



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Top Restaurants

New Orleans, 1 Day

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: New Orleans is known for its unique and flavorful food. The city's Caribbean, French, Spanish, and Italian influences have led to incredible combinations in the kitchens of these outstanding restaurants. Chefs often get creative with Cajun and Creole cuisine, coming up with dishes like alligator cheesecake at Jauque-Imos and The New Orleans Roll (a sushi roll with crawfish) at Sake Café. The nearby Gulf of Mexico provides excellent seafood, and many restaurants use local produce such as satsumas, strawberries, and Creole tomatoes to give their entrees a fresh taste. At these top-choice restaurants, you will enjoy complex and exciting flavors in some truly unique dining settings.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - New Orleans



Commander's Palace
Best restaurant in the United States



Brennan's
Culinary phenomenon



Muriel's Jackson Square
Classic Louisiana cuisine



Jacques-Imo's
New Orleans Creole cuisine



Stella!
Refreshing new tastes



Brigtsen's
Modern Louisiana cuisine



Martinique Bistro
French meets Caribbean



Dick & Jenny's
New Orleans cuisine at its best

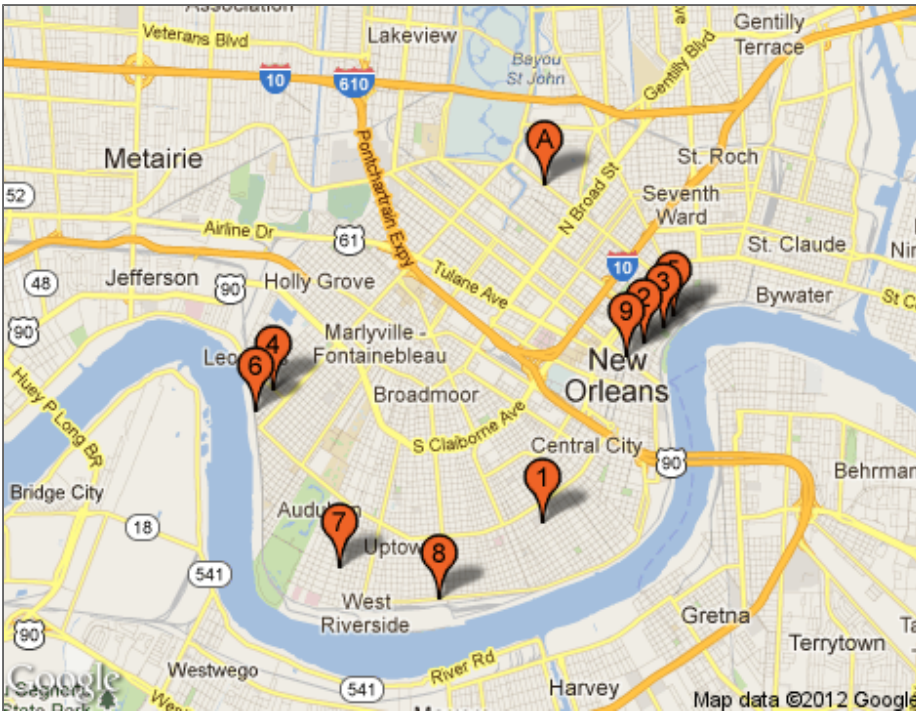


Red Fish Grill
Casual, energetic Brennan creation



Café Degas
French bistro near the park

Day 1 - New Orleans



QUICK NOTE

contact:

tel: +1 504 899 8221
<http://www.commanderspalace.com/>

location:

1403 Washington Avenue
New Orleans LA 70130

hours:

Lunch: 11:30a-2p M-F,
Jazz Brunch: 11:30a-1p Sa,
10:30p-1:30p Su, Dinner:
6p-10p

1 Commander's Palace

DESCRIPTION: Voted "Best Restaurant in the United States" in 1996 by the James Beard Foundation, this eatery lives up to its reputation with exceptional cuisine and a dining experience you will not soon forget. One piece of the package here is the wait staff; the efficient men and women smother guests with attention. Dining rooms vary in size from large to intimate in this 1880s Victorian house in the heart of the Garden District. Jackets are required for dinner and Sunday brunch. Each night features a seven-course fixed price menu with changing specials and the option to mix and match off the regular menu. The Turtle Soup is famous. Other standouts include Mississippi roasted quail stuffed with Creole crawfish sausage. There is also an excellent wine list with suggestions for each entree. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: 504 525 9711
fax: 504 525 2302
<http://www.brennansneworleans.com>

location:

417 Royal Street
New Orleans LA 70130

hours:

2 Brennan's

DESCRIPTION: This building, which dates back to 1798, was acquired by the Brennan family in 1943 and transformed into a stunning restaurant with 12 elegantly decorated dining rooms. A beautiful courtyard of magnolia trees and picturesque fountains create the perfect dining atmosphere. Begin breakfast with a Brandy Milk Punch, followed by any one of exquisite entrees, such as Eggs Hussarde, a Brennan's original. Dinner also offers a delightful assortment of delectable options. For dessert,



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Breakfast/Brunch: 8a-2:30p,
Dinner: 6p-10p

try the famous Bananas Foster, another creation of Brennan's epicureans. Jackets are required for dinner, and reservations are recommended. © wcities.com

contact:

tel: 5045681885
fax: +1 504 568 9795
http://www.muriels.com/

location:

801 Chartres Street
New Orleans LA 70116

hours:

Dinner served daily: Monday
- Saturday 5:30pm - 10:00pm
and Sunday 5:00pm -
10:00pm Lunch: Monday -
Saturday 11:30am - 2:30pm
Sunday Jazz Brunch 11:00am
-2:00pm

3 Muriel's Jackson Square

DESCRIPTION: The Bistro at Muriel's Jackson Square offers New Orleans classics like Gumbo, BBQ Shrimp, Oysters "Muriel", Turtle soup, Fried Gulf Shrimp Po-boy, Stuffed Flounder, Shrimp Remoulade & contemporary Creole cuisine like Pecan Crusted Drum & Wood Grilled Tuna while the Courtyard Bar is the perfect place to drop by for drinks & appetizers. The Séance Lounge is the place for a relaxed, comfortable meeting before or after dining. Comprised of two areas, The Outer & The Inner Séance, the Séance also tells the story of a mystic & checkered past. The Outer Séance addresses the New Orleans era of Storyville & when Muriel's Jackson Square was one of the French Quarter's best bordellos! The Inner Séance is the preferred domain of the resident ghost, Pierre Antoine Lepardi Jourdan, & is the perfect spot for an intimate conversation & a drink amongst its plush surroundings.



wcities

contact:

tel: 504 861 0886
fax: +1 504 314 1585
www.jacquesimoscafe.com

location:

8324 Oak Street
New Orleans LA 70118

hours:

Dinner: Monday - Saturday:
5:00pm - 10:30pm

4 Jacques-Imo's

DESCRIPTION: Still a relative newbie on the competitive restaurant scene, this little cafe is conveniently located next to the popular Maple Leaf Bar. The cafe is under the direction of Jacques Leonardi and his right hand man, Austin Leslie. Plastic flap walls and tables with floral, plastic tablecloths give it a casual feel. Despite the decor, crowds flock to this café. The food is delicious and the prices are even better. Entrees of Chicken-Fried Venison in Wild Mushroom Gravy, and Grilled Duck Breast in Orange Soy Glaze come specially recommended. All entrees include a house salad and two side dishes. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of
Jaques-Imo's Cafe.

contact:

tel: 504 587 0091 / 504 581
4995 Hotel
fax: 504 587 0092 / 504 581
1018 (Hotel)
www.restaurantstella.com

location:

1032 Chartres Street
New Orleans LA 70116

hours:

Dinner: Nightly - 5:30 pm to
10:30 pm

5 Stella!

DESCRIPTION: An almost colonial façade yields to elegant dining rooms with a rather romantic ambiance. Part of the huge Hotel Provincial, the restaurant has undergone several facelifts to emerge a chic dining spot. Acclaimed Chef Scott Boswell digs into his Louisiana roots to come up with tantalizing recipes that he brushes up with his creative streak. A recommended meal would start with sashimi or a crab'n'shark soup, a leafy salad and a glass of sparkles from the extensive wine list. For mains, try the Duck Five Ways; it is bound to leave you quite sated. Or, go for the delicious lobster curry and Tempura Scallions for a lighter meal. The Bolivia 68 Chocolate Mousse with Chocolate Sauces and Blueberry Shooter make a



Photo courtesy of Stella!

scrumptious dessert. Comfort, cleanliness and excellent service earn the restaurant its much deserved praise. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: 504 861 7610
fax: 504 866 9397
<http://www.brigtsens.com>

location:
723 Dante Street
New Orleans LA 70118

hours:
5:30p-10p Tu-Sa

6 Brigtsen's

DESCRIPTION: This renovated Victorian cottage is owned and operated by Marna Brigsten, who has created a Victorian era atmosphere modernized to meet the dining needs of today's patrons. This quaint cottage is home to award-winning meals that set the tone for a dining experience to remember. The menu, which changes daily, offers only freshest ingredients. Try the seared tuna, Shrimp Remoulade or the fantastic prok tenderlion. An evening special Tuesday through Thursday features a three course meal. Make reservations well in advance, as this place is popular. © wcities.com



Brigtsen's

contact:
tel: 504 891 8495
<http://www.martiniquebistro.com>

location:
5908 Magazine Street
New Orleans LA 70115

hours:
6p-10p Tu-Su

7 Martinique Bistro

DESCRIPTION: France meets the Caribbean in New Orleans at this modest, yet charming dining room with a tropical courtyard. Attractive photographs and brilliantly colored Caribbean scenes bring the pale yellow walls of this small restaurant to life. The Caribbean influence continues in the kitchen where the combination of herbs and spices used results in unusually mouth-watering flavors. From poached oysters with cayenne and lime to lamb sausage with mint beans—it is all good. The tropical theme of the dessert fare includes sorbets and fresh mango. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Martinique Bistro

contact:
tel: 504 894 9880
<http://www.dickandjennys.com>

location:
4501 Tchoupitoulas Street
New Orleans LA 70115

hours:
5:30p-10p Tu-Th,
5:30p-10:30p F-Sa, closed Su
& M

8 Dick & Jenny's

DESCRIPTION: Richard Benz, formerly of Gautreau's, has mastered the "new" New Orleans cuisine making this a dining hotspot. This casual spot with comfortable seating is a collaboration of home and contemporary styles. They complement each other nicely inside pumpkin colored walls adorned with hand-painted plates and vases of fresh flowers. The atmosphere is upscale casual. Start with the Pain Perdu or the fried oysters. For dinner opt for one of its many choices of Smoked Whole Fish, or go for the Pecan Crusted Gulf Fish. Decadent delights for the sweet tooth include Coconut Mango Creme Brulee, and the Tchoupitoulas Tcheesecake. A wine list of whites and reds are sold by the glass or by the bottle. © wcities.com



One of "America's Top Restaurants"

contact:

tel: 5045981200
fax: 504 581 9795
www.redfishgrill.com

location:

115 Bourbon St
New Orleans LA 70130

hours:

Lunch Daily: 11:00am
- 3:00pm Dinner Daily:
(Monday - Thursday, Sunday)
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm Oyster
Bar: (Monday - Thursday,
Sunday) 11:00 am - 10:00 pm
Dinner & Oyster Bar (Friday &
Saturday) 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm

9 Red Fish Grill

DESCRIPTION: Ralph Brennan, of the city's well-known restaurant clan, owns this casual, high-energy grill. This festive atmosphere holds true to the city it inhabits. A large central dining room is surrounded on three sides by banquettes, and a huge oyster bar is covered with images of the seafood that is also the focus of the menu. The kitchen produces a delicious barbecue shrimp po' boy, seafood gumbo with nuggets of alligator sausage and baked oysters on the half shell. The signature dessert is a variation of bananas foster. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: 504 945 5635
fax: +1 504 943 5255
http://www.cafedegas.com/

location:

3127 Esplanade Avenue
New Orleans LA 70119

hours:

Lunch: 11:30a-2p, Dinner:
5:30p-10p M-Th, Su,
5:30p-11p F-Sa

A Café Degas

DESCRIPTION: The 19th-century French Impressionist, Edgar Degas, once lived in the fashionable Creole district. This is a charming place to eat outdoors, but with all the comforts of indoor dining. Located on Esplanade Avenue, this chic neighborhood restaurant provides a pleasant atmosphere whether you dine on a cool evening or a sunny afternoon. This casual but classy experience offers a variety of French fare. Try the Chicken Bouchee or the Coquelet Aux Herbs et Aioli, which are excellent. If you have vegetarian tastes, try the Melange De Legumes. Reservations for parties of three or more are required. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of dynamosquito

New Orleans Snapshot

Local Info

The world watched Hurricane Katrina drown New Orleans in 2005. The world did not watch New Orleans rise from the depths of despair and rebuild-- not only its structures but its famously jubilant spirit. But rise it has and New Orleans today is almost back to normal, at least in those urban areas that visitors frequent. The most popular tourist entertainments here have always been great music, good food and vibrant nightlife and all have been restored to their pre-hurricane strength. Mardi Gras and the Jazz and Heritage Festival are as lively as ever and most of the city's cultural and historical attractions have been restored. In fact, this could be the best time to visit, as the locals are eager to have travelers back and good deals are offered everywhere.

Sights

Finding fun things to do here is indeed the Big Easy. The French Quarter alone has a vacation's worth of restaurants, trendy nightclubs, historic buildings, antique shops, high-end boutiques, low-end dives and everything in between. If you've come to New Orleans to party, Bourbon Street is worth at least one night out. It's crowded, it's cliched, it's gaudy and bawdy but that's

its appeal. Daytime trips to the French Quarter should include a walk down Royal Street or Jackson Square, where you'll find art galleries, upscale stores and specialty shops. You'll likely also spot tarot readers and quartets performing impromptu shows on street corners.

Faubourg Marigny, south of the French Quarter, is an enriching side trip. The district is known for its Bohemian lifestyle and, if you're an architecture fan, this is where you'll see quaint Creole cottages built in the 19th century. Washington Square Park is the hub of activities in the area, with lots of landmarks, bars, entertainment venues, coffee shops and restaurants.

If you have a flair for the occult and voodoo, you'll find many shops selling books, crafts and paraphernalia of the genre in and around New Orleans. To complete your walk on the beguiled side, spend a few hours at the historical cemeteries in the Treme and Mid-City areas.

You can also enjoy New Orleans' sights by hopping aboard one of its many riverboat

cruises, ferry rides, streetcar tours or bicycle expeditions. Sites to add to your itinerary include the New Orleans Museum of Art and the park in Mid-City, as well as the beautiful old architecture and historic Victorian mansions Uptown.

The city has plenty of year-round events to add a special touch to any vacation. In addition to the open-air zoo that is Mardi Gras, the biggest events are the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, Voodoo Music Experience and the New Orleans Southern Decadence Festival (now there's an oxymoron).

Dining

Though seriously dinged by the BP oil spill in the gulf, New Orleans' seafood industry is getting back on its feet and once again supplying the aquatic delicacies that visitors expect to find on city menus. Try asking around to find the freshest oysters and make sure to sample the local favorites: a beignet for breakfast, gumbo for lunch and a late-night po-boy to fuel your dash for your hotel after barhopping.

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