

## A WEEK IN NEW ORLEANS

Ĵ€

New Orleans is a city full of inherent tourist draws to keep any visitor enamored for a long stay, but when I travel, I personally like to have an inside scoop on what locals like to do. As a native of my beloved city, please allow me to introduce you to some of my favorite things to eat and do in New Orleans.

MONDAY: New Orleans has peerless cocktail pedigree (the French 75, the Sazerac, the Old Fashioned, the Grasshopper, the Ramos Gin Fizz, the Pimm's Cup). James Beard Award–winning bartender Chris Hannah, still presiding with aplomb at Arnaud's French 75, makes them all better than anyone. Now he has just opened MANOLITO, a Cuban cocktail bar and café in the French Quarter (508 Dumaine St.) Or try The Napoleon House (500 Chartres / (504) 524-9752,) French 75 Bar (813 Bienville St. / 504-523-5433,) or Cane & Table (1113 Decatur St / (504) 581-1112) for aperitifs before walking to The Hermes Bar in the annex of Antoine's Restaurant (713 St Louis Street / (504) 581-4422). Here you can order from the oldest menu in town. Some of my favorites are: Oysters Rockefeller, Oysters a la Foche, Shrimp Remoulade, Crabmeat Ravigote and Baked Alaska (my favorite dessert, which you must order when you order your cocktails as it takes time to prepare). Afterward, listen to my dear friend, Ben Jaffe, blow his tuba and play the bass with Preservation Hall Jazz Band at the famous Preservation Hall (726 St Peter Street / (504) 522-2841), a classic institution with live jazz at 8pm, 9pm and 10pm. Pre-purchase your tickets to avoid the line at www. preservationhall.com While Preservation Hall doesn't serve alcohol, they allow you to bring in your own cocktails and you may bring your children. Mine adore it. *\*This is also a perfect outing for any night however there are 5pm and 6pm shows at Preservation Hall on the weekends.*\*

TUESDAY: Eat lunch at R'evolution (777 Bienville St /(504) 553-2277) a John Folse, fine dining establishment in the Quarter. Take a stroll down Royal Street in the French Quarter after lunch to go antiquing and visit The New Orleans Historic Collection and A Gallery for Fine Photography. Shake your tail feather uptown and enjoy a Modern Creole dinner at Brigtsen's (723 Dante St / (504) 861-7610); Clancy's (6100 Annunciation St. / (504) 895-1111) or Jacques'Imos Cajun/Creole cuisine (8324 Oak Street / (504) 861-0886) before heading to The Maple Leaf (8316 Oak Street / (504) 866-9359) to hear the world famous, Rebirth Brass Band. A must do: You never know who you'll run into at this local haunt. I've met Radiohead and Jude Law here over the years. If you're downtown, go hear Stanton Moore, David Torkanowsky and James Singleton rip it up at Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro (626 Frenchman Street / (504) 949-0696.) There are two sets: 8pm and 10pm. (Purchase tickets in advance.) P.S. Snug Harbor has the best burgers in town.

WEDNESDAY: Enjoy lunch at Auction House Market, a fluctuating 10-venue open-air food market in the museum district. Vendors include oyster bars, poke and sushi outfits, and coffee purveyors. It's a proverbial jambalaya of authentic New Orleans tastes situated in the French Quarter-neighboring Warehouse District, right by a cluster of captivating cultural institutions including the Ogden Museum, the Cultural Art Center, and the National WWII Museum. For dinner, get a reservation at Doris Metropolitan (620 Chartres St. / (504) 267-3500) to enjoy a non-New Orleans "Ottolenghi inspired" menu with a sexy vibe and play list. I enjoy eating at their bar when I can't get a table.

THURSDAY: Enjoy lunch at Turkey and the Wolf (797 Jackson Ave. / (504) 218-7428) This tiny corner sandwich shop and bar, merely two years old, managed to win Bon Appetit magazine's "Best New Restaurant" of 2017 topping the glossy's "Hot 10" list. Its mismatched plates and cutlery hold dreamy sandwiches made by two local chefs who have paid their dues in respected local kitchens. Playful and delicious is the only way to describe its collard green melt, homemade-bologna sandwich, and perhaps the finest wedge salad on the planet (the dried garlic doesn't hurt). The bar drinks are made with fun homemade syrups too. Sunny and crammed, a true New Orleans experience worth the wait for a seat or bar stool.



THURSDAY NIGHT: This is the night to head down into the Marigny and Bywater neighborhoods. Enjoy Happy Hour listening to Jon Cleary tickle the ivories at DBA on Frenchman Street at 7pm or whoever else is playing outdoors at Bacchanal Wine Bar (600 Poland Avenue / (504) 948-9111.) Enjoy dinner at Paladar 511 (511 Marigny St/ (504) 509-6782) or at Meauxbar (924 N. Rampart Street / (504) 569-9979.) If a food coma does not strike you down early, head down to Frenchmen Street to check out an array of live music at Snug Harbor, La Maison, The Spotted Cat, DBA or hang outside and move your dancing feet to the music of New Orleans street musicians.

FRIDAY: Every New Orleanian has had several drunken eight hour lunches at the quintessential Galatoire's restaurant (209 Bourbon Street / (504) 525-2021). Gents, wear your sport coat and ladies, look your best. My favorite things to eat are: Shrimp Rémoulade, Oysters Rockefeller, Crabmeat Maison, Stuffed Eggplant, Crabmeat Sardou, Trout Almandine and Café Brûlot, to end. Ladies, watch your hair when they set the table on fire! When you finally stumble out of Galatoire's, you must find music. Just a block away, Jeremy Davenport will be crooning on the third floor of the Ritz Carlton. Walk another stone skip away to Jazz Playhouse, at the Royal Sonesta to catch whoever is kicking it up on stage or make your way to Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro (626 Frenchman Street / (504) 949-0696) and listen to New Orleans godfather of jazz, pianist Ellis Marsalis play at 8pm or 10pm. By the way, my favorite burger is at Snug Harbor! Head to the Royal Sonesta just before midnight to catch Trixie Minx's Burlesque Ballroom.

### SATURDAY:

Spend the day exploring the many boutiques and antique stores and eating on Magazine Street. Brunch at Café Atchafalaya, (901 Louisiana Ave Street / (504) 891-9626) with do-it-yourself bloody Marys, new Bayou dishes, and a packed jazz brunch scene. Or Lunch at Lilette (3637 Magazine Street / (504) 895-1636); La Petite Grocery (4238 Magazine Street / (504) 891-3377) or Casamento's (4330 Magazine Street / (504) 895-9761). Enjoy an afternoon espresso and gelato at Sucre (3025 Magazine Street / (504) 520-8311). You could also do this any day of the week except Sunday, as stores are not open.

## SATURDAY EVENING:

Enjoy, for once, a non-New Orleans meal at SABA (5757 Magazine Street / (504) 324-7770 where Israeli born, chef Alon Shaya will inspire you to hop the next plane to the Mediterranean Sea with his divine Israeli cuisine. Since you're Uptown, why not hit a Uptown night club such as Dos Jefes, a breezy cigar bar and live jazz club that features weekly food trucks outside its tropical courtyard or Tipitina's. Check the local live music listing at wwoz.org/livewire

## SUNDAY:

Enjoy a lively Jazz Brunch in the Garden District at Commander's Palace (1403 Washington Ave. / (504) 899-8221). Afterwards, walk across the street and stroll through the second oldest cemetery in the city (bring your camera.) Continue with an afternoon outdoor walk through the picturesque Garden District where some of New Orleans most fantastic moody mansions are situated. Finish your day exploring The Music Box Village, my favorite haunt in the Bywater (4559 N Rampart St. / www.neworleansairlift.org) or visit the New Orleans Museum of Art's Sculpture Garden (in City Park.) Should you crave an afternoon snack, indulge with New Orleans own beignets and Cafe au Lait at Morning Call (56 Dreyfous Dr. / (504) 300-1157), located behind the sculpture garden. The WWII Museum, The Historic New Orleans Collection, and The Ogden Museum of Southern Art are also a must.



No one lives in New Orleans passively. People make an active choice to be here and they can tell you exactly why and when they made the decision. Though it has always been rich in culture, the revitalization from the Katrina devastation and debacle has meant a tremendous influx of new inhabitants, businesses, renovations, buildings and schools. It's a fascinating time to be here to watch the city reach new potentials while keeping itself firmly grounded in its culinary and historic roots.

The key to really understanding New Orleans is getting out of the French Quarter and experiencing what the rest of us simply call "day to day life" in other neighborhoods such as Uptown, Mid City, The West Bank, Esplanade, The Marigny, The Bywater, and Treme. Although we primarily spend time at our local restaurants, shops and parks, we also eat beignets and crawfish, go to Snug Harbor on Friday nights and take our kids on riverboat cruises to the zoo.

So here is your list: A list that will keep you happy and keep you coming back for more. And when you need a new list – one with names of realtors and contractors – email me, and I'll send you that too.

Laissez les bon temps rouler !

#### **SLEEP**

#### **Ace Hotel New Orleans**

Hip new Hotel in a historic 1928 Art Deco building with 234 rooms. Live Music, Several Fabulous Restaurants, Bars, Coffee Shop & Shopping are in house.

#### The Windsor Court

The Opulent Grand Dame of New Orleans.

#### The Soniat House

Lovely and small French Quarter hotel filled with antiques serving homemade biscuits in bed every morning.

#### **Hotel Montelone**

The Monteleone is a rarity: A locally owned four-star hotel built in 1886 and renovated frequently. Visit the revolving Carousel Bar in the lobby where literay characters Truman Capote, Ernest Hemingway and Tennessee Williams often gathered.

#### The Roosevelt

Recently renovated and fully restored. Luxurious and affordable....and original home of The Sazarac (and one of my favorite restaurants, DOMENICA.)

#### The French Quarter W

A hip haven in the heart of the French Quarter.



# EAT

#### Meauxbar

My favorite vibe thankas to the art & food on the edge of the French Quarter on a corner of Rampart Street, Meaux Bar's French-inspired dishes are served in a super-intimate space. Standouts on the menu include a daily yak-a-mein, the bistro's version of the Chinese meets soul food broth and noodle dish that is sort of New Orleans' own version of ramen. Even the side dishes are cool, so go ahead and order a little roasted bone marrow.

#### **Doris Metropolitan**

Hands down one of my favorite eateries amongst the newcomers to town. It's dubbed an Israeli steak house but it has a metropolitan feel, uber chic, mod and DELICIOUS! Try the Stuffed Beet, Calamari Salad and "Falls off the Bone" entrée. Reservations are required for a table, but if not possible, the bar is a great alternative.

#### **Commander's Palace**

The Grand Dame of New Orleans Cuisine. Great for big groups or romantic dinners. Oh, and go for Sunday Brunch and start drinking Brandy Milk Punches at 11am. NOW you understand New Orleans.

#### Galatoire's

I've celebrated countless birthdays at this quintessential New Orleans historic restaurant. Every local has their favorite waiter and I love Casey. Dont ask to see the menu, they'll tell you what's fresh! We once had lunch and our beverage total was 10 times the cost of our food. Jackets required for Gents (they'll have one for you at the door if you forget.

#### Paladar 511

New restaurant in the Bywater. If they have the tuna crudo on the menu, order it--heck order two!

### **R**'evolution

If you're going to have a blow out, this is your best choice to do so. Chef John Folse's first NOLA eatery and the dining room is over the top. Wear a jacket. Sit in the kitchen. You'll see what I mean.

### Peche

Outstanding seafood restaurant by Chef Donald Link of Cochon and Herbsaint. Great "loft-like" atmosphere and a great bloody mary.

### Cochon

Real Cajun / creole / southern food by James Beard and award-winning chef, Donald Link (mentioned above in Peche). This is the only place in the city you should order gumbo. Please.

### Jack Rose

Fun is the goal at this new restaurant inside the Pontchartrain Hotel on St Charles Avenue. The restaurant took its cues from the hotel's popular and lively rooftop bar, Hot Tin and looks like it was decorated with finds from estate sales with the exception of its portrait of Lil Wayne by local pop artist, Ashley Longshore.

### The Italian Barrel

A tiny hole in the wall in a grungy French Quarter location, but with outstanding food. The ingredients are flown in daily from Italy and are exceedingly fresh.

## Gabrielle

This Louisiana Creole-Cajun hybrid was one of the city's classics until it closed post-Hurricane Katrina. It reopened last year in the Treme. This is a hometown revival like few others. Get your rabbit, their signature slow-roasted duck, gumbos, barbecued shrimp (NB: not actually barbecued), and assorted fish, in a much-missed iconic restaurant that is experiencing a comeback much like its once-blighted, now-hopping neighborhood, off the usual-suspects fray.



#### Bouligny

New Orleans is awesome because it's cool to visit from NYC and go out to dinner and see music in flip flops and cargo shorts, but sometimes...SOMETIMES...you want to dress up and have really nice drinks in a hip atmosphere. Amen Bouligny! Super mid-century design inside a 100+ year old New Orleans residence. Chef John Harris, the owner, really does wear that 70s 'stache. Oh, and this goes under food because they do outstanding small plates.

#### Seaworthy

My personal favorite for those nights when you don't know where to go. FABULOUS oyster bar and excellent burgers! A super cool atmosphere dark wood floors. Great cocktails, always busy. Great for mixed groups of people boys, girls, olds, youngs, foodies and cheapies. Everyone loves it! Wear jeans, heels and t-shirt.

#### **The Franklin**

New eatery in the Bywater! Love the vibe more than the food so graba cocktail there.

#### Johnny Sanchez

Aaron Sanchez and Chef John Besh teamed up to create a California-inspired Mexican restaurant. It's sooooo good! Make sure you have the tostadas and at least a bunch of margaritas. Great location for CBD-visitors, Saints games, Pelicans games, concerts or just Wednesdays.

#### **Sylvain**

It's hard to get locals to eat dinner in the French Quarter unless they already live there, but Sylvain is good enough to do just that. Prime location and great food in a building built in 1796. Lots of visitors but the locals love it too.

#### **Square Root**

Opt for the 9 to 15-course tasting menu for around \$150, or go upstairs for cocktails and charcuterie. Either way this might just be the best experience you have in New Orleans.

### **BUDGET**

### St Roch Market

I've been here for happy hour and dinner a few times. It is a great concept and I've had a positive experience every time. The ambiance is interesting, with a high-end cafeteria feel. The high ceilings, white pillars, open environment, and cocktails contribute to the upscale atmosphere. Whereas the variety of food and grab at the counter style makes it more casual.

### Cafe Reconcile

Round out your visit with Red Beans and Rice, fried catfish and Jambalaya. Brought to you by an ingenious group of men and women who use the restaurant as a teaching grounds for at-risk (seriously at-risk) youth. Do your conscience, your wallet and your tummy good!

#### Satsuma

Breakfast, lunch and occasionally a pop-up dinner restaurant. Great juices, healthy sandwiches, and coffee at two separate locations in The Bywater and Uptown neighborhoods.

### **The Butcher**

AWESOME sandwich shop run by the Cochon people. The cookies? HOLY SMOKES

## **Pizza Delicious**

Everything you need to know is in the name. Bywater.



#### **El Pavo Real**

A traditional Mexican cafe serves up the best Mexican food I've ever had. Low-key and affordable in the Broadmoor neighborhood.

#### St James Cheese Shop

You can't eat Creole food every day. Go here for a gourmet ploughman's platter or the best sandwich Uptown.

## 1000 Figs

Amazing Middle Eastern food (a.k.a. the most incredible falafel I've ever had and I lived in the Marais!)

#### Magasin

Modern Vietnamese noodle and banh mi shop.

#### Lily's

Another Vietnamese restaurant – better food than Magasin but not much atmosphere. Lily, the owner, is great though and she also runs the spa next door. "Noodles and Nails!" she cheerfully proclaims!

#### Mopho

Remember when I just told you Restaurant August had the best food in New Orleans? Well, brothers Mike and Jeff Gulotta, the former executive chef and general manager of Restaurant August, opened a super cool, super hip restaurant in Mid-City where the staff wears hipster-chic mechanics shirts. It's Southeast Asia meets New Orleans. Big outdoor patio, whole pig roast on Saturdays, alcoholic boba tea. It's an industry hang-out and a cool place to grab lunch, dinner or a drink.

#### Johnny's Poboys

Super busy, a little smelly, but the best poboys in the French Quarter. There is a saying in New Orleans – the best food is at the places where you wouldn't want to use the bathroom. That applies here. Ick!

### **Elizabeth's**

The graffiti on the outside of the building includes important information, like opening hours. Get there early on Sundays. Try the brown sugared bacon.

### Dong Phuong Bakery

I doubt you will ever get out to New Orleans East, but if you do you'll witness a thriving Vietnamese community. Don Phuong Bakery provides some of the best French bread in the city and they also run an outstanding restaurant as well. You have to REALLY love an adventure to head out there but yummmm if you do.

### Stein's

The motto of Stein's is "If you want a po-boy, go somewhere else!" So... there's that. New Orleans's best (only?) proper Jewish & Italian deli where you can get an awesome Reuben, BLT or turkey on rye. Loads of beers by the bottle and fancy schmancy soft drinks.

## District Donuts. Sliders. Brew.

Of all the cutesy food trends to hit the masses, the resurrection of the doughnut as a hand crafted luxury item is TOTALLY the best. District Donuts is next door to Stein's in the Lower Garden District and serves around 20 super creative doughnuts each day. But don't worry, it's not ALL sugar. They serve sliders too... cheeseburger, hamburger, tofu, fried chicken and three specials every day. Oh, and the "Brew" part is about coffee, not beer.

### Turkey & The Wolf

Innovative sandwiches featuring local ingredients like chicken-fried Louisiana Wagyu are served alongside shareable snacks and creative cocktails at this playful Irish Channel hangout helmed by two Coquette alumni.



#### DRINK

#### Arnaud's French 75 Bar

A Classic Cigar Bar with Bananas Foster and delightful cocktails created by famous bartender: Chris Hannah. **Bacchanal** 

Bohemian wine shop (with food & live music) in the Bywater on the corner of Chartres & Poland.

#### The Sazarac Bar

Located in the Roosevelt Hotel, The Sazarac Bar has been lovingly restored and pays homage to the granddaddy of New Orleans cocktails: The Sazarac. For what it's worth, I think the actual best Sazarac in the city is made by a bartender named Dave (or Broke Knee Dave as we know him) who is currently working at Peche, but this is a good start. It's also a really sophisticated lounge and a nice place to kick back after a long day of walking around the city.

#### **Carousel Bar**

Some of the nicest bartenders in all of New Orleans and there's always live music!

### Cure

A gorgeous and totally New Orleans-feeling specialty cocktail bar with small plates of food. Great way to start or end your evening.

### The Delachaise

Fabulous wine bar on St Charles Avenue with divine food. The owner, Evan creates a stellar play list.

#### The Columns Hotel

Pretty Baby was filmed in this magical St Charles Avenue mansion. Enjoy an al fresco cocktail on the porch while listening to the streetcars pass. I met Jude Law here for the first time (oooh la la!)

### Maple Leaf

Great music for night owls.

### The Ace Hotel (Salon Bar )

Specialty cocktails with live music and hop atmosphere.

### The Drifter

Hipster Hangout, Pool side.

### Chickie Wah Wah

Outstanding live music venue with unexpectedly good bar food.

### Merchant

Not just the best coffee in town (thanks to them serving Illy cafe), but also great menu...a perfect place for wine and beer after a hard day of work. Or sightseeing.

## LISTEN

**Turn your radio dial to WWOZ 90.7 as soon as you arrive in New Orleans.** Don't let anyone catch you rockin' Miley Cyrus. And go see these bands / groups somewhere live while you are in town:

Before you arrive see who is performing at The Music Box Village and prepruchase your tickets: A MUST! http://www.neworleansairlift.org/



Preservation Hall Jazz Band (traditional jazz) John Cleary (R&B piano) Rebirth Brass Band (Brass Band) John Boutte (singer/jazz/gospel) Galactic (Funk) Stanton Moore (jazz & funk) Helen Gillet (Great female cellist) Tyrone Foster & The Arc Singers (Gospel) Kermit Ruffins (Jazz Trumpeter) Nicholas Payton (Jazz Trumpeter) GIVERS (Talking Heads-esque) Dr. John (TOTALLY New Orleans) Trombone Shorty (one man rock star!) Shannon Powell (Jazz drummer) Tab Benoit (Blues) James Andrews (New Orleans Trumpeter) The Soul Rebels The Treme Brass Band Honey Island Swamp Band (Roots Rock) Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha-Chas (Zydeco) Meschiya Lake (Great female performer) Trixie Minx (Burlesque) & Bustout Burlesque

Be sure to look and see who is performing at these NEW State of the Art Jazz Performance Halls: George & Joyce Wein Heritage Center, Ellis Marsalis Center for Music in The Musicins Village, The Bolden Bar in the New Orleans Jazz Market, Music at The U.S. Mint. As well as The Music Box Village.

## SHOP

#### The Historic New Orleans Collection

A museum gift shop stuffed with the most unique New Orleans books, gifts and memorabilia.

### Perch

Fun and funky home furnishings on Magazine Street. From rustic and primitive to gilded with some Kartell thrown in for good measure. The lovely Caroline Robert, a friend, is the proprietor and she sells Alexa Pulitzer papers. **Lucullus** 

Where else but New Orleans could you find an entire store dedicated to antiquities related to the art of food? No bargains here, but some great souvenirs. (For yourself!)

### Peony

My favorite womens & childrens emporium.

### United Apparel Liquidators (aka UAL)

Hit or miss but can be a place for fabulous finds like \$300 jeans for \$40 (did that!). It's stuffed and in a small store but customers swear by it!

### **Canal Place**

For one-stop-shopping. All the usual chains for emergency shoes and clothes. Saks, JCrew, Anthropologie, BCBG, Brooks Brothers, Armani plus a few local shops too. Excellent movie theatre on the 3rd floor, which serves food and cocktails too! A great place to come if it's too hot, too cold or too rainy.

## Dirty Coast.

New Orleanians love their self-referential t-shirts. Look just like one with a trip to Dirty Coast. Just make sure you understand what you are wearing. I license three of my designs to Dirty Coast.



#### Weinstein's, Pied Nu and SoSuSu

All three are excellent high-end ladies boutiques on Magazine Street.

#### Pilot & Powell

A luxury retailer featuring a curated collection of cool, feminine, stylish clothing & accessories located on Magazine St. **George Bass** 

Gentlemen, if you aren't wearing a t-shirt and flip flops you should be dressed to the nines! A visit to George Bass can help you achieve that. English shoes, seersucker suits, bespoke tailoring. My handsome husband only shops here. **Hazelnut** 

New Orleans's premier destination for Gifts. **Maple Street Book Shop & Garden District Book store** Fight the stupids!

#### PLAY

The Ogden Museum of Art (Thursdays evenings catch a concert with food, cocktails & art for the kids.) The Whitney Plantation (less than an hour from New Orleans) unique, cultural museum exploring the history of slavery. Back Street Cultural Museum holds the world's most comprehensive collection related to New Orleans' African American community-based masking and processional traditions, including Mardi Gras Indians, jazz funerals, social aid and pleasure clubs, Baby Dolls, and Skull and Bone gangs. The museum's filmed records of over 500 events constitute the most cohesive archive documenting these cultural traditions.

**New Orleans Musum of Art** (in City Park) and make time to see the Sculpture Garden (which is free!) Channel your inner child or rock star and visit **The Music Box Village** (Bywater) to play their musical houses and/or experience one of their curated concerts. pre-purchase tickets at musicboxvillage.com.

Spend the day at **City Park (Putt-Putt, Amusement Park, Storyland, Botanical Gardens**, Beignets!) Take a walk through the French Quarter but, if you are over 21, stay on Royal Street instead of Bourbon Street. In fact, do not step foot on Bourbon.

Buggy ride through the **French Quarter** or the Garden District. Grab your camera first!

Check out The Mississippi River from The Moonwalk, a paved walkway along the river front then take the ferry to Old Algiers.

Stroll along Julia Street aka Gallery Row and check out some great contemporary art.

Spend the morning walking around **City Park & Audubon Park.** My favorite walk is Couturie Forest in City Park. Play golf at some of the public golf courses around the city. **City Park & Audubon Park** are easy to access. Stay up super late and catch some music on Frenchmen Street.

Catch a movie at **Canal Place** (with food and craft cocktails).

Play the ponies at **The Fair Grounds.** Season opens on Thanskgiving Day. Dress Up Ladies!

LIVE MUSIC wherever you can find it.

Okay, don't laugh, want to know what locals do on pretty days when they can blow off work? They get a frozen daiquiri and hang out at one of our many Park's or The Fly, a parkway along the river right behind Audubon Zoo. You're in the circle of trust now. Don't blow it.



### KIDS

**The Audubon Zoo** is open every day but Mondays, and includes an award winning Louisiana Swamp Exhibit. During the summer, visit the water park and lazy river at Cool Zoo, located inside the zoo.

**Aquarium** (fishies!) Walk along the Moonwalk from the Quarter to reach the Aquarium.

**Insecterium** (buggies!)

Take the Streetcar. Anywhere.

#### The Children's Museum

**The Music Box Village** (Bywater) My kids love to play their musical houses, down in the lower Bywater. **Cafe du Monde:** Beignets! 24/7. Don't be a sucker and wait in line. Go steal a seat inside.

**City Park:** Ride the Carousel or train in Storyland, Visit NOMA and its amazing Sculpture Garden, Rent a paddle boat, Indulge in Beignets with Café au Lait at the 24 hour Morning Call behind The Sculpture Garden!

**Snowballs:** Pandora's in Mid-City, Hansen's in Uptown and my favorite: Plum Street (also Uptown)

**Sucré**: Sucré's macarons are unbelievably good. Very close to Laduree and definitely worth our absurd rate of consumption. They also have great gelato and some of the best hot chocolate and cappuccino in town. Make this part of your Magazine Street stroll.

**Commander's Palace**: Surprisingly fun with kids for Sunday brunch. Music. Balloons. Brandy Milk Punch for the grownups. Dress up!

**Superior Seafood**: St. Charles Avenue (Great kids' menu with fabulous NOLA food on the streetcar line.) **El Pavo Real**: a traditional Mexican cafe, in Broadmoor. Fabulous Hot Chocolate.

## **BE LAZY**

### Mary Jefferson

Begin your post vacation detox here. Book a private massage with my favorite masseuse (504)376-4577. Then go have a drink at the bar. C'mon! You aren't home YET.

## Belladonna

Uptown, locals place. Carry on a little further up Magazine when you are done for great coffee and gelato at Sucré. **Fifi Mahoney's** 

Get your makeup done ... and maybe don a wig for the night. Fifi's does it all! Marcie, the owner, is a friend, and her hubby, Ryan, own's the fabulous night-club, One Eyed Jack's. Both are in the Quarter.

### Hove Parfumeur, Ltd.

Custom blended fragrances since 1931. (Inspiration for Tom Robbins' Jitterbug Perfume).

### **SWEAT**

## New Orleans Athletic Club

**Romney Pilates:** Great pilates and other sweaty stuff Uptown on Magazine Street, across from Whole Foods Market. Check out Romney Ride if you need a Soul Cycle-type fix.

# Wild Lotus Yoga

Swan River Yoga



### READ

Gambit Weekly
The only source you need for what is going on in NOLA. Music, politics and food. What else is there?
The New Orleans Advocate
Daily newspaper
Louisiana Cookin'
Not super slick but a good compilation of recipes by local chefs and local cooks
The World that Made New Orleans by Ned Sublette
Historical reference for anyone who wants to know how New Orleans became to be the most Northern Carribbean city.
Faulkner House Books

Located in Pirate's Alley by St. Louis Cathedral, Faulkner was living here when he wrote "Soldier's Pay."

### **OTHER RESOURCES**

The Creative Alliance of New Orleans (CANO) has the key to the culturally rich doors of this City and offers experiences like no other organization or tour company can. Thirty-five years of experience working in the creative culture of New Orleans positions CANO as your number one organization to lead you through the magic of this City. Enjoy the first-hand knowledge and experience of New Orleans' creative artists and producers as well as the expertise of academic and business leaders. Experience the City withCANO helping you plan first-class transportation, access to great restaurants and advice on accommodations. http://www.arthomeneworleans.com/

Wall Street Journal from September 2010 Travel & Leisure from November 2010 "36 Hours in New Orleans" from February 2012 NY Times from October 2013 NOLA Official Visitors Website: http://www.neworleansonline.com/

"If New Orleans is not fully in the mainstream of culture, neither is it fully in the mainstream of time. Lacking a well-defined present, it lives somewhere between its past and its future, somewhere between Preservation Hall and the Superdome. New Orleans listens eagerly to the seductive promises of the future but keeps at least one foot firmly planted in its history."

- Tom Robbins from Jitterbug Perfume