New Orleans Activities Guide
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I. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE
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II. WEATHER
New Orleans has a subtropical climate with pleasant year-round temperatures. The average high temperature in April is 79°F, with an average low of 59°F. Although April is one of the sunniest months for New Orleans, rainfall is not uncommon with an average monthly rainfall of 4.5 inches.

III. GETTING AROUND
Airport Shuttle, Inc. is the official ground transportation for Armstrong International Airport, with service to and from New Orleans’ hotels and other designated locations. Fare is $20 per person one way and a discounted $38 per person round trip is available.

One of New Orleans’ best assets is its walkability. The city is conveniently compact and easy to navigate. On foot, visitors can slow down, stroll, take in the remarkable architecture, browse eclectic shops and stop along the way at one of the city’s many eateries or bars. When planning to go somewhere around the hotel, keep in mind that the French Quarter Festival will be happening. Walking is definitely a good bet, as streetcars will be overflowing.

For more distant destinations, there are thousands of taxis available on New Orleans’ streets and at major hotels. Taxi rates are $3.50 plus $2 per mile (.25 per one-eighth mile) thereafter. There is also an additional charge of $1.00 per passenger after the first passenger.

Public transportation services are $1.25, including bus transportation and the iconic New Orleans streetcar. Thirty-three bus and streetcar lines run daily, including a streetcar line that runs from near the conference hotel along the riverside edge of the French Quarter, as well as a line that passes the marvelous architectural heritage of Saint Charles Avenue. Bus service allows transportation throughout the city’s major corridor, extending from the Faubourg Marigny to Riverbend.

IV. SAFETY
New Orleans welcomes approximately eight million visitors per year and is known for the safe and successful management of major tourism events. The SBM Annual Meeting will overlap with a major festival, the French Quarter Festival, which hosts more than 500,000 visitors. Police presence will be high and popular tourist areas such as the French Quarter, Downtown/Central Business District, Uptown, Garden District, Magazine Street, Warehouse/Arts District, Convention Center Boulevard and Faubourg Marigny will be well policed.

According to the New Orleans Visitors and Convention Bureau, visitors to New Orleans on a typical week can expect more than 155 officers to be assigned to the French Quarter, including officers on horseback, patrol cars, and in Sky Watch towers. The permanent staffing of tourist areas is also routinely augmented by the assignment of Reserve NOPD Officers who are assigned on night shifts and weekends. The French Quarter Festival will likely mean additional police being assigned to neighborhoods frequented by visitors, including the area surrounding the conference hotel.

The vast majority of crime occurs generally in economically distressed neighborhoods. The French Quarter, Central Business District, and Warehouse District are the areas surrounding the conference hotel and are among the safest areas in New Orleans. However, be particularly vigilant in areas little frequented by tourists, especially late at night.

V. NEIGHBORHOODS
A. The French Quarter: Original New Orleans
The original settlement of New Orleans, called Vieux Carré, French Quarter or simply The Quarter, is the oldest neighborhood in the city. Established by the French in 1718, the location was, and is still, a valuable site for trade due to its strategic position along the Mississippi River.

The district as a whole, bound by Canal Street, Decatur Street, Esplanade Avenue and Rampart Street, is a National Historic Landmark. The French Quarter boasts a storied history of international influence with cultural contributions from the French, Spanish, Italians, Sicilians, Africans, Irish and others, all evident in the development of this global port settlement.

So much of what makes New Orleans unique is captured in the melting pot atmosphere of the French Quarter – from the raucous party atmosphere of Bourbon Street to the bohemian elegance of Royal and its world-class antiques shops.

The neighborhood’s architecture is the dominant feature. Balconies adorned with intricate ironwork and courtyards
filled with lush greenery and fountains showcase the French Quarter’s European roots. Powerful fires in 1788 and 1794 mean that most of the architectural stylings you observe are the handiwork of the Spanish who ruled, and rebuilt, the city at the time.

Life in the Quarter centers around New Orleans’ most famous landmark, Jackson Square. The square is flanked by historic structures such as the St. Louis Cathedral and the Presbytère and Cabildo (which house the Louisiana State Museums) and the Pontalba Apartments (the oldest apartment buildings in the U.S.). The creative culture of the Quarter is embraced by the collection of fortune tellers, artists and musicians who surround Jackson Square. And just across the street is the famed Café du Monde, serving up beignets and café au lait 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Every street in the French Quarter has something to offer from classic restaurants, music venues, boutique shopping to voodoo temples. Some of the most popular areas include: Royal Street, Chartres Street and Bourbon Street, as well as the French Market, a flea-market type setting choc-a-bloc with souvenir vendors and other sellers. Look for New Orleans bluesman Smoky Greenwell who sells harmonicas and CDs from a table between gigs with his band, the Blues Gnus.

Many visitors choose to explore the French Quarter using the neighborhood’s original mode of transportation, the mule-drawn carriage.

B. Central Business District

In New Orleans, the Central Business District (CBD) is the city’s downtown. The boundaries for the CBD roughly fall at Canal Street to Poydras and from Claiborne Avenue to Tchoupitoulas Street. Due to its close proximity to the French Quarter, many of the city’s hotels reside within the CBD. The neighborhood is also home to some of New Orleans favorite cocktail bars and many fabulous restaurants. The adjacent neighborhood, the Warehouse District, begins at Poydras Street and ends at Calliope at the I-10 overpass, and is known as the city’s arts district. Young professionals, empty nesters and even families who desire to be close to numerous dining and entertainment options and the action of the French Quarter call these neighborhoods home.

C. Warehouse Arts District

Just a few blocks uptown, the Warehouse District is alive with activities celebrating the arts. Museums such as the Contemporary Arts Center (900 Camp Street) and the Ogden Museum of Southern Art (925 Camp Street) can be found in the Warehouse District as well as dozens of art galleries, many clustered on Camp and Julia. As a designated Louisiana Cultural District, there is no sales tax charged on any original works of art sold in the Arts District.

Other attractions in the area include the National World War II Museum, the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and cruise ship terminals.

D. The Faubourg Marigny

Nestled just down river (east) from the French Quarter is one of New Orleans’ most distinct and well-kept secrets: the Faubourg Marigny. Right across from the French Quarter, yet tucked back into its own diverse community, the Marigny is old-time New Orleans culture with a hip, contemporary bohemianism.

A trip into the Marigny is not complete without a visit to the famed Frenchmen Street. Known as the local’s version of Bourbon Street, and a must-visit destination for nightlife, Frenchmen is a compact entertainment district home to a wide range of clubs featuring musical styles from traditional jazz to blues to reggae to rock. Frenchmen offers a lively street culture that creates a seamless experience of music and fun both inside and out of the clubs that line the district. Sketch artists, poets, bluegrass and gypsy jazz pick-up bands nestle into stoops along the strip. Brass bands are commonly found on the corner of Chartres and Frenchmen and will give you an opportunity to second line alongside locals.

During the day, the Marigny’s funky vibe persists. You can peruse antique shops and bookstores, opt for food from Creole to vegetarian or visit the gardens of Washington Square Park - all perfect places for meeting local artists, performers and neighborhood characters. Getting to the Marigny is a cinch. You just cross Esplanade Street from the Quarter. One easy way to some of the best music venues is simply to take Decatur, Chartres, or Royal Street across Esplanade and then go a half-block or two until Frenchman.

E. Tremé

Long before the neighborhood had its own popular HBO series, the Tremé was already heralded as a vital American landmark for African-American and Creole culture. Many consider the Tremé to be the cultural heart of New Orleans, and the neighborhood’s contributions to the American arts can be witnessed in disciplines from dance to music to architectural design. The Tremé celebrates its rich history and heritage with museums, tours and landmarks dedicated to preserving one of the United States’ oldest African-American and free people of color neighborhoods.
The neighborhood is also home to Saint Louis Cemetery #1. Created in 1789, the cemetery is located at Basin Street and Saint Louis Street and is one of New Orleans’ most famous “cities of the dead.” Saint Louis #1 was immortalized in the film Easy Rider and is the final resting place of civil rights activist Homer Plessy and New Orleans’ most famous Voodoo Queen, Marie Laveau. The New Orleans African American Museum is one of the city’s underappreciated gems. Guided tours of the Tremé neighborhood and Saint Louis Cemetery are available.

F. Garden District
With its well-preserved collection of antebellum mansions, pristine gardens and southern charm, the Garden District certainly stands out as one of the country’s most lovely neighborhoods and a popular destination for visitors. General boundaries for this famous neighborhood are Saint Charles Avenue to Magazine Street and from Jackson Avenue to Louisiana Avenue.

Originally laid out in 1832 by Barthelemy Lafon, the Garden District was created after the Louisiana Purchase as a settlement for the new American residents of New Orleans not eager to mingle with those of European descent, primarily concentrated in the French Quarter. Americans, made wealthy by cotton, sugar, insurance and shipping, commissioned leading architects of the time to create classic homes in Italianate, Greek Revival and Victorian styles. The homes were built on generous plots allowing for the cultivation of magnificent gardens for which the area is named.

A common destination for those visiting the Garden District is the intersection of Prytania Street and Washington Avenue. Here, in the heart of the neighborhood, you will find a commercial pocket with shopping, cafes and the historic Lafayette Cemetery #1. As one of the most well-maintained city cemeteries, Lafayette #1 has been immortalized in film, literature and photography and is a popular attraction for many tourists. Guided tours of the cemetery are available. Directly across the street you won’t be able to overlook the colorful exterior of Commander’s Palace Restaurant, a New Orleans culinary institution.

G. Magazine Street
Best known for its numerous boutiques featuring local fashion, jewelry and house ware designers, this popular street is also home to museums, art galleries, bars and restaurants. Starting at Canal Street in the Central Business District and extending all the way upriver through the Garden District and Uptown, Magazine Street takes you through some of New Orleans’ most vibrant neighborhoods peppered with delightfully diverse commercial pockets.

VI. FRENCH QUARTER FESTIVAL
The 29th annual French Quarter Festival will conveniently take place April 12-15. [http://www.fqfi.org/frenchquarterfest/]

This is the largest free music festival in the South with a special focus on New Orleans’ music and food. Last year, more than half a million visitors attended. The festival offers 20 performance stages and more than 90 food and beverage booths set throughout the French Quarter. Music offerings represent every genre from traditional and contemporary jazz to R&B and New Orleans funk, brass bands, folk, gospel, classical, opera, Cajun Zydeco, Latin World, International, as well as a musical stage for children. Kids’ activities, home tours and other festivities fill the weekend with fun.

Over 90 food and beverage booths located in Jackson Square, Woldenberg Riverfront Park and the Louisiana State Museum’s Old U.S. Mint make up the “World’s Largest Jazz Brunch,” a signature event featuring authentic local cuisine from renowned area restaurants, many of whom have been with the Festival throughout its entire 28-year history.

Much of the French Quarter will become a pedestrian mall during the weekend. For the past two years, a free shuttle service has run from the parking lot at the New Orleans Convention Center to Canal Street.
VII. OTHER ATTRACTIONS

**Audubon Aquarium of the Americas**
1 Canal Street (French Quarter)
(800) 774-7394
Tues-Sun 10am-5pm
http://www.auduboninstitute.org/
More than 10,000 animals showcased in exhibits ranging from the Mississippi River wildlife to exotic species of the Amazon and Carribbean.

**Audubon Insectarium**
423 Canal Street
(800) 774-7394
http://www.auduboninstitute.org/
Tues-Sun 10am-5pm
Featuring a butterfly garden where you can interact with hundreds of live, exotic butterflies in a Japanese-style setting and Bug Appetit, an insect cooking demonstration (with tastings!). The Insectorium was a highly deserving recipient of the 2009 Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement in a Science Center.

**Audubon Park**
Front entrance at 6500 Saint Charles Avenue (Uptown); back entrance at 6500 Magazine Street
(504) 416-3218
http://www.auduboninstitute.org/
Mon-Sun 5am-10pm
Once a staging area for Buffalo Soldiers, the World’s Fair in 1884, and more recently a field heliport during Hurricane Katrina, Audubon Park is better known today as one of the most pleasant walking, jogging, and biking parks in the city. A rookery on the park’s east side is a great birding spot.

**Audubon Zoo**
6500 Magazine Street (Uptown)
(504) 581-4629
http://www.auduboninstitute.org/
Tues-Sun 10am-5pm
58 acres in Uptown New Orleans, just behind Audubon Park. This treasure of the city is consistently ranked among the nation’s Top 10 zoos.

**City Park**
At the intersection of South Carrollton and City Park Avenues (Mid-City)
(504) 483-9476
http://neworleanscitypark.com/
Hours vary depending on attraction
This 1,300-acre green space (50% larger than New York’s Central Park) has sprawling moss-covered oak trees, lagoons, bike and boat rentals, walking trails through Couturie Forest, and plenty of opportunities to spot birds and wildlife. The park also houses the New Orleans Botanical Gardens, a lush urban sanctuary filled with blooming flowers and exotic plants.

**National World War II Museum**
945 Magazine Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 528-1944
http://nationalww2museum.org
Open daily 9am-5pm
Once known as the D-Day Museum, this fast-growing institution was designated by Congress in 2003 as the U.S.’s national museum to document the World War II experience. The museum is now affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution and the exhibits are equally sobering and inspiring.

**New Orleans African American Museum**
1418 Governor Nicholls Street (Treme)
(504) 566-1136
http://noaam.org
Wed-Sat 11am-4pm
The African American cultural heritage of New Orleans is on display in a variety of artistic forms in this small but powerful museum in the Treme neighborhood. Housed partly in an historic Creole mansion, the museum also holds an intriguing collection of original African art.

**New Orleans Museum of Art**
1 Collins Diboll Circle, City Park (Mid-City)
(504) 658-4100
http://noma.org/
Tues-Sun 10am-5pm, except for Fridays when the museum stays open until 9pm
The city’s premiere art museum. From Degas to Picasso, this cultural institution located in City Park showcases more than 40,000 pieces, as well as a beautifully landscaped sculpture garden for little ones to frolic in. Friday nights feature Where Y’Art festivities.
New Orleans Vintage Streetcars
Various locations
Outfitted with brass accents and mahogany wooden seats. The Saint Charles line is the world’s oldest continuously operating street railway and passes by notable areas such as Audubon Park and the mansions of the Garden District. The Riverfront line runs from near the conference hotel into the French Quarter.

 VIII. TOURS

A. Plantation Homes

Destrehan Plantation
13034 River Road
Destrehan, LA
(985) 764-9315
http://www.houmashouse.com/
Open daily, 9am-4pm
The closest restored plantation home to New Orleans, just 8 miles from the New Orleans airport, the 1790 plantation house is the oldest home in the Lower Mississippi Valley. Displays include artwork relating to the 1811 German Coast slave revolt, the largest in American history, and the role of the Destrehans in suppressing the rebellion.

Houmas House Plantation and Gardens
40136 Hwy 942
Darrow, LA
(225) 473-9380
http://www.destrehanplantation.org/
Mon-Wed 8am-5pm; Thurs-Sun 10am-8pm
A little less than an hour from New Orleans by car, this restored plantation home was originally built in 1828 on a plantation that had been in operation since before the Louisiana Purchase. Preserved during the Civil War due to the owner’s status as a British subject, the tour features a view into the opulence of the plantation experience and an introduction to 19th century high society.

Laura: A Creole Plantation
2247 La Hwy. 18 (Great River Road)
Vacherie, LA
(225) 265-7690
http://www.lauraplantation.com/
Open daily. First tour at 10 am, final tour at 4 pm
Also about 50 minutes by car from New Orleans, this unique tour highlights the life and times of Laura Locoul Gore, a strong-willed, savvy Creole woman who inherited and ran the family sugar plantation until 1891. Plantation life through the 19th century is featured, including issues of culture, gender, and slavery. The tour includes a fascinating view of restored slave quarters, which stand in wrenching contrast to the mansion just a few hundred feet away.

Oak Alley Plantation
3645 Highway 18 (Great River Road)
Vacherie, LA
(225) 265-2151
http://oakalleyplantation.com/
Open daily. First tour at 9:30 am, final tour at 5 pm
Named after the iconic pathway of live oaks that lead to the plantation home, Oak Alley features guided tours as well as a self-guided walking tour through the house and grounds, which include slave quarters, a blacksmith shop, and a Confederate commanding officer’s tent. Located not far from Laura Plantation, touring this beautifully restored home provides the American plantation perspective in contrast to the Creole experience showcased at Laura.

San Francisco Plantation
2646 Hwy 44 (River Road)
Garyville, LA 70051
(985) 535-2341
http://www.sanfranciscoplantation.org/
Open daily. First tour at 9:30 am, final tour at 4:40 pm
Billed as the “most opulent plantation house in North America,” the plantation the San Francisco was built on was purchased from a land speculator at inflated prices. Not sparing an expense on the house, which launched the architectural style called steamboat gothic, but neglecting technological advances in agriculture, the debt incurred inspired family members to say they were “sans fruscins,” or penniless. The phrase stuck and evolved into this home’s name. The San Francisco is about 40 minutes from New Orleans by car.
B. Haunted/ Voodoo/ Magic

Bloody Mary’s
(504) 977-7774
http://www.bloodymarystours.com/
Offering haunted pub tours and other voodoo/magic themes tours.

Haunted History Tours
723 St. Peter St.
(504) 861-2727 and (888) 644-6787
www.hauntedhistorytours.com
Ghost, voodoo and vampire tours.

C. Brewery/ Distillery

NOLA Brewing Company
3001 Tchoupitoulas Street (Uptown/ Irish Channel)
(504) 896-9996
http://www.nolabrewing.com/home/
New Orleans’ only microbrewery located within the city. Free tours every Friday at 2pm.

Old New Orleans Rum Distillery
2815 Frenchmen Street
(504) 965-9400
http://www.neworleansrum.com/
Visit New Orleans’ own rum distillery. The $10 tour will start you with a cocktail, take you through the entire distilling process, and end with a tasting of the different rums.

D. Miscellaneous

Big Easy Bike Tours
3017 Chartres Street
(504) 377-0973
http://bigeasybiketours.com/
See New Orleans like a local and take one of the three neighborhood tours offered by Big Easy.

Cajun Encounters
301 Canal Street
(504) 834-1770
http://www.cajunencounters.com/
Offering swamp tours, city/cemetery tours, and plantation tours.

Confederacy of Cruisers
1815 Elysian Fields
(504) 400-5468
http://confederacyofcruisers.com/
Offering 9th Ward tours, culinary tours, kayaking on the bayou, and custom tours.

Free Tours by Foot
(504) 222-2967
http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/neworleans/
Take these informative tours to explore the French Quarter and Garden District.

The Original New Orleans Movie Tours
http://www.nolamovies.com/
New Orleans is sometimes affectionately called “Hollywood of the South” due to the number of movies filmed here. Visit familiar landmarks of notable movies such as Ray, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, Interview with a Vampire and more.

Pearl River Eco-Tours
535 S Clark St
(504) 581-3395
http://www.pearlriverecotours.com/
Offering walking tours of the French Quarter in addition to swamp tours, city tours and plantation tours.

Steamboat Natchez
Toulouse Street and Mississippi River
(504) 586-8777
http://www.steamboatnatchez.com/
Offering jazz cruises on New Orleans’ only steamboat. Optional meals and packages are available.

IX. RESTAURANTS
Star ratings and dollar signs are from Yelp.

A. Breakfast (and Some Lunch and Dinner)

Café du Monde
4 stars
$  
800 Decatur Street (French Quarter)
(504) 525-4544
http://cafedumonde.com/
Open 24/7, 365 days a year
Yes, it is touristy and slightly chaotic and the service is not always fantastic. It’s also very New Orleans, the beignets are consistently hot and delicious, and the people-watching is unparalleled.

Camellia Grill
4 stars
$$
540 Chartres Street (French Quarter)
(504) 522-1800
http://www.camelliagrill.net/home.htm
Open daily 8am-10pm
Classic diner with eternally wise-cracking counter staff.
Merchant
4.5 stars
$$
800 Common Street (Central Business District)
(504) 571-9580
Mon-Fri 7am-8pm; Sat-Sun 8am-8pm
European style coffee house serving Illy coffee and a
variety of crepes. Also features a wine bar.

Mother’s Restaurant
3.5 stars
$$
401 Poydras Street (Central Business District)
(504) 523-9656
http://www.mothersrestaurant.net/
Open daily 7am-10pm
Some people swear by it. Try the famous Ferdi special,
baked ham with roast beef and debris (roast beef cooked
to the point of falling apart). Be prepared for a line.

Ruby Slipper Café
4 stars
$$
200 Magazine Street (Central Business District)
(504) 525-9355
http://www.therubyslippercafe.net/
Mon-Fri 7am-2pm; Sat 8am-2pm; Sun 8am-3pm
Brunch favorites with a Louisiana twist, such as BBQ
Shrimp Blackstone or Oysters Sardou.

Stanley
4 stars
$$
547 Saint Ann Street at Jackson Square (French Quarter)
(504) 587-0093
http://stanleyrestaurant.com/
Open daily 7am-10pm
Scott Boswell’s (of Stella!) version of a diner. Try the soft
shell crab eggs Benedict or bananas foster French toast
for breakfast. There are also excellent sandwiches at
lunchtime.

B. Poboys/ Sandwiches/ Lunch

Capdeville
4 stars
$$
520 Capdeville St (Central Business District)
(504) 371-5161
http://www.capdevillenola.com/
Mon-Thurs 11am-2pm; Mon-Thurs 5pm-11pm; Fri-Sat
11am-1pm
Sleek interpretation of a British social house. Very popular
for their truffle mac-n-cheese and specialty burgers,
washed down with a local brew like NOLA Hopitoulas.

Central Grocery Co
4 stars
$
923 Decatur Street (French Quarter)
(504) 523-1620
http://www.centralgroceryneworleans.com/
Tues-Sat 9am-5pm
Home of the muffaletta. Be aware that the sandwiches,
while delicious, are premade so no special orders. They
are also huge. Limited seating, better to get a drink and
a sandwich and go have a picnic across the street on the
river. Eat while watching the river barges go by.

Cochon Butcher
4.5 stars
$$
930 Tchoupitoulas Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 588-7675
http://www.cochonbutcher.com/
Mon-Thu 10am-10pm; Fri-Sat 10am-11pm; Sun 10am-
5pm
Cochon’s more casual deli. Order sandwiches made from
house smoked and cured meats.

Frank’s Restaurant
3 stars
$$
933 Decatur Street (French Quarter)
(504) 525-1602
http://www.franksrestaurantneworleans.com/
Daily 11am-9pm
Also good for a muffaletta, especially if you want to sit
down and have table service.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant Name</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johnny's Po-Boys</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>511 Saint Louis Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 524-8129</td>
<td><a href="http://johnnyspoboys.com/">http://johnnyspoboys.com/</a></td>
<td>Mon-Thurs 8:30am-3pm; Fri-Sun 8am-4:30pm</td>
<td>Oldest family-owned poboy restaurant in the city. Also serves breakfast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serio’s Po-Boys and Deli</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>133 Saint Charles Avenue (Central Business District)</td>
<td>(504) 523-2668</td>
<td><a href="http://www.acmeoyster.com/">http://www.acmeoyster.com/</a></td>
<td>Mon-Sat 10am-3pm</td>
<td>Winner of Bobby Flay’s muffaletta throwdown. Also serving daily specials and hot plates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acme Oyster House</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$$</td>
<td>724 Iberville Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 522-5973</td>
<td><a href="http://www.acmeoyster.com/">http://www.acmeoyster.com/</a></td>
<td>Mon-Thur and Sun 11am -10pm; Fri-Sat 11am-11pm</td>
<td>Long lines, be prepared to wait or go early!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bourbon House</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$$$</td>
<td>144 Bourbon Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 522-0111</td>
<td><a href="http://bourbonhouse.com/">http://bourbonhouse.com/</a></td>
<td>Breakfast daily 6:30am-10:30am; lunch and dinner Sun-Thu 11am-10pm and Fri-Sat 11am-11pm</td>
<td>Extensive raw bar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire Oyster Bar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>300 Bourbon Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 586-0300</td>
<td></td>
<td>Open daily 6:30am-12:30am</td>
<td>Charming interior with open windows makes for great people watching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drago’s Seafood Restaurant at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$$</td>
<td>2 Poydras Street (Central Business District)</td>
<td>(504) 584-3911</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dragosrestaurant.com/">http://www.dragosrestaurant.com/</a></td>
<td>Open daily 11am-10pm</td>
<td>The regular menu is not notable but Drago’s signature charbroiled oysters are definitely worth a trip. They are available at other restaurants but Drago’s started the trend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felix’s Restaurant and Oyster Bar</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>739 Iberville Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 522-4440</td>
<td><a href="http://www.feliks.com/">http://www.feliks.com/</a></td>
<td>Mon-Thu 10am-11pm; Fri-Sun 10am-1am</td>
<td>Essentially the same as Acme but without the lines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antoine’s Restaurant (also note attached Hermes Bar)</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>$$$$</td>
<td>713 St. Louis Street (French Quarter)</td>
<td>(504) 581-4422</td>
<td><a href="http://www.antoines.com/">http://www.antoines.com/</a></td>
<td>Mon-Sat 11:30am-2pm and 5:30pm-9:30pm; Sun 11am-2pm</td>
<td>Dress the part and enjoy classic New Orleans dishes such as Oysters Rockefeller, shrimp and grits, and pommes de terres soufflé. Baked Alaska is a favorite dessert; they invented it here! Also offering jazz brunch on Sunday.</td>
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Arnaud's Restaurant (also note the attached French 75 Bar and Mardi Gras Museum)
3.5 stars
$$$
813 Bienville Street (French Quarter)
(504) 523-5433
http://www.arnaudsrestaurant.com/
Mon-Thu and Sun 6pm-10pm; Fri-Sat 6pm:10:30pm; Sun 10am-2:30pm
Another classic New Orleans restaurant. Try the shrimp remoulade, oysters Arnaud, and crème brulee.

Galatoire's
4 stars
$$$
209 Bourbon Street (French Quarter)
Tue-Sat 11:30am-10pm; Sun 12pm-10pm
(504) 525-2021
http://www.galatoires.com/
Many people claim this is more about the experience than the food. However, it is certainly a New Orleans experience to dress in seersucker and watch the tables around you. Order whatever your waiter recommends.

Tujague's
3 stars
$$$
823 Decatur Street (French Quarter)
(504) 525-8676
http://www.tujaguesrestaurant.com/
Mon-Sun 5pm-10pm; Sat-Sun 11am-3pm
Open over 150 years, New Orleans' second oldest restaurant. Serves a brief but traditional table d'hote Creole menu including shrimp remoulade and brisket with Creole sauce.

E. Upscale Dining

Bayona
4 stars
$$$
430 Dauphine Street (French Quarter)
(504) 525-4455
http://www.bayona.com/
Dinner Mon-Thurs 6pm-10pm; Fri-Sat 6pm-11pm
Lunch Wed-Sat 11:30am-1:30pm
Susan Spicer’s restaurant in a charming building away from the noise of Bourbon Street. Try to reserve a table in the courtyard. There is the option to order from the traditional menu or the ever-changing special menu. Desserts are not to be missed.

Borgne
4 stars
$$$
601 Loyola Avenue (Central Business District)
(504) 561-1234
http://www.borgnerestaurant.com/
Lunch 11am-4pm; dinner 4pm-11pm
Besh’s newest restaurant. Intended to evoke the outdoorsy culture of Southeast Louisiana, especially the descendants of Canary Islanders who settled along Lake Borgne.

Cochon
4 stars
$$
930 Tchoupitoulas Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 588-2123
http://www.cochonrestaurant.com/
Mon-Fri 11am-10pm; Sat 5:30pm-10pm
Donald Link’s ode to updated Cajun food. Favorites include wood-fired grilled oysters, rabbit livers with pepper jelly, and the signature cochon with braised turnips.

Domenica
4 stars
$$$
123 Baronne Street (Central Business District)
(504) 648-6020
http://domenicarestaurant.com/
Open daily 11am-11pm
Chef Alon Shaya’s modern Italian cuisine, including wood-fired pizzas, cured meats, housemade pasta and a great happy hour from 3-6pm daily.

Emeril’s
4 stars
$$$
800 Tchoupitoulas Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 528-9393
http://www.emerils.com/
Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm; Mon-Sun 6pm-10pm
A favorite among locals and tourists alike. The menu changes from time to time but BBQ shrimp and an outstanding pork chop are usually featured.
**Green Goddess**
4 stars  
$$
307 Exchange Place (French Quarter)  
(504) 301-3347  
Mon and Wed-Sun 11am-4pm; Thu 6pm-12am; Fri-Sun 5pm-12am  
No reservations, very small. Eclectic menu and cocktails.

**GW Fins**
4.5 stars  
$$$
808 Bienville Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 581-3467  
Mon-Thu 5pm-10pm; Fri-Sat 5pm-10:30pm  
Excellent seafood, offerings change daily. Order the lobster dumplings if they are on the menu.

**Herbsaint**
4 stars  
$$$
701 Saint Charles Avenue (Central Business District)  
(504) 524-4114  
Lunch Mon-Fri 11:30am-1:30pm; dinner Mon-Sat 5:30pm-10:00pm; bistro Mon-Fri 1:30pm-5:30pm  
Herbsaint is another great restaurant serving updated and fresh New Orleans inspired food. Examples include Louisiana jumbo lump crabmeat with local pumpkin, radish and pepitas or seared shrimp with ham and cauliflower gratin.

**K-Paul’s Louisiana Kitchen**
4 stars  
$$$
416 Chartres Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 524-7394  
[http://kpauls.com/kpaul](http://kpauls.com/kpaul)
Mon-Sat 5:30pm-10pm; Thu-Sat 11am-2pm  
Paul Prudhomme’s restaurant.

**La Boca**
4 stars  
$$$
857 Fulton Street (Warehouse District)  
(504) 525-8205  
Mon-Wed 6pm-10pm; Thurs-Sat 6pm-12am  
Argentinian steakhouse with premium steaks and a South American wine list to complement the meal.

**MiLa**
4 stars  
$$$
817 Common Street (Central Business District)  
Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel  
(504) 412-2580
Mon-Sat 9am-10pm  
Husband and wife chef team and owners met in culinary school and opened MiLa, a riff on the names of their home states (Mississippi and Louisiana). A seasonal menu that emphasizes local produce and serving, in addition to the regular menu, a very well-priced three course lunch and a tasting menu at dinner.

**Mr. B’s Bistro**
4 stars  
$$$
201 Royal Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 523-2078  
Mon-Sat 11:30am-2pm; Mon-Thu and Sun 5:30pm-9pm; Fri-Sat 5:30pm-9:30pm  
Part of the Brennan family restaurant group, known for their BBQ shrimp (which in New Orleans means a buttery sauce with lemon, black pepper and rosemary) served unpeeled with plenty of French bread. Messy and delicious.

**Muriel’s Jackson Square**
4 stars  
$$$
801 Chartres Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 568-1885  
[http://muriels.com/](http://muriels.com/)
Lunch Mon-Sat 11:30am-2:30pm; dinner Mon-Fri 5:30pm-10pm and Sat-Sun 5pm-10pm; brunch Sun 11am-2pm  
Beautifully renovated historic building overlooking Jackson Square. Well-loved for the goat cheese-crawfish crepes. Jazz brunch on Sundays.

**NOLA Restaurant**
4 stars  
$$$
534 Saint Louis Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 522-6652  
Mon-Sun 6pm-10pm; Thu-Sun 11:30am-2pm  
An Emeril Lagasse restaurant.
Orleans Grapevine Wine Bar and Bistro
4 stars
$$$
720 Orleans Ave (French Quarter)
(504) 523-1930
http://orleansgrapevine.com/
Mon-Thu and Sun 4pm-11:30pm; Fri-Sat 4pm-12am
Bistro style wine bar and restaurant with charming courtyard.

Palace Café
3.5 stars
$$$
605 Canal Street (French Quarter)
(504) 523-1661
http://www.palacecafe.com/
Mon-Sat 11:30am-10pm; Sun 10:30am-10pm
Housed in the impressive Werlein building with several dining areas as well as sidewalk seating. Classic New Orleans fare such as turtle soup, shrimp remoulade and Bananas Foster prepared tableside. Also features a gluten-free menu.

Restaurant August
4.5 stars
$$$$
301 Tchoupitoulas Street (Central Business District)
(504) 299-9777
http://www.restaurantaugust.com/
Lunch Mon-Fri 11am-2pm; dinner nightly 5:30pm-10pm
Local golden boy John Besh’s flagship restaurant. Very fancy, very expensive. Try the three course lunch special for $20.11 as an affordable way to sample the contemporary French cuisine.

Rio Mar Restaurant
3.5 stars
$$
800 South Peters Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 525-3474
http://www.riomarseafood.com/
Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm; Mon-Sat 6pm-10pm
Chef Adolfo Garcia blends his Latin American heritage with cooking experiences in Spain to produce ceviches, empanadas and other dishes featuring local seafood, notably the gulf fish escabeche.

Sylvain
4 stars
$$
625 Chartres Street (French Quarter)
(504) 265-8123
http://www.sylvainnola.com/
Mon-Thu 5:30pm-11pm; Fri-Sun 11:30am-2:30pm; Fri-Sat 5:30pm-12am; Sun 5:30pm-10pm
Gastropub with inventive cocktails. Duck fat fries and shaved Brussels sprout salads are popular menu items.

Stella!
4 stars
$$$$
1032 Chartres Street (French Quarter)
(504) 587-0091
http://www.restaurantstella.com/
Daily 5:30pm-10:30pm
Scott Boswell’s flagship restaurant with creative dishes, unique ingredients and an extensive wine list.

Tamarind (in Hotel Modern)
936 Saint Charles Avenue (Warehouse District)
(504) 962-0900
http://www.thehotelmodern.com/tamarind/
Open daily at 5:30pm
Very new French-Vietnamese restaurant. Try scallops with lemongrass butter or Louisiana shrimp with Tempura kohlrabi. Equally inventive cocktail list.

F. Sweets
Bittersweet Confections
725 Magazine Street (Warehouse District)
(504) 523-2626
http://www.bittersweetconfections.com/
Mon-Fri 7:30am-6pm; Sat 7:30am-4pm
Mini pecan pies and truffles are made in house. Bring home some fleur-de-lis shaped chocolates as a souvenir.

La Divina Gelateria
621 Saint Peter Street (French Quarter)
(504) 302-2692
http://www.ladivinagelateria.com/
Mon-Thu 11 am-10pm; Fri-Sat 8:30am-11pm; Sun 8:30am-10pm
Ever-changing gelato flavors but always delicious. Take a break and have a seat at an outdoor table. Also serving sandwiches and light fare.
Leah’s Pralines
714 Saint Louis Street (French Quarter)
(504) 523-5662
http://www.leahspralines.com/
Open daily 10am-6pm
You can’t visit New Orleans without trying the pralines. We pronounce them “prah-leen.” If you’re not in the mood for a praline, try the Cajun Mud.

Meltdown
508 Dumaine Street (French Quarter)
(504) 301-0905
Mon and Wed-Sun 12pm-6pm
Cool off with a gourmet popsicle in flavors like Strawberry Balsamic and Saffron Rosewater.

Southern Candymakers
334 Decatur Street (French Quarter)
(504) 523-5544
http://www.southerncandymakers.com/
Another of the many praline shops around the city. Also featuring chocolate alligators and traditional divinity candy.

G. For Dedicated Foodies
(If you feel like venturing beyond downtown)

Boucherie
4.5 stars
$$
8115 Jeannette Street (Carrollton/Riverbend)
(504) 862-5514
http://www.boucherie-nola.com/
Tue-Sat 11am-3pm and 5:30pm-9:30pm
Small but casual, you will need a reservation at this tiny, local favorite. The menu is ever-changing but the desserts always stay the same including Krispy Kreme bread pudding and the infamous bacon brownie.

Commander’s Palace Restaurant
4.5 stars
$$$$
1403 Washington Avenue (Uptown)
(504) 899-8221
http://www.commanderspalace.com/
Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm; Mon-Sat 6:30pm-10pm; Sun 10:30am-1:30pm and 6:30pm-9pm
Perhaps New Orleans’ most celebrated restaurant. Emeril was once chef here. Take the streetcar and walk a block over to this Uptown gem. Reservations and proper dress are required. Make sure you don’t miss the bread pudding soufflé!

Dante’s Kitchen
4.5 stars
$$$
736 Dante Street (Carrollton/Riverbend)
(504) 861-3121
http://danteskitchen.com/
Mon and Wed-Sun 5:30pm-10:30pm; Sat-Sun 10:30am-2pm
Whimsical restaurant in a converted house with a charming porch and outdoor seating area. The complimentary restaurant in a converted house with a charming porch and outdoor seating area. The complimentary molasses spoonbread is reason enough to go. Favorites include redfish with crab and fines herbs, and chicken roasted under a brick.

Jacques-Imo’s
4.5 stars
$$
8324 Oak Street (Carrollton/Riverbend)
(504) 861-0886
http://jacquesimoscafe.com/
Mon-Thu 5pm -10pm; Fri-Sat 5pm-11pm
This popular restaurant is very busy and reservations are only taken for parties of five or more, so get a group together and call ahead. Owner Jacques will ensure a good time, the vibe is fun and jovial and the food will give you a taste of the real New Orleans. Perennial favorites include the savory alligator cheesecake and blackened redfish with chili hollandaise.

Mandina’s
4 stars
$$
3800 Canal Street (Mid-city)
(504) 482-9179
http://mandinasrestaurant.com/
Mon-Thu 11am-9:30pm; Fri-Sat 11am-10pm; Sun 12pm-9pm
Native son Harry Connick Jr.’s favorite restaurant. This is classic down-home Creole-Italian. Busy, loud, no frills. Your server will probably call you honey. Sazeracs the way they should be made and lots of fried seafood. Desserts are forgettable.
Patois  
4 stars  
$$$
6078 Laurel Street (Uptown)  
(504) 895-9441  
http://patoisnola.com/
Lunch Fri 11:30am-2pm; dinner Wed-Thurs 5:30pm-10pm and Fri-Sat 5:30pm-10:30pm; brunch Sun 10:30am-2pm
Located in a quaint neighborhood, you may feel like you were invited to a local’s house for dinner. Gnocchi with crab and chanterelles and the ham-crusted scallops are two of many standout dishes.

**H. Cocktails and Wine**

Bar Uncommon  
817 Common Street (Central Business District)  
(504) 525-1111  
http://baruncommon.com/
Mon-Fri 5pm-11pm; Sat 5pm-12am; Sun 11am-11pm
Attached to the Pere Marquette hotel, this small bar features the handiwork of master bartender Chris McMillian. Small food menu.

Bar Tonique  
820 North Rampart Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 324-6045  
http://bartonique.com/
Open daily 2pm-2am
Dark, intimate and with amazing attention to detail, such as housemade tonic and soda. This bar offers a wide variety of choices as well as daily specials, like the bacon Bloody Mary on Saturdays.

Bellocq (Hotel Modern)  
936 St. Charles Avenue (Warehouse District)  
Open daily from 5:30pm
For the upscale cocktail enthusiast, offering aperitif and digestif cobblers.

Patrick’s Bar Vin  
730 Bienville Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 200-3180  
http://patricksbarvin.com/
Tue-Thu 4:30pm-11pm; Fri-Sat 2:30pm-2am; Sun 11:30am-11pm
Cozy wine bar with a gorgeous courtyard. Extensive wine list. Good offerings by the glass and a selection of Belgian beers, a nod to the owner’s background.

Sazerac Bar  
123 Baronne Street (Central Business District)  
(504) 648-1200  
http://therooseveltneworleans.com/dining/the-sazerac-bar.html
Open daily 11am-2am
Housed in the stunning Roosevelt hotel, the Sazerac room features an antique African walnut bar and murals of old New Orleans. Order the namesake Sazerac and see if you can find Marie Laveau in the mural. Swanky and expensive.

Swizzle Stick Bar  
300 Poydras Street (Central Business District)  
(504) 595-3305  
http://www.cafeadelaide.com/
Mon-Thur and Sun 10am-11pm; Fri-Sat 10am-12am

Tommy’s Wine Bar  
746 Tchoupitoulas Street (Warehouse District)  
(504) 581-1103  
http://www.tommysneworleans.com/
Sun-Thurs 5:30pm-10pm; Fri-Sat 5:30pm-11pm
Wine bar with a convivial atmosphere. Serving many wines by the glass and often featuring live jazz.

Victory  
339 Baronne Street (Central Business District)  
(504) 522-8664  
http://www.victorycocktails.com/
T-Thu 4:30pm-12am; Fri-Sat 4:30pm-2am
Choose from classic cocktails like the mint julep or be adventurous and try bitters mist and molecular ice flavors.

Whiskey Blue  
333 Poydras Street (Central Business District)  
(504) 207-5016  
http://gerberbars.com/whiskey-blue-new-orleans
Mon-Thur 5pm-2am; Fri-Sat 5pm-4am
Lounge-type bar in the W hotel.
**Wine Institute of New Orleans (W.I.N.O.)**  
610 Tchoupitoulas Street (Warehouse District)  
(504) 324-8000  
Mon-Thu 11am-10pm; Fri 11am-1am; Sat 12pm-1am; Sun 2pm-10pm  
WINO features enomatic machines so that you may choose from over 100 wines by the ounce or glass. Buy a card with whatever amount of money you’d like and pour yourself a taste.

**X. ENTERTAINMENT**

**Apple Barrel Bar**  
609 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 949-9399  
Open daily  
One of the many great music venues on Frenchman Street. Never a cover, cash only.

**Blue Nile**  
534 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 948-2583  
Open Tues-Sun; check website calendar  
Often featuring different bands on two levels. Catch Treme’s Kermit Ruffins or a late night brass band.

**Davenport Lounge**  
921 Canal Street, 3rd Floor (French Quarter)  
(504) 670-2828  
Open daily 11am-1am  
Get dressed up and go see the beloved Jeremy Davenport play his trumpet in the plush bar in the Ritz Carlton.

**d.b.a.**  
616 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 942-3731  
Mon-Thurs 5pm-late; Fri-Sun 4pm-late  
One of the more upscale places to hear music on Frenchmen. Good selection of liquor and beer. Smoke free. John Boutte on Saturday nights is always a fantastic show.

**Fritzel’s Jazz Pub**  
733 Bourbon Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 586-4800  
[http://fritzelsjazz.net/](http://fritzelsjazz.net/)  
Mon-Thu and Sun 1pm-1 am; Fri-Sat 1pm-2 am  
A stronghold of traditional Dixieland music amidst the raucousness of Bourbon Street. As with many places that feature live music, the drinks can be pricey but there is no cover.

**Lafitte’s Blacksmith Shop**  
941 Bourbon Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 522-9377  
[http://www.lafittesblacksmithshop.com/Homepage.html](http://www.lafittesblacksmithshop.com/Homepage.html)  
Open daily 10:30am-3pm  
Famous pirate Jean Lafitte used this blacksmith shop as his legal business to cover his buccaneering side dealings. Claims to be the oldest bar in the United States. Fireplace, piano player, lit only by candles.

**Maison**  
508 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 371-5543  
Open daily 5pm-3am  
Plenty of room, live music nightly, serves food.

**Pat O’Brien’s**  
718 Saint Peter Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 525-4823  
Mon-Thur 12pm-3am; Fri-Sun 10am-4:30am  
Home of the deceptively strong hurricane. There is the option to sit in a very pretty courtyard or inside the popular dueling piano bar.

**Preservation Hall**  
726 Saint Peter Street (French Quarter)  
(504) 522-2841  
Open daily 8pm-11pm  
An absolute must if you are a lover of traditional New Orleans jazz. Be prepared to wait in line 30-45 minutes prior to opening. No drinks are sold here but you may bring your own. $15 cover.

**Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro**  
626 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 949-0696  
Open daily; check website calendar  
New Orleans premier jazz venue featuring a dining room, a bar room, and a music room.
**Spotted Cat Music Club**  
623 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 943-3887  
http://www.spottedcatmusicclub.com/  
Mon-Fri 4pm-2am; Sat-Sun 3pm-2am  
Shows every day starting from as early as 3pm to as late as 2am. Cash only. Can get very crowded.

**Three Muses**  
536 Frenchmen Street (Marigny)  
(504) 298-8746  
http://www.thethreemuses.com/  
Wed-Thu and Sun 4pm-10pm; Fri-Sat 4pm-1:30am  
This new venue has become extremely popular so come early if you want a table! Serves delectable small (very small) bites, like Korean bulgogi and butternut squash ravioli. Ever-changing cocktail list is intriguing but the aptly named Three Muses cocktail always stays on for a reason.