departs daily at 10 am, 11:30 am and 1 pm from Backatown Coffee Parlour (301 Basin St.). $25, under 12 free. Lafayette No. 1: departs daily at 10:30 am and 1 pm from Washington Avenue gate (1400 block of Washington Ave.) $20, under 12 free. Reservations recommended. www.saveourcemeteries.org. 504.525.3377.

STEAMBOAT NATCHez—The last authentic steamboat on the Mississippi River. Daily harbor jazz cruises at 11:30 am and 2:30 pm. Dinner jazz cruise, nightly at 7 pm. Sunday jazz brunch cruises, 11:30 am and 2:30 pm. Cruises depart from Toulouse Street and the river in the French Quarter; call to verify availability. www.steamboatnatchez.com. Toulouse St. at the Mississippi River, 504.569.1401. Map 3, E7

Museums & Exhibits

BACKSTREET CULTURAL MUSEUM—Located in a former funeral parlor, this offbeat museum seeks “to keep jazz funerals alive” with memorabilia from famous send-offs, in addition to archival items and photos from second-line parades. Elaborate Mardi Gras Indian costumes are also on display. Admission $10; open Tu-Sa, 10 am-4 pm. www.backstreetmuseum.org. 1116 Henriette Delille St., 504.522.4806. Map 3, I2

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL HALL—Established in 1891 by Civil War veterans and their families, this is Louisiana’s oldest continually operating museum and the second largest collection of Confederate memorabilia in the country. $10 adults, $5 ages 14 and under. Open Tu-Sa, 10 am-4 pm. www.confirmemorialmuseum.com. 929 Camp St., 504.523.4522. Map 3, B6

CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER—The city’s premier modern art exhibit space features rotating exhibits and also plays host to performances. $10, $8 seniors/students. Open W-M, 11 am-5 pm. www.caco.org. 900 Camp St., 504.528.3800. Map 3, B6

GALLIER HOUSE—The 1857 home of renowned New Orleans architect James Gallier, Jr. is decorated and furnished in the style of the 1860s. Tours offered on the hour M-Tu and Th-F, 10 am-3 pm; Sa, noon-3 pm; Open W by appointment only for group tours of 20 or more. $15 adults, $12 AAA members/seniors/students. www.hgghh.org. 1132 Royal St., 504.274.0748. Map 3, I4

HERMANN-GRIMA HOUSE—Built in 1833, this house/museum offers visitors a glimpse into New Orleans’ Creole past. The house features the Quarter’s only horse stable and functioning outdoor kitchen. Tours offered on the hour M-Tu and Th-F, 10 am-3 pm; Sa, noon-3 pm; Open W by appointment only for group tours of 20 or more. $15 adults, $12 AAA members/seniors/students. www.hgghh.org. 820 St. Louis St., 504.274.0750. Map 3, F4

HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION—This trove of local historic treasures features free changing exhibitions. Open Tu-Sa, 9:30 am-4:30 pm; Su, 10:30 am-4:30 pm. The Louisiana History Galleries are housed in the Mercier House, circa 1792, while the Laura Simon Nelson Galleries of Louisiana Art are in the circa-1825 Perilliat House (400 Chartres St.). Guided tours of the Williams Residence are $5 (Tu-Sa, 10 am and 11 am, 2 and 3 pm; Su, 11 am and 2 and 3 pm); other tours available www.hnoc.org. 533 Royal St., 504.523.4662. Map 3, G4

LE MUSÉE DE F.P.C.—This museum explores the history, culture and contributions of New Orleans’ free people of color. Spanning three centuries, exhibits include original manumission documents, 19th-century paintings and an 1864 right-to-vote petition. Open Tu-F, 1-4 pm; weekend tours by
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structure next to St. Louis Cathedral was the site of the signing of the Louisiana Purchase. Continuing: “The Cabildo: Two Centuries of Louisiana History.”

1850 House (Lower Pontalba Building, 523 St. Ann St.)—Antebellum family life in New Orleans is depicted and described here. Open Tu-Su, 10 am-4:30 pm: $3 adults, $2 students/seniors/active military, children under 6 free. New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint (400 Esplanade Ave.)—Constructed in 1834, this is the only building to have served as both a U.S. and Confederate mint. Second-floor exhibits trace the history of jazz in the city, from its inception to today. Presbytère (Jackson Square)—Continuing: “Mardi Gras: It’s Carnival Time in Louisiana” and “Living With Hurricanes: Katrina & Beyond.” For tickets and further information: louisianastatemuseum.org. 504.568.6968.

NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM—This living history tribute to the veterans of World War II is a world-class military archive. The Victory Theater shows the 4D film “Beyond All Boundaries,” while the U.S. Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center offers “Final Mission: The USS Tang Submarine Experience,” and the new Campaigns of Courage Pavilion houses the “Road to Berlin” and the “Road to Tokyo.” $27 adults, $23.50 seniors, $17.50 students/military, free for WWII vets and children under 5. “Beyond All Boundaries” and “Final Mission” an additional $5. www.nationalww2museum.org. 945 Magazine St., 504.528.1944. Map 3, B6

NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM OF ART—One of the South’s finest museums, featuring an extensive collection from the 15th through 20th centuries, with a special focus on European and American paintings. The Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden offers more than 50 sculptures by major 20th-century artists. Open Tu-Th, 10 am-6 pm; F, 10 am-9 pm; Sa-Su, 11 am-5 pm. Museum: $12 adults, $10 seniors/students, $8 college students, $6 ages 7-12, free ages 6 and under. Sculpture Garden open M-F, 10 am-6 pm; Sa-Su 10 am-5 pm; free. www.noma.org. 1 Collins C. Diboll Circle (City Park), 504.658.4100. Map 1, D2

NEW ORLEANS PHARMACY MUSEUM—This former apothecary housed the nation’s first licensed pharmacist. See 19th-century “miracle” drugs, phlebotomists’ tools and an 1855 soda fountain. Open Tu-Sa, 10 am-4 pm; $5 adults, $4 seniors/students, under 6 free. www.pharmacymuseum.org. 514 Chartres St., 504.565.8027. Map 3, G4

NEWCOMB ART MUSEUM—The Newcomb College division of Tulane University is known worldwide for its Arts and Crafts pottery. Its museum features rare examples from the early 20th century, in addition to traveling exhibits. Free; open Tu-F, 10 am-5 pm; Sa, 11 am-4 pm. www.newcombartmuseum.tulane.edu. Woldenberg Art Center, Tulane University, 504.865.5328. Map 1, D3

OGDEN MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN ART—The most comprehensive collection of its kind, this Smithsonian Institution affiliate offers a fresh, new look at four centuries of the American South with emphasis on photography, outsider art and the richness of the region’s cultural diversity. $13.50 adults, $11 seniors/students, $6.75 children (under 5 free). Open F-W 10 am-5 pm; Th 10 am-8 pm for Ogden After Hours. www.ogdenmuseum.org. 925 Camp St., 504.539.9650. Map 3, B6

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Cocktails

ARNAUD’S FRENCH 75—Fine libations and classic cocktails in a clubby atmosphere, adjacent to Arnaud’s restaurant. Arnaud.com. 813 Bienville St., 504.523.5433. Map 3, F4

VENUE AVENUE—The New Orleans go-to for craft beers, offering the city’s largest available selection of locally produced brews. www.thevenuepub.com. 1732 St. Charles Ave., 504.586.9243. Map 1, D3

BARREL PROOF—From Japanese Yamazaki to Kentucky-aged Old Grand-Dad, this hip Lower Garden District spot holds more than 150 brands of whiskey from around the globe. barrelproofnola.com. 1201 Magazine St., 504.949.9399. Map 3, J5

CURE—This cutting-edge cocktail lounge, housed in a former fire station, has one foot in the 19th century and one in the 21st. The cocktail menu is also half old fashioned and half modern, making Cure one of the hippest places in town to imbibe and socialize. www.curenlola.com. 4905 Freret St., 504.302.2357. Map 1, D3

EFFERVESCENCE—This bubbly spot features 90-plus bottles of sparkling wine, along with reds, whites and a variety of small plates. Open W-Su. www.nolaebubbles.com. 1036 N. Rampart St. 504.509.7644. Map 3, H3

HERMES BAR—This sophisticated hideaway, tucked inside Antoine’s restaurant, offers quiet respite from the din on nearby Bourbon Street, great ambiance, knowledgeable bartenders and access to the historic eatery’s menu. www.antoines.com. 713 St. Louis St., 504.581.4422. Map 3, G4

HOT TIN—Named after a Tennessee Williams play— the author once stayed here—this Garden District hot spot is located on the roof of the Pontchartrain Hotel. The sophisticated space offers creative cocktails and amazing views. www.hottinbar.com. 2031 St. Charles Ave., 504.323.1453. Map 1, D3

LAFITTE’S BLACKSMITH SHOP—This historic cottage dates to the late 1700s. The legends surrounding Lafitte’s are vast; it’s easy to sit in the dark, watching the carriages pass, and imagine yourself back in a den of pirates and privateers. www.lafitteblacksmithshop.com. 941 Bourbon St., 504.593.9761. Map 3, H5

NOLA BREWING—Weekly brewery tours, a massive tap room and in-house barbecue make this a must-stop for beer fans. www.nolabrewing.com. 3001 Tchoupitoulas St., 504.896.9996. Map 3, D4

OLD ABSINTHE HOUSE—A favored tavern of such bon vivants as Oscar Wilde, Mark Twain and Walt Whitman, this historic bar continues to draw absinthe enthusiasts and those thirsty for a taste of authentic New Orleans as it has since 1806. oldabsinthehouse.com. 240 Bourbon St., 504.523.3181. Map 3, F4

PAT O’BRIEN’S—Birthplace of the Hurricane cocktail, this complex features four bars, a full menu and the famous courtyard and fountain. A Crescent City must-do. www.patobriens.com. 718 St. Peter St., 504.525.4823. Map 3, G4

THE PENTHOUSE CLUB—This upscale gentlemen’s club is one of the largest and toniest along the Bourbon Street strip. State-of-the-art lighting and sound systems are featured, along with private suites. www.penthouseclubneworleans.com. 727 Iberville St., 504.524.4354. Map 3, E4

SAZERAC BAR—Thirties elegance and classic cocktails in the beautifully restored Roosevelt Hotel. The perfect place to sample a Sazerac—the official cocktail of New Orleans—or a Ramos Gin Fizz, both of which were perfected here. www.therooseveltneworleans.com. 130 Roosevelt Way, 504.648.1200. Map 3, E3

Live Entertainment

APPLE BARREL—This raffish joint is tiny but has a warm and intimate feel, especially when there’s a blues guitarist or a jazz combo performing in a corner of the crowded room. 609 Frenchmen St., 504.949.3999. Map 3, J5

BLUE NILE—This lively Frenchmen Street venue is simultaneously funky and stylish, with oodles of ambiance. Local acts perform regularly, along with national and international musicians. www.bluenillevlive.com. 532 Frenchmen St., 504.948.2583. Map 3, J5

CAROUSEL BAR—Located in the Hotel Monteleone, this bar is an authentic revolving carousel (worth a peek even for teetotalers) and was a favorite of such literary lights as Tennessee Williams and Truman Capote. Live music nightly. www.hotelmonteleone.com. 214 Royal St., 504.523.3341. Map 3, E4

CHICKIE WAH WAH—This hot venue keeps the Mid-City music scene at a steady boil with sets by leading jazz and funk acts. www.chickiewawah.com. 2928 Canal St., 504.244.2543. Map 1, D3


THE FILLMORE NEW ORLEANS—Harrah’s Casino ups the music ante with this 22,000-sq.-ft. offshoot of the legendary San Francisco venue, which features top-tier national touring acts. www.fillmorenola.com. 6 Canal St., 504.881.1555. Map 3, E6

GASA GASA—Live music, local art exhibitions, film screenings and recording sessions are all on tap at this quirky music venue. A number of great restaurants are within walking distance. www.gasagasa.com. 4920 Freret St., 504.388.3567. Map 1, D3

HOUSETOP OF BLUES—This Crescent City branch of the national chain consistently tops local best-of lists, and mixes big-name tours with performances by New Orleans favorites. www.hob.com. 225 Decatur St., 504.529.2583. Map 3, F5

HOWLIN’ WOLF—This locally owned and operated club features low cover charges and low attitude. Acts include both local favorites and big names; the music ranges from punk to straight-ahead rock. www.thehowlinwolf.com. 907 S. Peters St., 504.529.5844. Map 3, C7

THE JAZZ PLAYHOUSE—This stylish spot inside the Royal Sonesta New Orleans recreatesthe tony jazz clubs of Bourbon Street’s 1950s heyday. The club features performances by a rotating roster of top-tier local talent, nightly at 8 pm. Retro burlesque Fridays at 11 pm. www.sonesta.com/jazzplayhouse. 300 Bourbon St., 504.553.2299. Map , F4

LITTLE GEM SALOON—This long-neglected jazz landmark has received a new lease on life, and is once again a player on the city’s live-music scene, with performances most nights of the week. www.littlegemsaloon.com. 445 S. Rampart St., 504.267.4863. Map 3, C3

MAPLE LEAF—A tin roof, a sweaty dance floor, a quintessential N’awlins experience: fueled by funk from some Crescent City greats, the crowd goes till dawn. www.mapleleafbar.com. 8316 Oak St, 504.866.9359. Map 1, C3

MUSIC BOX VILLAGE—Make your own kind of music at this whimsical wonderland, where ramshackle huts double as instruments. The one-of-a-kind venue also hosts live performances. www.musicboxvillage.com. 4557 N. Rampart St. Map 1, E3


ROCK ‘N BOWL—A legendary local favorite now in a new, larger location, Rock ‘n Bowl still features the winning combination of bowling lanes and live music from the region’s top zydeco, R&B and rock acts. www.rockandbowl.com. 3000 S. Carrollton Ave., 504.861.1700. Map 1, D3

SNUG HARBOR—An elegant, intimate mainstay of Frenchmen Street’s music row, Snug Harbor was rated the city’s best jazz club by Esquire. Two sets nightly. www.snugjazz.com. 626 Frenchmen St., 504.949.0696. Map 3, J4

THE SPOTTED CAT—This tiny club has a casual, laid-back vibe and a large, loyal following among locals and visitors alike. Live music starts at 4 pm on weekdays (3 pm on weekends) and continues way into the night. www.spottedcatmusicclub.com. 623 Frenchmen St. Map 3, J5

STAGE DOOR CANTEEN—Swing back to a bygone era at this fun WWII Museum venue, which features live musical productions reminiscent of 1940s USO shows. Dinner and brunch packages available. Call for current lineup. www.stagedoorcanteen.org. 945 Magazine St., 504.528.1943. Map 3, B6

THREE KEYS—This hip space in the Ace Hotel mixes things up with live performances by local musical acts, swing dance lessons and guest speakers discussing local history and culture. www.threkeyesnola.com. 600 Carondelet St., 504.900.1180. Map 1, D3

TIPITINA’S—A legendary local favorite now in a new, larger location, Tip’s once again a player on the city’s live-music scene, despite not serving liquor. Drunks and yakkers: go elsewhere. www.preservationhall.com. 726 St. Peter St., 504.522.2841. Map 3, G4

TIPITINA’S—The legendary Tip’s offers an eclectic, always-entertaining lineup, killer acoustics and multiple bars. www.tipitinas.com. 501 Napoleon Ave., 504.895.8477. Map 1, D4
Where do you want to go?

Find the best of the city

www.wheretraveler.com
General Information

New Orleans is famous for its good-time party spirit, but some visitors have misconceptions about local laws and customs. A few things to keep in mind:

ORIENTATION—Should you become confused while walking in the French Quarter, find the skyscrapers on the horizon. That will be Canal Street.

SAFETY—Use common sense. Stick to well-traveled streets, particularly at night. If you’ve been drinking, have your bartender call a taxi for you.

DRINKING—It is indeed legal to drink on the streets of New Orleans, provided your beverage is in a plastic container (“go-cup”) rather than a bottle or can.

SMOKING—Smoking is banned in all public buildings, including restaurants and bars.

PUBLIC NUDITY—Despite what you may have seen and heard, nudity is illegal in Orleans Parish at all times (including Mardi Gras). “Flashing” may earn women a ticket, but anyone dropping his or her pants will be arrested and booked for public indecency.

CALL OF NATURE—Public urination is a legal violation that will earn you not just a ticket, but an arrest and a court date.

Transportation

AIRPORT SHUTTLE—Airport Shuttle is the official ground transportation to/from the Louis Armstrong International Airport and downtown hotels. Fares: $20/person, $38 round trip. Shuttles depart the airport every 15 minutes until the last flight of the day. Arrivals: Purchase tickets at the desks across from the baggage carousels. Departures: Call 504.522.3500 no later than 24 hours before your flight. Pickups will be no less than 2½ hours before flight time. www.airportshuttleneworleans.com.

ALGIERS FERRY—A ferry ($2 each way; $1/seniors, free age 2 and under) has been crossing the Mississippi River since 1827. The shuttle runs from Canal Street to Algiers Point M-Th, 6 am-9:45 pm; F, 6 am-11:45 pm; Sa, 10:30 am-11:45 pm, and Su, 10:30 am-9:45 pm.

BUSES—The city bus system is operated by the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA). Fares: Standard fare is $1.25; express, $1.50; seniors, 40¢; transfers, 25¢. RTA VisiTour™ passes (good for boarding on all RTA buses and streetcars within Orleans Parish) are another option. One-day passes (sold onboard) are $3, three-day passes are $9, 31-day passes are $55. For routes, timetables, and passes, visit www.norta.com or call 504.248.3900.


PARKING—Parking in the French Quarter and the Central Business District is rarely easy. Read all posted signs. Some areas without meters allow free two-hour parking. If your car is towed, call 504.565.7450.

RENAL CARS—Though the French Quarter and Central Business District (CBD) are fairly compact, exploring other parts of the city is best done by car. Rental car agencies are plentiful in the CBD as well as at the Louis Armstrong International Airport and in neighboring Metairie.

STREETCARS—New Orleans’ legendary streetcar system features four lines, all of which connect on Canal Street. The St. Charles line leaves from the corner of Canal and Carondelet (Bourbon becomes Carondelet on the other side of Canal) and runs Uptown; the Loyola line offers access to the Superdome and Union Passenger Terminal; the Riverfront line travels along the Mississippi through the Lower French Quarter; the Canal line continues to the end of Canal Street (cars marked “Cemeteries”), with a “spur” onto Carrollton (cars marked “City Park”). The new Rampart/St. Claude line runs from Union Passenger Terminal to Elysian Fields Avenue. Standard fare is $1.25. Jazzy Passes™ (allowing unlimited boarding) are $3 for one day (available onboard), $9 for three days and $55 for 31 days. www.norta.com. 504.248.3900.

There’s a lot more going on this month. Visit us online: wheretraveler.com
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Central Business District /Uptown
Alger/Bywater scene. The riverfront Crescent Park runs from
Garden District/Uptown
French Quarter
WESTBANK
THE RIVERFRONT
LAKEVIEW
GARDEN DISTRICT/UPTOWN
JEFFERSON PARISH

Neighborhoods

ALGIERS—Located directly across from the Mississippi River from the French Quarter and accessible via a
short ferry ride, this architecturally rich neighborhood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
Immaculately preserved Greek Revival, Italianate and Victorian homes impart the feel of a
19th-century small town. Map 3, H8

BYWATER—a Mix of Creole cottages and Victorian shotgun homes marks this traditionally working-
class neighborhood, now undergoing gradual gentrification with an influx of urban hipsters, a
number of popular eateries and a growing art scene. The riverfront Crescent Park runs from
Bywater to the French Quarter. Map 1, B3

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD)—The center of Crescent City commerce, the CBD is defined by its
main artery, Poydras Street, which stretches from the Mercedes-Benz Superdome to the river
and includes the Morial Convention Center and Harrah’s Casino. In recent years, the CBD has
seen an explosion of luxury hotels, as well as a continuing restaurant renaissance with hot spots
like Restaurant August, Cochon, Domenecha and Ruth’s Chris, in addition to the perennially popular
Emeril’s. Map 3, B5

CENTRAL CITY—This once-bustling commercial corridor on the “lakeside” of St. Charles Avenue, which fell into deep decline during the 1990s, is thriving again. Home to legendary musicians, such as Buddy Bolden, the area is also home to the New Orleans Jazz Market and the Southern Food
and Beverage Museum. Map 1, D3

FRENCH QUARTER—The French Quarter, or Vieux Carré, founded in 1718 as a walled military
outpost, once comprised the entire city of New Orleans. Today, the district is on the National
Register of Historic Places, and its quaint streets and shuttered Creole townhouses continue to
charm. Map 3, G4

GARDEN DISTRICT/UPTOWN—Perhaps the grandest of New Orleans’ neighborhoods, the Garden
District is famous for its stately Greek Revival, Gothic and Queen Anne homes surrounded by
expansive lawns and gardens. Tours of the area are available. Magazine Street, a mix of upscale
and offbeat art galleries, clothing boutiques and café, is a shopaholic’s dream. Map 1, D4

LAKEVIEW—Romantic and modern styles are the hallmark of this pleasant suburban area. A popular residential shopping and dining strip runs along Harrison Avenue. Map 1, D1

LOWER 9TH WARD—Nearly wiped off the map by Hurricane Katrina, this resilient community continues to rebuild and repopulate. Highlights include the Make Right Foundation development and the House of Dance and Feathers. Map 1, F3

MARIGNY (FAUBOURG MARIGNY)—Named one of America’s hippest neighborhoods by Travel +
Leisure, this funky district adjacent to the French Quarter has a bohemian mix of residents, from
the well-heeled to the down-at-heel, as well as interesting residential architecture. Frenchmen
Street, with its music clubs and restaurants, is the city’s hottest nightlife destination. Map 3, J4

MID-CITY—Lush avenues, shotgun homes and the banks of Bayou St. John are all included in Mid-
City’s beautiful neighborhoods, accessible by the Canal Street streetcar. The New Orleans Museum
of Art, City Park and the mansions along Esplanade Avenue are popular attractions. Map 1, D3

RIVERBEND—Originally incorporated in 1845 as Carrollton, a city in its own right, this area was
annexed by New Orleans in 1874. Today the neighborhood is a casual shopping and dining district.
Oak and Maple streets are chockablock with boutiques, bookstores, restaurants, clubs—and
college students. Map 1, C3

TREME (FAUBOURG TÉREME)—The nation’s oldest African-American neighborhood is located just
north of the French Quarter. The Téreme is home to Armstrong Park, the Mahalia Jackson Theater and
St. Augustine Church. Map 3, I2

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT—This “Southern SoHo” adjacent to the Central Business District was given
a facelift for the 1984 World’s Fair. It is now an arts district, known for galleries, museums and lofts.
Highlights include the art galleries on Julia Street, the Contemporary Arts Center, the National
World War II Museum, the Louisiana Children’s Museum, the Confederate Museum and the Ogden
Museum of Southern Art. Map 3, D6

WESTBANK—A drive across the Crescent City Connection bridge takes visitors to the other side of the Mississippi River. The Westbank is a collection of suburban residential and business communi-
ties, including Gretna, Harvey and Westwego. English Turn Golf Club and Tournament Players
Club both draw top golf tournaments and PGA events. Map 1, D4

TAXICABS—Taxis are plentiful in New Orleans, particularly around the French Quarter and the
Central Business District. You’ll also find cabs lined up in front of major hotels and the Convention
Center. Standard fare is $3.50 for the first mile, and $3.50 for each 1/8 mile thereafter, or for each
40 seconds of “standing time.” A flat fee of $1 is charged for each additional passenger. A flat fee of $36 is charge for rides to/from the Louis Arm-
strong Airport to/from any location west of Eyislan Fields Avenue. For more than two passengers, a
flat rate of $15 per person is charged. During special events, drivers may charge meter fare or a
flat fee of $7 per passenger, whichever is greater. Should you have a problem or dispute, call the
New Orleans Taxi cab Bureau (504.658.7102).

WALKING—The French Quarter and Central Busi-
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The French Quarter is one of the nation's oldest residential communities. Please treat this historic neighborhood with respect.

Other notable landmarks:

- Hermann-Grima House, 830 St. Louis St. - Built around the mid-1800s, tours are available. Call: 504-526-9861.
- Site of old St. Louis Hall (Centr Royal Creole Hotel), Royal and St. Louis Sts. - The St. Louis Hall, built in the 1800s, was one of the grandest in the young nation.
- Historic New Orleans Collection, 620 Royal St. - Tour the Historic Medical House. Call: 504-689-7973.
- Cabildo and Presbytere, Jackson Square - These former government buildings face St. Louis Cathedral:
  - St. Louis Cathedral, Jackson Square - This is the third church to occupy this spot.
  - Comptoir Fonde, 120 Royal St. - Commemorates the steps where three pirates, Jean and Pierre Lafitte used the building as a hideaway.
- Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop, 541 Bourbon St. - Located one block from Toulouse.
- Madame John’s Legacy, 940 N. Peters St. (near Jackson Square) - First building in the United States to be restored, now a museum to celebrate the life of Madame John’s Legacy.
- Ursuline Convent, 1114 Chartres St. - Built between 1720-34, this convent was the site of Louisiana’s first Catholic school.
- Beauregard-Keyes House, 1113 Chartres St. - This was the home of Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard and now sits at the foot of the Louisiana State Museum.
- Pontalba Apartments and 1650 House, Jackson Square - Mirrored across Pontalba, built in the early 1800s. These two buildings that face Jackson Square are considered to be the oldest buildings in the French Quarter and are considered to be the oldest buildings in the French Quarter.
- The French Market, 504-524-9632 - Tucked away near the corner of Bourbon and Royal Sts. This is one of the city’s oldest and most popular tourist sites for its unique blend of flavor, history, and culture. Get your beignets, churros, and Creole coffee at Cafe du Monde.

New Orleans Creole Cookery

Serving Lunch & Dinner. Courtyard Brunch on Weekends.
Live Music Thursday - Sunday 504-524-9632
510 Toulouse St.
NEWORLEANSCREOLECOOKERY.COM

Cafe Du Monde

Since 1862, New Orleans’ most delicious coffee and beignets. We ship our coffee blend and beignet mix anywhere. 1-800-772-2927 www.cafedumonde.com

Arc of Greater New Orleans (ArcGNO) recycles parade throws, trinkets & beads for resale through its Mardi Gras Recycle Center, which provides jobs for individuals with autism, Down syndrome or other developmental disabilities. Visit arcgno.org for recycling bin locations near you OR Ask your concierge how you can donate beads before checking out!

LITTLE TOY SHOP

A Family Business

Jackson Square Location: 513 St. Ann Street
(504) 523-1770
French Market Location: 900 Decatur Street
(504) 522-6588

- Madame Alexander Dolls • Plush Toys •
RIVER ROAD, which follows the Mississippi between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, was home to more than 400 plantations prior to the Civil War; today only a handful remain.

Plantations & Museums: Near New Orleans

DESTREHAN PLANTATION—A 45-minute drive from New Orleans, Destrehan was built in 1787 by a sugar planter and is the oldest plantation home in the lower Mississippi Valley. Tours are offered daily, 9 am-4 pm. $20 adults, $16 AAA/active military, $15 seniors, $7 children 7-17 and free 6 and under. Advance group rates available. Closed all major holidays. www.destrehanplantation.org. 13034 River Rd., Destrehan, La., 877.453.2095.

EVERGREEN PLANTATION—This gorgeous Greek Revival is a working sugar cane plantation and a private home, with the largest collection of extant slave quarters and outbuildings of any plantation. Tours are offered M-Sa at 9:30 am, 11:30 am and 2 pm. $20 adults, $6 ages 8 and under; free for children under 5. www.evergreenplantation.org. 4677 Hwy. 18, Edgard, La., 985.497.3837.

HOUMAS HOUSE PLANTATION AND GARDENS—Houmas is famous for its imposing Greek Revival architecture and lush grounds, and for having “stared” in many films (most memorably “Hush...Hush, Sweet Charlotte”). Tours are offered daily, 9 am-7 pm. $24; $15 grounds only. Overnight accommodations available. Old South Tours provide transportation via luxury buses that depart daily from the French Quarter, call 877-303-1776 for details. www.houmashouse.com. 40136 Hwy. 942, Darrow, La., 225.473.9380.

LAURA: A CREOLE PLANTATION—This 1804 structure is one of the oldest and largest complexes on River Road. Laura bases its tours on 5,000 pages of documents detailing 200 years of Creole plantation life by the women, children and servants who lived there. The West African folk tale “B’rer Rabbit” was also allegedly recorded on the site. Named the “best history tour in the U.S.” by Lonely Planet travel guide. Guided tours are offered daily, 10 am-4 pm. $20 adults, $6 children ages 6-17. www.lauraplantation.com. 2247 Hwy. 18, Vacherie, La., 888.799.7690.

MADEWOOD PLANTATION HOUSE—This 21-room manse, built in 1846, derived its name from being constructed of wood from trees on the property. Overnight accommodations are available both in the antiques-filled main house and in a nearby Greek Revival cottage. Tours are offered daily, 10 am-4 pm. $10 adults, $6 children. www.made-wood.com. 4250 Hwy. 308, Napoleonville, La., 985.367.7151.

NATIONAL HANSEN’S DISEASE MUSEUM—This site later served as a federal leprosarium for more than a century. Free tours are offered Tu-Sa, 10 am-5 pm; Su, 1-5 pm, and by appointment. $5. www.hrsa.gov/hansens/museum. 5445 Point Clair Rd., Bldg. 12, Carville, La., 225.642.1950.

OAK ALLEY PLANTATION—This picture-perfect Greek Revival mansion, with its 28 evenly spaced 300-year-old live oaks, is a spectacular sight. “The Grande Dame of Great River Road” offers overnight accommodations in century-old cottages, Creole and Cajun fare and mint juleps on the gallery. Guided tours are offered daily, 9 am-5 pm. $22 adults, $8 ages 13-18 and $5 ages 6-12. Group rates available. www.oakalleyplantation.org. 3645 Hwy. 18, Vacherie, La., 888.279.9802.

RIVER ROAD AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM—“Learn about the past to understand the future” is the motto at this plantation museum, which explores the often-unsung contributions of African Americans along River Road. Numerous artifacts are featured, along with exhibits touching on everything from slavery and free people of color to folk art, jazz and African influences on local cuisine. Open W-Sa, 10 am-5 pm; Su, 1-5 pm, and by appointment. $5. www.africanamericanmuseum.org. 406 Charles St., Donaldsonville, La., 225.474.3553.

SAN FRANCISCO PLANTATION—This grand home, built in 1856, boasts hand-painted ceilings and fine decorative finishes. Its fanciful exterior is a mixture of six different architectural styles: Greek Gothic, Italianate, Spanish, Corinthian, Greek Revival and Victorian Gingerbread. The brightly painted gem recently received a $1-million restoration. Open daily, 9:40 am-4:40 pm. $17 adults, $16 AAA/active military, $10 ages 6-17, free ages 5 and under. Group discounts. Closed major holidays. www.sanfranciscoplantation.com.

National Hansen’s Disease Museum

During the early 19th century, plantation homes lacked many modern amenities, but life along River Road was anything but dull and dreary. A number of historic homes that are now open to the public illustrate just how vibrant the era actually was. Take “Steamboat Gothic” San Francisco (shown), for example, with its myriad architectural influences, where skilled artisans were brought in to hand-paint the ornate ceilings and faux-grain woodwork. Or Houmas House, the “Crown Jewel of River Road,” where the striking interiors mirror the gorgeous grounds, which provide a year-round riot of color. Laura reflects its Creole heritage with vivid exterior hues of ocher, red and blue, while antebellum homes erected by Americans, such as Nottoway (the “White Castle of Louisiana”) and Oak Alley, were typically painted white.

Shades of the Past
PLANTATION COUNTRY

Guidelines

The majority of Louisiana’s plantation homes are located along River Road, an easily navigated 70-mile stretch between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Many local tour companies offer River Road excursions; check our Entertainment listings for details.

This directory, grouped by category, is a compendium of establishments recommended by the editors of Where magazine and includes regular advertisers. Information was accurate as of press time, but hours, prices, etc. are subject to seasonal change. Always call ahead to avoid disappointment.

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franciscoplantation.org. 2646 Hwy. 44, Garyville, La., 888.322.1756.

ST. JOSEPH PLANTATION—Birthplace of architect Henry Hobson Richardson, this circa-1830 Creole manor house has been family owned since 1877. The important role of sugar production along River Road is explored here. Guided tours are offered Th-Tu on the hour, from 10 am to 3 pm. $20 adults, $18 seniors/AAA/active military, $13 college, $10 ages 13-18, $8 ages 6-12, free for children 5 and under. Group rates available. Old River Road Plantation Adventures provides transportation from the French Quarter. www.stjosephplantation.com. 3535 Hwy. 18, Vacherie, La., 225.265.4078.

WHITNEY PLANTATION—Recently opened to the public for the first time in its 262-year history, this plantation explores slavery through a variety of exhibits, historic structures and moving first-person accounts. Guided tours are offered W-M on the hour, 10 am-3 pm. $22 adults, $15 seniors, free for children under 12. www.whitneyplantation.com. 5099 Hwy. 18, Wallace, La., 225.265.3300.

Plantations & Museums: Baton Rouge & Beyond

AFTON VILLA GARDENS—Set among the ruins of an 1850s Gothic Revival manse, these magnificent gardens have been rescued and restored to their former glory. More than 250 moss-draped live oaks are spread over 25 acres. Daily tours are offered 9 am-4:30 pm, Mar.-Jun., and Oct.-Nov. $5; children 12 and under free. www.aftonvilla.com. 9047 Hwy. 61, St. Francisville, La., 225.635.6773.

BUTLER GREENWOOD PLANTATION—Still retained by its original-owning family, this circa-1790 English cottage-style home is now a bed-and-breakfast. Eight different cottages dot the grounds, including the plantation’s kitchen, which features two bedrooms, two baths and its original, hand-dug well constructed from bricks made on site. www.buttergreenwood.com. 8345 Hwy. 61, St. Francisville, La., 225.635.6312.

COTTAGE PLANTATION—One of the area’s most complete plantation dwellings with many of the property’s original outbuildings still standing where they were during antebellum days. The main house is composed of a series of connected
Dining


CAFÉ BURNSIDE— Houmas House Plantation offers casual outdoor dining amid its lush courtyard and gardens. Light lunch items are featured, along with a bountiful buffet. A traditional Southern brunch with all of the trimmings (seafood crepes, crawfish and-brie omelettes) is served on Sundays. L (daily), Su brunch. www.houmashouse.com. 40136 Hwy. 942, Darrow, LA., 225.473.7841.

CAFÉ LAFOURCHE—Turtle soup, alligator sauce piquant, crawfish pie, fried seafood platters. What else would you expect from a restaurant perched on the banks of the bayou? Get a taste of it all with the Bayou Bell Classic (shrimp, crawfish and andouille served over pasta) or go for the Swamp steak. L (M-F), D (M-Sa). www.cafe Lafourche.com. 817 Veterans Blvd., Donaldsonville, LA., 225.473.7451.

THE CARRIAGE HOUSE—During the 1860s famed New Orleans architect James Gallier designed a pair of carriage houses for Houmas House Plantation that were never built...until 2013. The opulent space, outfitted with carved marble mantles, gilt mirrors and crystal chandeliers, serves an elegant afternoon tea and casual dinner daily. www.houmashouse.com. 40136 Hwy. 942, Darrow, LA., 225.473.7841.

FIRST AND LAST CHANCE CAFÉ—Located in a former train depot, this family-style restaurant has been a popular gathering place since 1921. Po’boys, burgers, fresh seafood and other Louisiana specialties are offered. B, L, D (daily). 812 Railroad Ave., Donaldsonville, LA., 225.473.8236.

GRAPEVINE CAFÉ—This combination restaurant/art gallery, located in a former 1920s tavern and gambling parlor (frequented by Al Capone), features rotating exhibits, live music and above-standard Cajun and Creole fare. L, D (Tu-Sa); Su brunch. www.grapevinecafeandgallery.com. 211 Railroad Ave., Donaldsonville, LA., 225.473.8463.

LATIL’S LANDING—Old World elegance with innovative, irresistible food. That’s the winning formula behind this in-house fine dining venue at Houmas House Plantation. Latil’s features a multi-course, seasonal tasting menu, with dishes such as speckled trout with fennel-and-heirloom tomato ragout and pancetta-wrapped pork belly with pureed sweet potatoes served on the plantation’s signature Limoges china. D (W-Sa). www.houmashouse.com. 40136 Hwy. 942, Darrow, LA., 225.473.7841.

THE MANSON—Nottoway’s in-house restaurant offers sweeping views of the plantation’s oaks and seasonally inspired Cajun and Creole fare, with daily lunch and dinner specials. The bar, located in what was once the Randolph-family bowling alley, features classic Louisiana cocktails, local beers and an extensive wine list. B, L, D (daily); Su brunch. www.nottoway.com. 31025 Hwy. 1 South, White Castle, LA., 225.545.2730.

RURAL LIFE MUSEUM—Located on the Burden Research Plantation, a 450-acre agricultural experiment facility operated by Louisiana State University, this museum charts the state’s rich cultural heritage with exhibits on “folk architecture” and 19th-century working plantation life. Open daily (except major holidays), 8 am-4:30 pm. $7 adults, $6 seniors, $5 students, ages 5-11, ages 4 and under free. www.crt.state.la.us/rural-life. 5460 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA., 225.765.2437.

OAK ALLEY PLANTATION RESTAURANT—Exploring Plantation country calls for serious sustenance. Fortify yourself by starting the day with a cup of coffee and an order of beignets at Oak Alley Plantation’s on-site eatery. Worked up an afternoon appetite? Grab a late lunch of alligator nuggets or jambalaya and a slice of buttermilk pie for the road. B, L, D (daily). www.oakalleyplantation.com. 3645 Hwy. 18, Vacherie, LA., 800.44A.LLEY.
Houmas House Plantation and Gardens makes memories of legendary proportions. Tour the original plantation house built in the 1770s, stroll through 36 acres of breathtaking gardens, discover unique items at the gift shop, and dine at Houmas House’s exquisite restaurants. The Inn at Houmas House now offers 21 luxurious rooms for overnight stays. Plan your visit to the “Crown Jewel of Louisiana’s River Road” today!

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Got Beads?
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Everyone loves Mardi Gras but hauling heavy beads in your luggage is no fun. So, why not give them back and make a huge impact on the city and many of its citizens?

Arc of Greater New Orleans (ArcGNO) recycles parade throws, trinkets & beads for resale through its Mardi Gras Recycle Center, which provides jobs for individuals with autism, Down syndrome or other developmental disabilities.

Visit arcgno.org for recycling bin locations near you OR Ask your concierge how you can donate beads before checking out!
These maps correspond to the listings sections of Where® magazine. Check the coordinates at the end of each listing to find your destination.
Predating the city itself, the (1) French Market is the oldest public market in the U.S. The recently revamped open-air venue retains its historic ambiance, while offering a number of food stalls, fresh produce and souvenir items. There are dozens of “cities of the dead” to explore. If you can visit only one, make it St. Louis No. 1—which counts voodoo priestess Marie Laveau and (still-living) actor Nicolas Cage among its aboveground tombs—and make it with the nonprofit (2) Save Our Cemeteries, which helps fund restoration and preservation. The crumbling walls at the (3) Napoleon House hint at its early age (circa 1812). A warm muffuletta and an icy Pimm’s Cup in the courtyard make for a picture-perfect NOLA moment.

In June 1977 thousands gathered in (1) Jackson Square for the nation’s first protest against Anita Bryant’s anti-gay efforts; in June 2015 gays and lesbians once again congregated to celebrate the Supreme Court’s ruling on same-sex marriage. Just off Jackson Square is (2) Stanley, named for Marlon Brando’s character in Tennessee Williams’ “A Streetcar Named Desire.” Order the Eggs Stanley, then give your own shout-out to the playwright in front of 632 St. Peter Street, where he penned his masterpiece. Take a Vieux Carré cocktail for a spin at the revolving (3) Carousel Bar in the Hotel Monteleone, where Williams was a regular, Liberace was first to tickle the ivories and Truman Capote claimed to have been conceived.

Set off on a high-speed (1) Airboat Adventures tour, which covers 20,000 acres of cypress swamp. Opt for a small boat, early-morning outing, when the swamp is most picturesque and the wildlife is hungry for company. Ever petted a gator? You will. (2) New Orleans Jogging Tours let you work in a history lesson while jogging the city. The educational, two-hour treks start at the edge of the French Quarter then wind through the Central Business District and into the Garden District. As one the most bike-friendly cities in the U.S., New Orleans counts a number of two-wheel vendors. (3) Confederacy of Cruisers is among of the most popular, offering rentals as well as guided rides and cocktail/culinary excursions.
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