



Alexa Pulitzer
NEW ORLEANS

A WEEK IN NEW ORLEANS

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 do in New Orleans.

MONDAY: New Orleans has a peerless cocktail pedigree (the French 75, the Sazerac, the Old Fashioned, the Grasshopper, the Ramos Gin Fizz, the Pimm's Cup.) My favorite spots to try these cocktails include: N7 (1117 Montegut St.), The Napoleon House (500 Chartres St / (504) 524-9752), French 75 Bar (813 Bienville St. / 504-523-5433), The Elysian Bar (2317 Burgundy St / (504) 356-6769) or Cane & Table (1113 Decatur St / (504) 581-1112.) At The Hermes Bar in the annex of Antoine's Restaurant (713 St Louis Street / (504) 581-4422) you can order from the oldest menu in town. My favorites are: Oysters Rockefeller, Oysters a la Foche, Shrimp Remoulade, Crabmeat Ravigote and Baked Alaska (a dessert, which you must order when you order your cocktails as it takes time to prepare).

TUESDAY: Eat lunch (or dinner) at R'evolution (777 Bienville St / (504) 553-2277) a John Folse, THE 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) or Clancy's (6100 Annunciation St. / (504) 895-1111) before heading to The Maple Leaf (8316 Oak Street / (504) 866-9359) to hear Rebirth Brass Band. 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.)

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 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. Or Turkey and the Wolf - This tiny corner sandwich shop and bar, 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. Sunny and crammed, a true New Orleans experience worth the wait for a seat or bar stool. (797 Jackson Ave. / (504) 218-7428) Then, Check out all the super hip Magazine Street retailers afterwards. Enjoy Happy Hour listening to Jon Cleary tickle the ivories at DBA on Frenchman Street or whoever is playing in the garden at Bacchanal Wine Bar (600 Poland Avenue / (504) 948-9111.) Enjoy dinner at Paladar 511 (511 Marigny St/ (504) 509-6782.) If a food coma does not strike you down early, head 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.



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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 menu items include: 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 living jazz legends. By the way, my favorite burger is at Snug Harbor! P.S. if you like burlesque, head to the Royal Sonesta just before midnight to catch Trixie Minx's Burlesque Ballroom.

SATURDAY:

Hopefully you wake up and when you do, check local live music listing at wwoz.org/livewire and then plan your day around what you will listen to! Spend the day exploring boutiques and antique stores and eating on Magazine Street. Brunch at Café Atchafalaya, (901 Louisiana Ave. / (504) 891-9626) with do-it-yourself Bloody Mary's, new Bayou dishes, and a packed jazz brunch scene. Or Lunch at Lilette (3637 Magazine St. / (504) 895-1636); La Petite Grocery (4238 Magazine St. / (504) 891-3377). If you're feeling skinny: try the best seafood at Casamento's (4330 Magazine St. / (504) 895-9761). You could also do this any day of the week except Sunday, as most retail stores are not open.

SATURDAY EVENING:

Transport yourself to Paris when you dine in hip new Brasserie: JUSTINE (225 Chartres St / (504) 8218-8533) and savor traditional French fare helmed by James Beard award winning Chef, Justin Devillier and his proprietress wife, Mia Freiberger-Devillier. Nobody's falling asleep in their soup here with a nightly DJ and a regular schedule of Fan Girls, Drag Queens and Dancers strolling through the most gorgeous restaurant in the French Quarter. This place delivers irreverent revelry and serves dinner til 2am. Thank you very much!

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. Head down river to the Bywater and explore The Music Box Village (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 in beignets and Cafe au Lait at Cafe Du Monde (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!

Since it's Sunday, experience my Church and head down to Preservation Hall (726 St Peter Street / (504) 522-2841) to listen to live jazz: Thursdays through Sundays at 5pm, 6:15, and 7:30pm. Reserve and Pre-purchase your tickets at preservationhall.com While The Hall does not serve alcohol, you may bring in cocktails. Children are welcome. Mine adore it, just explain to your kiddos NOT to get up during the 45 minute show.



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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, Treme and the 7th ward. Although we primarily spend time living life to the fullest at our local restaurants, and parks, we also eat beignets and crawfish, listen to music in every gritty crevice and take our kids on swamp tours while drinking daquiries.

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 !

Turn your radio dial to WWOZ 90.7 as soon as you arrive in New Orleans.

Go see / hear as much live music as possible while you are in town:

LISTEN

Preservation Hall Jazz Band (Traditional jazz)
John Cleary (R&B Piano & Vocals)
Rebirth Brass Band (N.O. style Brass Band)
Herlin Riley (Neo-bop jazz drummer)
Nicholas Payton (Piano & Trumpet player)
Galactic (Funk)
Stanton Moore Trio (jazz)
John Boutte (singer/jazz/gospel)
Irma Thomas (Queen of Soul)
Tiff Lamson (Drummer/Female Vocalist)
Kermit Ruffins (Trumpeter/Vocals/Rap)
GIVERS (Talking Heads-esque)
Black Magic Drum Line (pure joy in the streets)
BOYFRIEND (rap cabaret)
Helen Gillet (Belgian cello playing chantuse)
Wendell Brunious (trumpeter)

Trombone Shorty (one man rock star!)
Shannon Powell (the New Orleans drummer) Lost
Bayou Ramblers (Grammy-winning Cajun band)
Mark Braud (trumpeter)
Trixie Minx (Burlesque)
James Andrews (Satchamo from the Ghetto)
The Soul Rebels (N.O. style Brass Band)
The Treme Brass Band (N.O. style Brass Band)
Tab Benoit (Blues)
Tyrone Foster & The Arc Singers (Gospel)
Honey Island Swamp Band (Roots Rock)
Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha-Chas (Zydeco)
Corey Henry (trombonist/funk)
Joe Lastie & The New Orleans Sound (drummer)
Judith Owens (British Female Vocalist on Keys)
Germaine Bazzle (Female Vocalist)

Before you arrive see who is performing at these State of the Art Venues: **George & Joyce Wein Heritage Center**, **The Ellis Marsalis Center for Music**, **Music at The U.S. Mint**, and my favorite, **The Music Box Village** (neworleansairlift.org) as well as **The Saegner** and **The Civic Theaters**.



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HOTELS

Maison de la Luz : a serene, upscale, intimate guest house of 67 suites, located in the CBD with its finger on the pulse of New Orleans. The most beautiful bar in town, Bar Marilou is inside this private Hotel. It's my Favorite!

Hotel Peter & Paul : Brand new, yet feels like it's been there for decades. It was a Catholic School in the Marigny.

The Chloe: a lively 14-room hotel, restaurant, bar, pool and patio. Housed in a 19th century Uptown mansion.

Hotel Saint Vincent : Restored and reimagined in 2021, this 75-room upscale hotel is the newest hotel by Liz Lambert and situated in the Lower Garden District. Pool, Restaurant, Bar, Cafe & Shopping are in house as well as event space.

Ace Hotel: Hip hotel in a historic 1928 Art Deco building with 234 rooms. Live Music, Restaurant, Bar, Coffee Shop & Shopping are in house as well as event space.

The Windsor Court: The only somewhat five star hotel in New Orleans. Five Star does not truly exist in NOLA.

The Soniat House : Small French Quarter inn filled with antiques serving homemade biscuits in bed every morning.

MY FRIENDS SUPER FAB FURNISHED RENTALS:

NICELLE: <https://www.vrbo.com/574517?unitId=1121834&arrival=2019-10-16&departure=2019-11-02&adultsCount=3> (3 bedroom guest house/Bayou Saint John)

NICELLE: https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/36314478?preview_for_ml=true&source_impression_id=p3_1570655568_ra8xxV2rY8z0ojQz (1 Bedroom/Bayou Saint John)

NICELLE: <https://www.vrbo.com/554804?adultsCount=3> (Studio/Bayou Saint John)

TODD : <https://www.vrbo.com/1247901> (3 bedroom w/ Balcony on Frenchman Street in Marigny)

TODD : <https://www.vrbo.com/1247881> (2 bedroom w/ Balcony on Frenchman Street in Marigny)

SARA + PAUL: <https://www.vrbo.com/1293254?unitId=1844402> (2 bedroom /Garden District)

PAUL + SARA: <https://www.vrbo.com/1308491?unitId=1860034> (Studio/Garden District)

MIKE + KRISTIN: <https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/12385245> (3 Bedroom French Quarter)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/12423165> (3 bedroom with Balcony in Marigny)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/13590152> (2 bedroom with Courtyard in Marigny)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/12848050> (2 bedroom with Courtyard in Marigny)

OTHER RESOURCES

NOLA Official Visitors Website: <http://www.neworleansonline.com/>

Daily Live Music Listings: <https://www.wwoz.org/calendar/livewire-music>

If you're looking for a guided experience of NOLA's "must sees" presented with historical accuracy and a true passion for our remarkable city, check out writer/documentarian/preservationist Rob Florence and his 25 year old company Historic New Orleans Tours. Visit: www.tourneworleans.com for their regular daily tours including Cemetery/Voodoo, Treme, Scandalous Cocktail, French Quarter, Garden District, Music and Haunted French Quarter or call 504.947.2120 for a private, custom experience.



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EAT

Zasu

Superb restaurant in MidCity for sophisticated cuisine, headed up James Beard Award winning Chef Sue Zemanick. N7

Offbeat destination with seafood dishes & craft cocktails in eclectic digs with a stunning courtyard.

Paladar 511

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

Lillette

Chef John Harris's sophisticated French fare in a sexy, sunfilled stylish space. Next door to Boulogny tavern

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.

San Lorenzo

An ode to coastal Italian cooking with regional New Orleans influences, situated inside the Hotel Saint Vincent.

Peche

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

LUVI

Luvi provides some of the best Japanese food in the city and Han runs an outstanding restaurant as well.

Clancy's

Old School New Orleans. The best menu in Uptown.

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.

Arnaud's

This Louisiana Creole Fine Dining establishments is one of the city's classics. The elegant, early 19th-century main dining room, with its huge expanse of etched leaded glass, is where you want to dine. Guests routinely spend three hours at the table as if nothing else mattered. Swiftly moving tuxedo-clad waiters glide along the patterned ceramic-tile floors; they bear pots of café brûlot emitting blue flames and the aroma of citrus, liqueur and spices. A Must.

Doris Metropolitan

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.

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.)

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.



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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. I'll take two, please. Thank you very much!

Justine

This hip, Parisian style brasserie in French Quarter is headed up by James Beard award winner, Chef Justin Devillier and his wife, Mia serves traditional Parisian fare til 2am (as well as a DJ and Burlesque.)

Bouigny Tavern

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...you want to dress up and have really nice drinks and outstanding small plates in a hip atmosphere. Amen Bouigny! Super mid-century design inside a 100+ year old New Orleans residence. Chef John Harris, the owner, really does wear that 70s 'stache and spin vinyl.

Seaworthy

Oyster bar and excellent burgers! A super cool atmosphere dark wood floors, next to The Ace Hotel.

The Italian Barrel

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

BUDGET

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. Save room for dessert.

The Butcher

AWESOME sandwich shop run by the Cochon Folks. The cookies? HOLY SMOKES! Hands down the best Gumbo in town. I order it to take away when I'm hosting folks from outta town.

Mopho

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.

Casamento's

This third-generation oyster bar has some of the freshest local oysters in town, delicious raw, fried or cooked. The French fries are fresh-cut and the seafood is always cooked to order. Closed in summer.

Satsuma and Hi-Volt

Breakfast, lunch. Great juices, healthy sandwiches, and coffee at two separate locations in The Lower Garden District and Uptown neighborhoods.

La Boulangerie

French bakery with decadent pastries, breads, king cakes & sandwiches. Operated by Donald Link & Team I want to eat everything!



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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.

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.

Elizabeth's

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

Stein's

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.

Union Ramen

A Vietnamese Chef and a Filipino Restaurateur serving Japanese food originally hailing from China. And in this town, it's all about flavor, baby.

1000 Figs

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

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 with decent food in a building built in 1796. Lots of visitors but the locals love it too.

Barracuda

Of all the cutesy food trends to hit the masses, the resurrection of the taco stand as a hand crafted luxury item is the best. But don't worry, it's not ALL tacos. They serve fabulous cocktails too in their outdoor garden!

Pizza Delicious

Everything you need to know is in the name. Bywater. I typically pick up from here.

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!

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 a high-end cafeteria with enormously high ceilings, white pillars, open environment, and cocktails which all contribute to the upscale atmosphere. Whereas the variety of food and grab at the counter style makes it more casual.

Auction House Market

Amazing Food Court on steroids in the Arts Market (Museum and Warehouse District)

Cho Thai

Jimmy Cho, chef and owner of Cho Thai, is a native of Sakon Nakhon in northeastern Thailand and opened the West-bank favorite Banana Blossom in 2009. This new Cho Thai is on Magazine Street in the Garden District.

Blue Giant

American Chinese in the Lower Garden District.



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DRINK

Bar Marilou (Salon Bar inside Maison de la Luz)

Specialty cocktails with live music and stunning atmosphere.

Bacchanal

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

Jewel of the South

A New Orleans-feeling specialty cocktail bar and restaurant with amazing cocktails. Great way to start or end your evening because they serve divine food til Midnight and have a lovely private courtyard.

The Columns Hotel

Pretty Baby was filmed in this magical St Charles Avenue mansion, which has just been refurbished. 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!) **The The**

Elysian

Located in the Hotel Peter & Paul, The Elysian serves lite fare and is both a bar and coffee shoppe (til 3pm)

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.

Bouligny Tavern

A very chic Bar with fantastic food helmed by John Harris and designed by Bockman & Forbes on Magazine Street.

Arnaud's French 75 Bar

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

Chickie Wah Wah

Outstanding live music venue with unexpectedly good bar food.

Maple Leaf

Great music for night owls.

Carousel Bar

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

The Delachaise

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

The Chloe

The newest boutique hotel where the Uptown scene flocks with an open-air courtyard where you can grab a bite and a cocktail before heading off to other destinations, have breakfast, or to savor a nightcap when the party is winding down.

St. Germain

French Wine bar in the Bywater with a seperate dining room.

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.



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PLAY

LIVE MUSIC wherever you can find it. Even in the streets (Frenchman Street, Royal Street to name a few)

Buy Local Music at **The Louisiana Music Factory** and **Euclid Records**.

Stroll Down Magazine Street or through the French Quarter but, if you are over 21, travel on Royal Street and Chartres Street instead of Bourbon Street. In fact, do not step foot on Bourbon. GAG! Stinky, Trashy, stay away!

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 morning walking around **City Park & Audubon Park**. My favorite walk is Couturie Forest in City Park.

Spend the day at **City Park** and visit **The Sculpture Gardem, The Children Museum, City Putt-Putt, Storyland and Carousel Gardens Amusement Park, Botanical Gardens and Cafe du Monde** (Beignets!)

Play golf at some of the public golf courses around the city. **City Park & Audubon Park** are easy to access.

Jean Lafitte National Park walk through significant examples of the rich natural and cultural resources of Louisiana's Mississippi River Delta region.

The Whitney Plantation (less than an hour from New Orleans) unique, cultural museum exploring the history of slavery.

New Orleans Musum of Art (in City Park) and make time to see the Sculpture Garden (which is free!)

The Ogden Museum of Art (Thursdays evenings catch a concert with food, cocktails & art for the kids.)

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.

Check out contemporary art on **Julia Street** aka Gallery Row and enjoy Lunch at Emeril's, or The Auction House

Check out The Mississippi River from The Moonwalk, a paved walkway along the river front then take the ferry to Old Algiers. Grab your camera and hitch a buggy ride through the **French Quarter** or the Garden District. Enjoy a drink at Lafitte's Black Smith. Stay up super late and catch some music on **Frenchmen Street**. My faves are Snug Harbor, dba, Maison, The Blue Nile and The Spotted Cat.

Catch a movie at **The Broad Theatres** (with food and craft cocktails).

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

Scour through vintage and rare editions at **Faulkner House Books**.

St. Louis Cemetery No. 3 – Less visited than its more famous brothers, this expanse of marble and stone, showcases the raised graves that distinguishes our local cemeteries. I also like **St. Roch Cemetary Ex-Voto Shrine**.

SWEAT

MVMT by Romney and **Romney Pilates**: Check out Romney Ride if you need a Soul Cycle-type fix or Pilates.

Uptown Pilates

Wild Lotus Yoga

Swan River Yoga



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SHOP

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 my designs to Dirty Coast.

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.

United Apparel Liquidators (aka UAL)

Hit or miss but can be a place for fabulous finds for \$300 jeans for \$40 (did that!) It's stuffed and small but customers swear by it! Three locations: French Quarter, Magazine Street, and Metairie (near Lakeside Mall.)

Peony

My favorite womens & children's emporium.

Saint Claude Social Club, Pilot & Powell, Weinstein's, Pied Nu and SoSuSu, Sunday Shop

Upscale boutiques featuring a curated collection of cool, feminine, stylish clothing & accessories on Magazine Street.

Century Girl Vintage, FiFi Mahoney's, Trashy Diva Lingerie, Bambi Deville Vintage Clothing, Broadway Bound Costumes are Unique retailers featuring a curated collection of wigs, makeup, costumes, vintage, corsets, headpieces, etc...

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. Visit **Meyer The Hatter** around the corner.

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 Carribean city.

Faulkner House Books

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



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KIDS

Ride the **St. Charles Avenue Streetcar**, which has been running for 165 years and is the oldest continuously operating street railway in the world. There are 34 olive-green now-electric cars, and the fare is just \$1.25. Catch it at Canal & Royal and ride it up to **Audubon Park**.

City Park: Ride the Carousel or Train in Storyland (an oasis for kids), rent a paddle boat or bike, play golf putt-putt at City Putt, visit NOMA and its amazing Sculpture Garden, enjoy in Beignets & Café au Lait at the 24 hour "Cafe Du Monde" behind The Sculpture Garden!

The Louisiana Children's Museum in City Park with a fabulous restaurant, ACORN (open for breakfast or lunch.)

Cafe du Monde: Beignets! 24/7. Don't be a sucker and wait in line. Go steal a seat inside.

The Music Box Village (Bywater) My kids love to play the musical houses in the lower Bywater and a iconic venue.

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.

Insectarium (butterflies and buggies!)

Snowballs: My favorite is Plum Street but there's also Hansen's (Uptown) and Pandora's (Mid-City.)

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

El Pavo Real: A traditional Mexican cafe with Fabulous Hot Chocolate & Chocolate Mousse (My Kids Fave.)

Superior Seafood: Raw or Grilled Oysters. Great kids' menu with NOLA food (on the streetcar line.)

BE LAZY

Private Chefs:

Patrick Kearney (504) 606.4234

Laura Snape (504) 295.4893

Beny Poppins (504) 912.2273

MASSAGE: Begin your post vacation detox here and book a private massage with my favorite masseuses:

Mary Jefferson (504) 376-4577

Horn Hom (504) 388-7744

Fifi Mahoney's : Get your makeup done and maybe don a custom headpiece or wig for the night. Fifi's does it all!

Hove Parfumeur, Ltd. Custom blended fragrances since 1931. (Inspiration for Tom Robbins' *Jitterbug Perfume*).

"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*