



Alexa Pulitzer

NEW ORLEANS

Greetings from the best place on earth: New Orleans! No one lives in New Orleans passively. People make an active choice to be here, as the living is NOT easy. Locals will tell you exactly why and when they made the decision to move back after Hurricane Katrina leveled us. 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 musical, culinary, historic and cultural roots.

The key to really understanding New Orleans is getting out of the French Quarter and experiencing what the rest of us call "day to day life" in other neighborhoods such as Uptown, The Garden District, Faubourg St John, Tremé, The Lower Garden District, The Marigny, The Bywater, St. Roch, 7th Ward, and Algiers. Although we primarily spend time living life to the fullest at our annual festivals, restaurants, music clubs and parks, we also make beignets at home, host crawfish boils, listen to music on a gritty streetcorners and take our kids to the "second lines" with daquiries in hand. So here is your list that will make your trip worthwhile and keep you coming back for more. And when you need a new list – one with realtors and contractors – hit me up!

Before you come, WATCH & READ

By Invitation Only - My childhood friend, Rebecca Snedeker explores the insular world of the elite, white Carnival societies and debutante balls of Mardi Gras.

A Tuba to Cuba - My friends, TG & Nicelle Herrington, Ben Jaffe and Danny Clinch made this documentary, which follows famed Preservation Hall Jazz Band as they retrace their musical roots from the storied city of jazz to Cuba.

All on a Mardi Gras Day - An intimate portrait of Big Chief Demond Melancon's journey through the secret 200-year culture known as the Black Masking Culture of New Orleans.

Down By Law - a 1986 cult B&W film, written and directed by cult director, Jim Jarmusch.

The Princess and The Frog - Disney's love letter to New Orleans is set in New Orleans during the 1920s and happens to be my favorite Disney film! The soundtrack isn't bad either!

Treme - Set in post-Katrina New Orleans, this drama series, from "The Wire" executive producers David Simon and Eric Overmyer, follows the lives of ordinary residents as they struggle with the aftereffects of the 2005 hurricane.

Algiers, America - A docuseries directed by my friend, Jackson Fager, that tells the story of a remarkable HS football coach in the center of one of New Orleans' oldest neighborhoods, Algiers, and the community that's fighting together for hope and survival.

The World that Made New Orleans - Historical reference by Ned Sublette written for anyone who wants to know how New Orleans became to be the most unique city in America.

A Confederacy of Dunces - a mischievous novel featuring the misadventures of an educated but slothful 30-year-old living with his mother in the early 1960s New Orleans, who, in his quest for employment, has various adventures with colorful French Quarter characters. One day, I hope to see this book made into a movie!



A WEEK IN NEW ORLEANS - WHAT I DO

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: The Columns Hotel, N7 (1117 Montegut St.), The Napoleon House (500 Chartres St.), French 75 Bar (813 Bienville St.) The Elysian Bar (2317 Burgundy St.) or Cane & Table (1113 Decatur St.) At The Hermes Bar in the annex of Antoine's Restaurant (713 St Louis Street) you can order from the oldest menu in town and my favorites are Oysters Rockefeller, Oysters a la Foche, Shrimp Remoulade, Crabmeat Ravigote and Baked Alaska (a dessert, which you will want to order when you order your cocktails since it takes time to prepare). Afterward, listen to my dearest friend, Ben Jaffe, blow his sousaphone or play the upright bass with his band: The Preservation Hall Jazz Band at Preservation Hall (726 St Peter St.) - the legendary music hall and institution with live traditional jazz music. There are four sets nightly: 5pm, 6:15pm, 7:30pm, and 8:45pm. Pre-purchase your tickets to avoid the line at preservationhall.com. Preservation Hall is my church. "The Hall" does not serve alcohol and your well children are welcome and encouraged.

TUESDAY: Eat lunch at R'evolution (777 Bienville St.) - John Folse's fine dining establishment in the French Quarter. After lunch, stroll down Royal Street to go antiquing and visit The New Orleans Historic Collection and A Gallery for Fine Photography. For dinner, enjoy a modern Creole meal Uptown at Brigtsen's (723 Dante St.) Coquette (2800 Magazine St.) or Clancy's (6100 Annunciation St.) before heading to The Maple Leaf (8316 Oak St.) to hear some blues, funk or brass. You never know who you'll run into at this local haunt ;)

WEDNESDAY: Enjoy lunch in the warehouse district, at Herbsaint or Peche, right by a cluster of captivating institutions including the Ogden Museum and the National WWII Museum (not to be missed.) For dinner, enjoy "Ottolenghi inspired" menu with a sexy vibe and playlist at Doris Metropolitan (620 Chartres St.) I enjoy eating at their bar when I can't get a table. If you're Uptown, check out Peter Harris Trio at The Bayou Bar (in The Ponchartrain Hotel.) It's mindblowing who ends up playing in this intimate room! Seriously, The Bayou Bar IS a very cool jazz club where you can also eat dinner. The best nights are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Get there at 6.30pm to secure a table as they don't take reservations.

THURSDAY: Book your reservation now, for a delicious lunch at Lilette (3637 Magazine St.) For something funky, slurp down some oysters and fried seafood at Casamento's (4330 Magazine St.) Check out www.tourneworleans.com for their daily tours including Cemetery + Voodoo, Scandalous Cocktail, French Quarter, Tremé, Garden District, Music and Haunted French Quarter Tours, or for a private, custom experience, call the owner, Rob Florence at (504) 947-2120. Happy Hour at The Columns Hotel, where the front porch vibe will transport you to another era or listen to live music in the garden at Bacchanal Wine Bar, down in the Bywater (600 Poland Avenue.)



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THURSDAY NIGHT: This is the night to head into the Marigny and Bywater neighborhoods. Enjoy dinner at Paladar 511 (511 Marigny St.) or at N7 (1117 Montegut St.) then head back to Frenchmen Street to check out an array of live music at DBA, Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro, The Spotted Cat, The Frenchman Hotel. However, If you're eating dinner Uptown, catch the last set at The Bayou Bar (inside the Ponchartrain Hotel.)

FRIDAY: Every New Orleanian has had several eight hour drunken lunches at the quintessential Galatoire's restaurant (209 Bourbon Street.) Gents, wear your sport coat and ladies, look your best. My favorite menu items include: Shrimp Rémolade, 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 at 8pm. Walk another stone skip away to Preservation Hall, Mahogany Jazz Hall (125 Chartres St) or Palm Court Jazz Cafe (1204 Decatur St) and listen to living jazz legends, including one of my faves: Kevin Louis. P.S. If you enjoy Burlesque, head to the Royal Sonesta Hotel just before midnight to catch Trixie Minx's Burlesque Ballroom.

SATURDAY: Hopefully you wake up and when you do, check the local live music listing at: www.calendar.offbeat.com/calendars/all-events, and plan your evening around what you will listen to! Honestly, why else did you come to New Orleans? Spend the day exploring boutiques and antique stores on Magazine Street For lunch, there's Lilette (3637 Magazine St) or La Petite Grocery (4238 Magazine St.) P.S. You could also do this any day of the week however most boutiques are not open on Sunday.

SATURDAY EVENING: Transport yourself to Paris when you dine al fresco at N7 (1117 Montegut St) or the chic Brasserie: JUSTINE (225 Chartres St.) and savor traditional French fare helmed by James Beard award winning Chef Justin Devillier. Nobody's falling asleep in their soup here with a nightly DJ and a regular schedule of Fan Girls and Drag Queens strolling through the most gorgeous restaurant in the French Quarter. This place delivers irreverent revelry and serves dinner til 2am. Thank you very much! If a food coma does not strike you down early, check out my new music club, The Toulouse Theatre in the French Quarter, Chickie Wah Wah or Tipitina's which present the finest music talent as well as the rock and rollers passing through The Big Easy.

SUNDAY: Enjoy a lively Jazz Brunch at Café Atchafalaya (901 Louisiana Ave.) with new Bayou dishes, and a packed jazz brunch scene, or Commander's Palace (1403 Washington Ave.) Continue with an afternoon walk through the picturesque Garden District where some of New Orleans most moody mansions are situated. If you're downtown, enjoy a french brunch in the most glorius garden: N7. Finish your day playing the musical houses at The Music Box Village (www.neworleansairlift.org) or visit the New Orleans Museum of Art Sculpture Garden, in City Park. Should you crave an afternoon snack, indulge in beignets and cafe au lait at Cafe Du Monde, behind the sculpture garden. The WWII Museum, The Historic New Orleans Collection, and The Ogden Museum of Southern Art are also a must! Every Sunday at 7:30pm, my mate, Mark Braud blows his golden coronet at the Palm Court Jazz Cafe (1204 Decatur St.) in the French Quarter. Be sure to check out who's playing at Snug Harbor too!



As soon as you arrive in New Orleans, turn your radio dial to WWOZ 90.7 FM (wwoz.org)
Go hear as much live music as possible while you are in town! My faves are below!

LISTEN: Before you arrive, watch the documentary, "A TUBA TO CUBA" and check out who is performing at these state of the art venues: **George & Joyce Wein Heritage Center, Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, The U.S. Mint, New Orleans Jazz Market** and my favorites: **Preservation Hall, The Bayou Bar, and The Music Box Village** (neworleansairlift.org)

Preservation Hall Jazz Band (Traditional jazz)	Galactic (Funk)
John Cleary (R&B Piano & Vocals)	George Porter Jr. (Bassist/Funk)
David Torkanowsky (my favorite pianist)	Corey Henry (trombonist/funk)
Stanton Moore Trio (New Orleans drummer)	Donald Harrison (saxophonist)
Shannon Powell (New Orleans drummer)	Kermit Ruffins (Trumpeter/Vocals/Rap)
Herlin Riley (Neo-bop jazz drummer)	James Andrews (Satchamo from the Ghetto)
Trombone Shorty (one man rock star!)	Trumpet Mafia (it's all in the name!)
Nicholas Payton (Piano & Trumpet player)	Wendell Brunious (trumpeter)
NOJO (New Orleans Jazz Orchestra)	Mark Braud (trumpeter)
79ers Gang (N.O. Brass Band)	Kevin Louis (trumpeter)
The Soul Rebels (N.O. Brass Band)	Ashlin Parker (trumpeter)
Rebirth Brass Band (N.O. Brass Band)	John Michael Bradford (Trumpeter/Vocals)
The Treme Brass Band (N.O. style Brass Band)	Peter Harris (bassist/band leader)
Dee Dee Bridgewater (Female Jazz Vocalist)	Black Magic Drum Line (pure joy in the streets)
Irma Thomas (Queen of Soul)	Lost Bayou Ramblers (Grammy-winning Cajun band)
BOYFRIEND (rap cabaret)	Tab Benoit (Blues)
Tank & The Bangas (R&B)	John Boutte (singer/jazz/gospel)
Helen Gillet (Belgian cello playing chantuse)	Tyrone Foster & The Arc Singers (Gospel)
Judith Owen (Welsh piano playing chantuse)	Nathan Williams & the Zydeco Cha-Chas (Zydeco)
Germaine Bazzle (Female Vocalist)	Joe Lastie & The New Orleans Sound (drummer)

DAILY LIVE MUSIC LISTINGS: calendar.offbeat.com/calendars/all-events

LIVE MUSIC BOOKING : David Torkanowsky (504)232-7464 | Torkanowsky@me.com

SECOND LINE BOOKING : Lacey Wood (504)722-1247 | ILoveVieux.com

NOLA Official Visitors Website: neworleansonline.com



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WHAT TO DO + SEE!

Prioritize listening to LIVE music. And it's everywhere because music is the heartbeat of our city! And bring some of our music home with you. You can buy local music at **The Louisiana Music Factory, Euclid Records & Peaches**. Catch live music at **Preservation Hall** or **Toulouse Theatre** in the French Quarter or on **Frenchmen Street** at **Snug Harbor, DBA, Maison, The Blue Nile** and **The Spotted Cat**. I also love **The Bayou Bar, Tipitinas** and **Chickie Wah Wah** which are all outside the Quarter. While walking through the French Quarter, travel on Royal Street and Chartres Street instead of Bourbon Street. In fact, do NOT step foot on Bourbon. GAG!

My favorite walk is **Couturie Forest** in **City Park**. While in City Park, be sure to visit **The Sculpture Garden, The Children Museum, City Putt-Putt, Storyland, Carousel Gardens Amusement Park, and Cafe du Monde** (for Beignets!) You could also play golf at the public golf courses in **City Park & Audubon Park**.

An all day affair could be strolling down **Magazine Street** - letting your nose guide you. Magazine Street is the SoHo of the south with boutiques, antiques and restaurants along a 5 mile stretch.

Spend the afternoon at **StudioBe** in the Bywater - a 35,000 ft landmark featuring art by artist, Brandan "BMike" Odums. **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.

St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 - established in 1789, the oldest extant cemetery in the City showcases the raised graves that distinguishes our local cemeteries of marble and stone. I also like **St. Roch Cemetery Ex-Voto Shrine**.

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

Check out contemporary art on **Julia Street** aka Gallery Row and enjoy Lunch at **Emeril's** or **Pesche**, Then visit national attraction, **The World War 2 Museum**, exhibiting the epic & global scale of the war that changed the world.

The Historic New Orleans Collection is a museum, research center, and publisher dedicated to the study and preservation of the history and culture of New Orleans. This is a treasure trove and asset for research!

The National World War 2 Museum is not to be missed.

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

Channel your inner child or rock star and visit **The Music Box Village** (in the Bywater) and play their musical houses and/or experience one of their curated concerts. Check out the schedule + Pre-purchase tickets at musicboxvillage.com

Jean Lafitte National Park : walk through significant examples of the natural and cultural resources of Louisiana's Mississippi River Delta region. An easy 30 minute ride from the Quarter.

The Whitney Plantation - an important cultural museum exploring the history of slavery about an hour up river.

The Sazerac Museum is free and has fantastic interactive exhibits that tell the story of how coffee houses and pharmacies in the FQ became the first bars and meeting places.

New Orleans Pharmacy Museum is a circa-1823 apothecary with exhibits of early medicines, and superstitious cures. Scour through vintage and rare editions at **Faulkner House Books** next to St Louis Cathedral in the Quarter.



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EAT

Zasu

My fave 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 and wine list.

Paladar 511

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

Lilette

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

Rosedale

No matter how you arrive to this tucked away gem, you'll be served the freshest, locally sourced ingredients, tastily transformed, and served by talented staff. Operated by award winning chef, Susan Spicer and offers outdoor dining.

Jack Rose

Fun is the goal at this lively restaurant 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 shiny portrait of Lil Wayne.

Peche

Outstanding seafood restaurant by chef, Donald Link of Cochon and Herbsaint. Open loft-like atmosphere with a stellar bloody mary and the freshest catch!

Mister Mao

A tropical roadhouse in an Uptown Cottage with a creative kitchen devoted to robust flavors, produced with precision. If your headed to Tiptinas for a live show, you wanna go here before.

R'evolution

If you're going to have a blow out, this is your best choice to do so. Chef John Folsie'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.

Clancy's

Old School New Orleans. The best menu in Uptown. Try the fried oysters with brie and crabmeat salad!

Justine

This hip and stylish brasserie in the French Quarter is headed up by James Beard award winner, Justin Devillier and his lovely wife, Mia. They're serving up traditional Parisian fare til 2am (as well as a DJ and Burlesque.)

Boulogny 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 Boulogny! 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.

Coquette

A neighborhood gathering place offering contemporary southern cuisine with an emphasis on locally sourced product and international inspiration.



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Saba

Alon Shaya's Uptown bistro with family-style platters of locally sourced Middle Eastern fare & outdoor dining

Dakar NOLA

In 2022, chef Serigne Mbaye's was nominated for a James Beard Award for Best Emerging Chef. Serigne's Senegalese tasting menu dinners have been some of the most exciting, noteworthy dining experiences in New Orleans.

Addis Nola

A well appointed Ethiopian restaurant nestled on Historic Bayou Road, New Orleans' oldest road and a cultural hub of Black owned Businesses. Great for Happy Hour and/ dinner.

Fritai

Not your typical Haitian restaurant and one of my favorite casual eateries and they serve fabulous cocktails!

Luvi

Luvi provides some of the best Japanese food in NOLA and Hao, the chef+owner run an outstanding operation.

Cochon

Real Cajun / creole / southern food by James Beard and award-winning chef Donald Link (mentioned above.) This is the only place in the city you should order gumbo. I'll take two, please. Thank you very much!

Brightsen's

Modern Creole fare by acclaimed and multi award winning chef, Frank Brigtsen served in a cozy Uptown cottage.

Arnaud's

This Louisiana Creole Fine Dining establishment 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; bearing pots of Café Brûlot emitting blue flames and the aroma of citrus, liqueur and spices.

Doris Metropolitan

It's dubbed an Israeli steak house but it has a metropolitan feel. Chic, mod and delicious! Being a vegetarian, I enjoy the Stuffed Beet and Calamari Salad. Reservations are required, but when not possible, the lively bar is fun.

Galatoire's

I've celebrated countless birthdays at this quintessential New Orleans iconic restaurant. We once had lunch and our beverage total was 10 times the cost of our food. It's a lively place that is all about celebrating life! Every local has their favorite waiter and I love Casey and Rachele. Don't even think about asking to see a menu, as you will look like a tourist. Simply ask what's fresh! My favorite is Trout Almondine and steamed artichoke hearts with Spinach Rockefeller and jumbo lump crabmeat atop. order Café Brûlot to end. P.S. Jackets required for Gents and they'll have one for you at the door if you forget.

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 while listenign to live music strolling through. Ask for a table in the Garden Room! NOW you understand New Orleans.

Miss Shirley's Chinese Restaurant

A neighborhood spot for dim-sum, and Cantonese specialties in New Orleans' Irish Channel.



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BUDGET

El Pavo Real

A Low-key Mexican cafe serving the best Mexican food and home made margaritas. Traditional and affordable in the Broadmore neighborhood.

1000 Figs

Amazing Mediterranean food (and I lived in the Marais!) near City Park - my go to is their Falafel platter and fries.

Liuzza's by the Track

Super busy, a little smelly, but the best BBQ shrimp poboy near the race track. 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!

Mopho

Brothers Mike and Jeff Gulotta, the former executive chef and general manager of Restaurant August, opened this Mid-City hub where the staff wears hipster-chic mechanics shirts. It's Southeast Asia meets New Orleans. Big outdoor patio, whole pig roast on Saturdays, and alcoholic boba tea.

Budsi Thai

Thai Street food–inspired dishes are served along with homestyle cuisine at this relaxed Marigny restaurant.

The Butcher

Awesome sandwich shop run by the Cochon Folks (aka Donald Link). 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.

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.

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 and try the brown sugared bacon.

Barracuda

An uptown taco stand and Margarita garden offering outdoor dining.

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. We can't wait for you to try our interpretation of this classic dish.

Raw Republic

Fresh smoothies and juices uptown on Magazine Street, next door to Donald Link's decadent, La Boulangerie.

Stein's

New Orleans's best (only?) proper Jewish & Italian deli where you can get an awesome Reuben, BLT, Matzoh ball soup, or turkey on rye. Loads of beers by the bottle and fancy schmancy soft drinks.



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TALES OF A COCKTAIL

Bar Marilou (The MOST stunning Bar inside Maison de la Luz Hotel): Specialty cocktails with live music and stunning interior design.

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

The Columns Hotel: Pretty Baby was filmed in this magical St Charles Avenue manse, which has just been refurbished by my mates. Enjoy cocktails (and good food) on the front porch while listening to live music and the streetcars pass by. I first met Jude Law & Sean Penn here in 2005. Just sayin'

The Elysian: Located in the Hotel Peter & Paul (Bywater Hotel) serving lite fare and cocktails.

The Chloe: An Uptown boutique hotel where the local tastemakers flock. Grab a bite and a cocktail before heading off to other destinations.

Hotel Saint Vincent: Not just the cool kid in town, but a perfect place for a nightcap al fresco.

Boulogny Tavern: A very chic space designed by Bockman & Forbes on Magazine Street, with fantastic food helmed by John Harris.

Fives: A sun filled raw oyster and cocktail bar on Jackson Square. Fun fact - I grew up in The Pontalba's where this bar is. Lucky Me.

The Delachaise : Fabulous wine bar on St Charles Avenue with divine food. The owner, Evan Hayes creates a stellar play list and is a very charming host, particularly if you tell him we are friends.

Sazerac Bar: Located in the Roosevelt Hotel, The Sazerac Bar has been lovingly restored and pays homage to the granddaddy of New Orleans cocktails: The Sazerac. It's also a really sophisticated lounge and a nice place to kick back after a long day of walking around the city.

Arnaud's French 75 Bar : A classic cigar bar serving my favorites: Bananas Foster and cafe Brulot.

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

Bacchanal: Bohemian wine shop with food & live music in the Bywater with an enormous garden.

Manolito: Cuban cuisine & frozen cocktails in an intimate house in the heart of the French Quarter.

Peychaud's: A timeless French Quarter Patio bar inside the new Celestine Hotel, opens at 4pm.

St. Germain: French Wine bar in the Bywater with a separate dining room.

The Country Club: A Hidden treasure in New Orleans' charming Bywater neighborhood.



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FOR THE KIDS

Ride the **Streetcar**, which has been running for 188 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**, **Camilla Grill**, **New Orleans Original Daiquiris Shop** or **Superior Seafood** (offering a great kids' menu, Raw or Grilled Oysters, and Frozen French 75's. Ask for a To-Go Cup.)

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

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

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

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.

The Music Box Village (Bywater) Kids love to play the musical houses at this iconic artistic landmark venue in the Bywater.

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 and Reservations required. Live Music. Balloons. Brandy Milk Punch for the grownups. Bread Pudding Souffle! Dress up!

OTHER RESOURCES

PRIVATE TOURS : If you're looking for a guided experience of New Orleans "must see's" 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, **NOLA Historic Tours**. Visit: www.tourneworleans.com for their daily tours including Cemetery + Voodoo, Scandalous Cocktail, French Quarter, Treme, Garden District, Music and Haunted French Quarter or for a private, custom experience, call (504) 947-2120.

PRIVATE SECURITY & BODY GUARD: Les Schmidt (310) 975-9238

PRIVATE DRIVER: Mohammed (504)258-8585 or Jesse (504)931-4059

CATERING: Palate New Orleans (504) 864-2990

FLORIST: Mitch's Flowers (504) 899-4843

MASSAGE: Mary Jefferson (504) 376-4577 or Horn Hom (504) 388-7744

THE REMEDY ROOM: Mignonne Mary, MD is a national leader in innovative wellness with a focus on disease prevention, nutritional medicine and Infusion Therapy (think IV after long a night.) (504) 386-3851

SWEAT & EXERCISE: New Orleans Boxing Club . The SPYRE . Romney Pilates . Uptown Pilates . The New Orleans Athletic Club . Wild Lotus Yoga . Swan River Yoga



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SHOP

Papier and Plume: If you're looking for my work, pop into this charming paper & pen boutique on 842 Royal Street.

Dirty Coast: New Orleanians love their self-referential T-shirts, and you can 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 so go getcha yourself one!

Peony, SoSuSu, Saint Claude Social Club, Phippen Lane, Pilot & Powell, West London BTQ, Angelique, Art and Eyes, and Pied Nu are some of my favorite boutiques featuring a curated collection of feminine clothing & accessories along Magazine Street.

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

Perch: Fun and funky home furnishings (as well as Alexa Pulitzer products) on Magazine Street. From rustic and primitive to gilded with some Kartell thrown in for good measure.

Leontine Linens: Founded in New Orleans in 1996 by dear friend, Jane Scott Hodges. Leontine Linens is preserving and reinventing the classic art form of couture linens, infusing it with a modern twist.

HGM Fine Jewelry and Keil's Antiques are my favorite estate jewelers.

The Historic New Orleans Collection and **The New Orleans Museum of Art:** Both are museum gift shops stuffed with the most unique New Orleans books, gifts and memorabilia.

Faulkner House Books - My favorite bookstore is located in Pirate's Alley by St. Louis Cathedral. Faulkner was living here when he wrote "Soldier's Pay."

Sparkle & Swag: a party supply store with 2 locations offering Alexa Pulitzer products and balloon decor.

George Bass : Gentlemen, 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.

United Apparel Liquidators (aka UAL): It's stuffed and small but customers swear by it! \$300 jeans for \$40 (did that!) Three locations: Magazine Street, French Quarter and Metairie.

Hove Parfumeur

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



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SOME OF MY FRIENDS RENT THEIR SUPER FAB FURNISHED HOMES

BANKS & JULIE:

Urbania House: vrbo.com/2296615

Iconic raised Center Hall Villa in the Lower Garden District, completely unique, even for New Orleans, intoxicating from the moment you enter with its ethereal rooms, grounds, and pool. 5Bed/3Bath

Oddfellows Club: vrbo.com/1712210

On the edge of the Garden District with its storied streets and mysterious mansions there is one 1840's grey lady that is hidden in plain sight but long forgotten, this manse and its secret gardens and pool loom behind tall mossy walls. 4Bed/3.5Bath

vrbo.com/1736414

Teeming with architectural features, this 1855 Greek Revival townhouse apartment is luxuriously large and feels more like a private home with its own courtyard. 2 Bed/2 Bath

vrbo.com/1344330

Residing in the Lower Garden District, this historic Greek Revival townhouse with balcony overlooking Magazine Street offers restaurants, museums, parks, and boutiques just steps from the front door. 2 Bed/2 Bath

TODD

www.vrbo.com/1247901 (3 bedroom w/ Balcony on Frenchman Street in Marigny)

www.vrbo.com/1247881 (2 bedroom w/ Balcony on Frenchman Street in Marigny)

NICELLE

www.vrbo.com/574517 (3 bedroom guest house/Bayou Saint John) - ideal for jazz fest

www.airbnb.com/rooms/36314478 (1 Bedroom/Bayou Saint John) - ideal for jazz fest

www.vrbo.com/554804 (Studio/Bayou Saint John) - ideal for jazz fest

MALLORY

www.airbnb.com/rooms/745589313388798027

2 Bed/3 bath Fine Art Estate in the The Bywater.

MELANIE

Maison de Violette: maisondeviolette.com

Luxury 3 bedroom (sleeps 9) wit balcony overlooking magazine Street in the Lower Garden District.



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HOTELS

Maison de la Luz: A serene, upscale guest house of 67 suites, located in the Central Business District with its finger on the pulse of New Orleans. Home to Bar Marilou - the most beautiful bar in town, this private Hotel is where celebrities stay (and don't get fucked with!) It's my favorite!

Hotel Saint Vincent: A 19th-century orphanage reimagined as a uber stylish Deco-disco playground in New Orleans' Lower Garden District. It boasts an Italian restaurant, Vietnamese cafe, Chapel Bar, Pool and More. It's a local hot spot!

The Soniat House: Creatively reimagined by superstar designer friend, Ken Fulk. The Soniat House is THE exclusive and refined French Quarter Inn filled with stellar antiques serving southern biscuits in bed.

Hotel Peter & Paul: New, yet feels like it's been there for decades. It was a Catholic School in The Marigny. It boasts a Restaurant, Cafe, Elysian Bar, and the most incredible Church for private events (think weddings and concerts.) It's a beloved local fave.

The Chloe Hotel: A stylish boutique hotel, restaurant, lively bar and pool. Housed in a 19th century Uptown mansion on St. Charles Avenue. Great for Mardi Gras, Happy Hour, and lazy Sunday afternoons!

The Four Seasons: The only five star hotel in New Orleans with a spa. FYI: Five Star does not truly exist in NOLA. Their Chandelier Bar has live music and two stellar restaurants: Miss River and Chemin a la Mer.

Inn at The Old Jail: an award-collecting modern guesthouse built into a national historic landmark in Tremé, New Orleans - and the best hotel for Jazz Fest!

Ace Hotel: Hip hotel in a historic 1928 Art Deco building with Live Music, Restaurant, Bar, Cafe & Shops.

Laissez les bon temps rouler !

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*