WELCOME TO NEW ORLEANS!

LAISSEZ LES BONS TEMPS ROULER! LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!
Bringing your meeting to New Orleans means you have access to one of the largest exhibition spaces in the nation. It means coming to a city that knows how to do big events. It means dining at world-class restaurants and staying in some of the finest hotels with meeting spaces designed just for you. It means you’re coming to the home of the hospitality pros. And it also means when business is done, you can loosen your tie or kick off your heels in a city like no other. Toast your success in the place that does business better than anywhere else—New Orleans.

WEATHER / CLIMATE

The climate of New Orleans is humid subtropical, with short, generally mild winters and hot, humid summers. The monthly daily average temperature ranges from 53.4 °F in January to 83.3 °F in July and August. The average precipitation is 62.7 inches annually; the summer months are the wettest, while October is the driest month. Precipitation in winter usually accompanies the passing of a cold front.

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GETTING TO NOLA

LOUIS ARMSTRONG NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This gateway to one of the most exciting and eccentric cities in the world recently completed $300 million in capital improvements and plans to complete further expansion in preparation for the city’s tricentennial celebrations in 2018.

Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport offers 138 daily departures to 44 cities on 12 airlines. Just 15 miles from the Central Business District and French Quarter, it is a quick ride away – whether you go by bus, shuttle, taxi or limousine. Airport Shuttle New Orleans is the official ground transportation of the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport and offers transportation to and from Downtown, Uptown and French Quarter hotels as well as the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center for $20 each way – or $38 round-trip.

AIRLINES SERVICING NEW ORLEANS: American Airlines, Air Canada, AirTran, Delta, Frontier Airlines, Jet Blue Airways, Southwest, Spirit Airlines, United, US Airways, Vacation Express, Alaska Airlines
New Orleans is one of the world’s busiest port cities and the cultural capital of the South, yet is remarkably compact and easy to navigate. Visitors are always pleasantly surprised to learn that many of the city’s attractions, accommodations and event venues are within walking distance of each other; in fact, “hoofing it” (in New Orleans’ case, translated as walking or grabbing a mule-drawn carriage) is a favorite means of transportation in the Crescent City and a great way to network.

**BUS SERVICES/STREETCAR**
Where else can you actually ride a historic landmark? Get around town easily and conveniently via bus or historic streetcars. A buck-twenty-five is all it costs to take one of the 30 different bus routes RTA offers, or one of the city’s famed streetcars – which travel along the Riverfront, St. Charles Avenue, Loyola Avenue and Canal Street. Or for unlimited rides, purchase a 1, 3 or 5-day “Jazzy Pass” at most Walgreens locations, any RTA ticket vending machine or any CVB Visitor Center.

**TAXI**
With more than 1,200 taxis around the city, if “hoofing it” isn’t your style, a ride is never too far away. A fixed rate of $33 (one to two people) or $14 per person for parties of three or more is charged from the airport to most areas of New Orleans.

**PEDICABS**
This new, fun, efficient and environmentally friendly form of transportation has made it to the streets of New Orleans! Whether you want to hustle to the other side of the French Quarter, take a leisurely ride to dinner or just see the town in comfort and style, call on pedal power.

**HOP-ON, HOP-OFF BUS TOURS**
Unlike the traditional bus tour, you can come and go at any stop you like and experience the city as one big outdoor museum while being effortlessly transported to your next destination. City Sightseeing New Orleans and Bus Vision New Orleans offer their own unique bus tours as well as guided and self-guided tours when you hop off the bus.
Family recipes that date back 100 years, bread pudding beckons from a bed of decadent caramel sauce – if one thing is for sure, food in New Orleans is a serious affair.

Here are just a few reasons that New Orleans has been a clear favorite for Food & Wine magazine’s Top Dining Cities in 2014 along with a host of other titles.

RESTAURANTS
In the Crescent City, food is an art form and chefs are rock stars. With more than 1,400 restaurants, everyone is sure to find something that satisfies their palate. The city offers one of the most incredibly diverse concentrations of exceptional dining and unforgettable cuisine in the world. New Orleans restaurateurs and renowned chefs are passionate about their craft, and it shows in their achievements that are rarely, if ever, replicated anywhere else in the world. New Orleans racked up an impressive six James Beard nominations in 2014, and after your visit, you’ll understand why.

Some of our favorites are known around the world such as Commander’s Palace, Emeril’s Delmonico and Antoine’s, while others are treasured local secrets. Creole, Cajun and French signature dishes are just the tip of the menu. While exploring New Orleans’ culinary wonders, don’t forget to explore the offerings of other cuisines, including Latin, Mediterranean, Asian and Italian fare, which infuse traditional preparation with an amazing array of South Louisiana spices, produce and seafood.

After taking your taste buds on the ride of their life, take your turn with the spatula at one of the many cooking schools around the city. The New Orleans School of Cooking, Langlois Culinary Crossroads, New Orleans Cooking Experience and Crescent City Cooks offer a wide range of classes to fit your interests.

PAT ‘O’BRIEN’S HURRICANE
INGREDIENTS/PREPARATION
IN A 26 OZ. HURRICANE GLASS, MIX
• 4 OZ. OF PAT ‘O’BRIEN’S HURRICANE RUM OR A GOOD AMBER/GOLD RUM
• 4 OZ. OF PAT ‘O’BRIEN’S HURRICANE MIX
• FILL WITH CRUSHED ICE
• GARNISH WITH AN ORANGE AND CHERRY

MR. B’S BREAD PUDDING WITH IRISH WHISKEY SAUCE
FOR BREAD PUDDING:
• 3/4 POUND LIGHT, AIRY FRENCH BREAD, CUT INTO 1 1/2-INCH-THICK SLICES
• 1 CUP DARK RAISINS
• 2 DOZEN LARGE EGGS
• 1 1/2 QUARTS HEAVY CREAM
• 2 1/2 CUPS SUGAR
• 1 TABLESPOON PLUS 1 TEASPOON CINNAMON
• 1 TEASPOON GROUND NUTMEG
• 7 LARGE EGG YOLKS
• 1/4 CUP (1/2 STICK) UNSALTED BUTTER, CHOPPED
• FOR WHISKEY SAUCE
• 1 CUP HEAVY CREAM
• 1 CUP WHOLE MILK
• 1/2 CUP SUGAR
• IN A MEZZO SAUCEPAN BRING CREAM AND MILK TO A BOIL. IN A MEDIUM BOWL WHISK TOGETHER SUGAR AND YOLKS UNTIL COMBINED WELL AND GRADUALLY WHISK INTO HOT MILK MIXTURE. TRANSFER MIXTURE TO A DOUBLE BOILER AND COOK OVER JUST SIMMERING WATER, STIRRING GENTLY BUT CONSTANTLY WITH A RUBBER SPATULA OR WOODEN SPOON, UNTIL THICK, ABOUT 12 MINUTES. POURED SAUCE THROUGH A FINE SIEVE AND STIR IN WHISKEY. SERVE SAUCE WARM OR COLD. IF CHILLING SAUCE, LET SAUCE BECOME COMPLETELY COLD BEFORE COVERING, AS CONDENSATION WILL CAUSE IT TO THIN. THE SAUCE CAN BE COVERED AND CHILLED FOR UP TO 3 DAYS. MAKES 2 3/4 CUPS SAUCE.
• SERVE BREAD PUDDING WARM DRIZZLED WITH WHISKEY SAUCE.
CULTURE AND ART
With more than 100 galleries, serious buyers as well as the simply curious can find something to fit their taste. Unique art styles and trends have developed in New Orleans reflecting the special ingredients that go into the art scene in distinctive art districts and neighborhoods such as the Warehouse District and Faubourg Marigny. Sometimes called “swamp art,” the art here reflects the funky, diverse, authentic culture that reigns in the streets and neighborhoods of the city.

It’s no surprise then that New Orleans also offers one of the nation’s greatest collection of museums dedicated to every facet of the city’s culture and history. From plantation homes/museums, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art and the Bestoff Sculpture Garden, to the Contemporary Arts Center, Louisiana’s Children Museum, the Southern Food and Beverage Museum - home of the Museum of the American Cocktail – and Blain Kern’s Mardi Gras World, there’s a museum for every interest and every piece of our cities lively history.

FUN IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS
Bountiful green space and superior views are a must-see during your visit.

The setting of weekend festivals, a place to throw Frisbees, golf or horseback ride, New Orleans is packed with green space and we’re not afraid to use it.

Easily accessible by streetcar, New Orleans City Park is located on 1,300 acres. This urban paradise features a small, but lively amusement park, a charming, “Storyland,” tennis courts and City Putt mini golf. Sitting below the ancient oaks is the ideal setting for a picnic, while quiet lagoons are perfect for fishing or feeding the ducks. City Park is also home to the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Besthoff Sculpture Garden and the Botanical Gardens, which are quite often the setting for special events on weekends for visitors of all ages.

Audubon Park, located in the heart of Uptown, features a 1.8 mile asphalt path perfect for jogging, biking and roller blading. In the center of the park is the metropolitan area’s most pristine golf course with a competitive, executive 18-hole course. Whether you’re there to play, ride or relax, the park’s river batture gives visitors a view of the Mississippi River, a great place to watch barges and ships as they navigate the powerful waters, plus, it’s easy to get to on the St. Charles streetcar.

The newly opened Crescent Park in New Orleans’ Bywater neighborhood is a great place to relax, get a glimpse of the city skyline and watch ships as they cruise on the Mississippi. The new park includes 20 acres of indigenous landscaping, a network of paths great for running, walking the dog or cycling, picnic areas and the adaptive reuse of two former industrial wharves.
FUN IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS (CONTINUED)

Enjoy outdoor music, food and crafts at weekly events such as Wednesdays at the Square and Jazz in the Park. Wander the expansive City Park during Voodoo Music Experience or Celebration in the Oaks. Relax and absorb the sights on a guided bicycle tour, horseback ride or take your own two legs around the lush Audubon Park. Put your feet up while you watch the river pass or hop in a kayak and take an urban sightseeing adventure. When the weather’s right, grab a snoball to cool down or hot toddy to warm up. When it comes to fresh-air pursuits, the Crescent City has plenty to offer.

GUIDED TOURS

New Orleans is a city abundant in culture, food and history, and with so much to do, where should you even start? Start with what you love.

With so many different things to see and do (and taste) in New Orleans, it follows that the city’s tour choices would be just as varied and unusual. Whether your goal is to wander sprawling antebellum plantations or taste-test every classic cocktail, there’s a tour to suit your style. History lovers can explore iconic battlegrounds, the city’s European origins and historic jazz landmarks while hearing stories and lore from professional historians. Foodies can follow their taste buds through a variety of food crawls and food tours that will take you on a gastro-adventure around the city. Looking to delve into the world of the supernatural or the occult? Take a nighttime tour of a cavernous haunted mansion or learn about voodoo practices as you walk through maze-like cemeteries. There are even thrilling excursions for adventurers who want to spot alligators in the untamed Louisiana bayou.

New Orleans tour operators are consummate professionals, with guides who tell the region’s stories with knowledge, passion and flare. What better way could there be to experience all that New Orleans has to offer? So get ready to sit back and relax in a mule-drawn carriage, hop on a paddlewheel riverboat or set out on foot - there’s a lot to discover.

- **BY LAND:** Use your own two feet, pedal through on a bicycle, glide on a Segway, rely on the four hooves of a mule-drawn carriage or sit back and enjoy guided and hop-on, hop-off bus tours in and around the great city.

- **BY WATER:** Glide through the swamps on an airboat. Take a paddlewheeler up and down the Mississippi. Charter a fishing rig or a pirogue.

- **BY AIR:** Sample cheese and champagne on a private flight over the city. See the expansive bayou by seaplane. Skydive!
FAMILY FUN
When it comes to kid-friendly fun, a trip to New Orleans is a lot like a choose-your-own-adventure story.

There's never a dull moment in New Orleans for visitors of all ages. Swamp tours, paddlewheelers and the IMAX Theater are only a few of the options that will appeal to the whole family. With kids in tow, French QuarTour Kids offers interactive tours and experiences that keep kids hooked. The Audubon Zoo, Aquarium and Insectarium are great places to interact with creepy-crawly-critters, learn something new about the Louisiana swamps or hang around the rare white tigers, white alligators and komodo dragons. Budding artists, architects, doctors and explorers can get hands-on experience with the fun and educational exhibits at the Louisiana Children’s Museum. With all these options, New Orleans was named one of the 10 Best cities for Families in 2013 by Family Vacation Critic, part of the TripAdvisor® family.

ARCHITECTURE
New Orleans, with its richly mottled old buildings, its sly, sophisticated air and its Hispanic-Gallic traditions, has more the flavor of an old European capital than an American city. Townhouses in the French Quarter, with their courtyards and carriageways, are thought by some scholars to be related on a small scale to certain Parisian “hotels,” princely urban residences of the 17th and 18th centuries.

European influence is also seen in the city’s famous above ground cemeteries. The practice of interring people in large, richly adorned, above ground tombs dates from the period when New Orleans was under Spanish rule. These hugely popular “cities of the dead” have been and continue to be an item of great interest to visitors. One of the truly amazing aspects of New Orleans architecture is the sheer number of historic homes and buildings per square mile. Consider this: Uptown, the city’s largest historic district has almost 11,000 buildings, 82 percent of which were built before 1935— truly a “time warp.”
MUSIC

The birthplace of Jazz, a mecca for gospel and a hub of innovation for modern styles and sounds.

A melting pot of musical inspirations and innovations, New Orleans has embraced music as an indelible part of its history, an important facet of its identity and one of the most colorful threads in its cultural tapestry. From street performers to symphonies, jazz funerals to world-renowned festivals, and local Zydeco to headlining rock concerts, music continues to permeate and enrich every day of life in New Orleans.

While you’re here, follow the locals and enjoy the endless local clubs and bars along Frenchmen Street and beyond. Snug Harbor, the Spotted Cat and Preservation Hall offer local jazz favorites. Blue Nile, The Maison and Tipitina’s may be hosting your local funk favorites. Various music festivals are a great place to experience as much variety in one day as possible. Check out the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, French Quarter Festival, Satchmo Summerfest, Voodoo Music + Art Experience and the Crescent City Blues & Barbeque Festival during their respective seasons, or sit in on the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra who plays a 36-week session with more than 120 concerts full of your classical favorites. No wonder New Orleans was named as one of the top Live Music Scene by Travel + Leisure readers in their 2013 America’s Favorite Cities survey.

NIGHTLIFE

When the sun goes down, New Orleans comes alive with a magical energy all its own.

This city never sleeps and gives you unparalleled reasons to stay awake with it. While New Orleans nightlife is the neon, noise and revelry of Bourbon Street, it is also the shadows of moonlit couples walking hand-in-hand along the Mississippi. It’s the abandon of red-hot live music and the gratification of 24-hour coffee and beignets. It’s beer, bands and bowling – all together, all night long. It’s gypsy bands playing for tips on Frenchmen Street.

Dance the night away at clubs like the Republic or Jax Brewery, go out for drinks at Carousel Bar or Ohm Lounge, or listen to expert pianists at Pat O’Brien’s (the oldest piano bar in America) or Lafitte’s Blacksmith Shop. Enjoy live performances at the Saenger, Joy and Le Petit Theaters. Zydeco night at Rock ‘n’ Bowl or gaming at Harrah’s Casino, karaoke on Bourbon Street or browsing the art galleries at Ogden After Hours, anywhere you go, be sure to indulge in the unique sights, sounds and flavors of the City that Care Forgot. See for yourself why readers of Travel + Leisure voted New Orleans in the top cities for Happy Hour, Wild Weekends, Cocktail Lounges, Night Owls and more.
PLAY NOLA

There is nothing generic about a trip to New Orleans and there is always fun to be had. Grab your bags and head out on the town.

SHOPPING
While neighboring areas offer a more traditional mall experience, most of New Orleans takes on a less structured environment that reaches up and down streets and between neighborhoods. Downtown or Uptown, the convenience of walking store to store is matched only by the enjoyment of exploring charming neighborhoods and the thrill of discovering one-of-a-kind treasures. Each neighborhood has its own features to offer and the wonderment of no two locations being the same.

Historic districts and luxury centers dedicated to the art of shopping gather a remarkable concentration of specialty shops, designer boutiques, galleries, cafés and restaurants.

Downtown, you can make shopping history at the French Market, America’s oldest operating public market. In the French Quarter, Royal Street is deservedly famous for its elegant antique furniture, décor and jewelry, while the Warehouse/Arts District has been called the “SoHo of the South” for its hip lofts and upscale contemporary art galleries.

Making slightly more recent history, the Outlet Collection at the Riverwalk is the first downtown outlet center in the nation. The Shops at Canal Place, located adjacent to the French Quarter, is home to elite designer boutiques and exclusive shops. For late night, funky, one-of-a-kind finds, the Frenchmen Street Art Market is open four nights a week and features handmade goods from local artists.

Heading uptown, locals and visitors alike take in the sprawling offerings of Magazine Street – six miles of eclectic shops, hip boutiques, art studios, galleries, spas, restaurants and cafés that run the gamut from upscale to offbeat, and sophisticated to shabby chic. Tucked into charming row houses, Victorian cottages and renovated warehouses, the street’s business and residential mix runs all the way from Canal Street to Audubon Park.

From tax-free shopping for international visitors, trendy boutiques and funky costume shops, to antique shops and art galleries, there’s a shopping experience for everyone in the Big Easy.

SPORTS
Whether you are a fan of football, basketball, golf, sailing, fishing, horse racing or virtually any another competitive sport you can imagine, New Orleans is one of the nation’s top places to compete . . . and enjoy watching competitions. New Orleans has hosted more major sporting events across a huge spectrum of categories than any other destination: a record 10 Super Bowls, some of the greatest NCAA finals and championships, the annual Allstate Sugar Bowl Classic, the PGA’s Zurich Classic, the R&L Carrier’s New Orleans Bowl, the Bayou Classic, the Bassmaster Classic, the NBA All-Star Game, Wrestlemania XXX and more.
10 FREE WAYS TO PLAY

1. Let the Good Times Roll at a Free Festival! - There’s no shortage of good times here in the Big Easy and free festivals are one of our specialties. French Quarter Festival, Satchmo SummerFest and the Crescent City Blues and Barbeque Festival are just a few favorites.

2. Rub Elbows with Local Chefs. - Our restaurants aren’t the only places to find incredible local fare. Take a Saturday morning trip to the Crescent City Farmers Market Downtown where you can sample locally grown fruits and veggies, hear live music, mingle with chefs while they shop and enjoy live cooking demonstrations.

3. Settle in for Some Belly Laughs - Give ‘Em the Light: Open Mic Comedy Night at the House of Blues is a Tuesday night feel-good fest in the French Quarter. Watch performances unfold in the Voodoo Garden and, if you’re feeling extra brave, put your name on the list and take the stage.

4. Travel Through 300 Years of History - Make your way to The Louisiana History Galleries at The Historic New Orleans Collection for a comprehensive introduction to Louisiana’s past. Digital upgrades to the galleries allow for audiovisual content to complement the artifacts.

5. Cut a Rug - The NO/L_A Jitterbugs keep local tradition and fast-footed moves alive on the dance floor. Join the energetic group for gratis swing dance lessons on Wednesday evenings at the Spotted Cat Music Club on Frenchmen.

6. Stroll City Park and Stop for a Side of Art - Walk among City Park’s 1,300 acres and ancient oak trees, past the amusement park and botanical garden and stop in The New Orleans Museum of Art. The Gulf South’s premier art museum houses 4,000 years of world art and offers free admission to its sculpture garden.

7. Treat Your Sweet Tooth - Pralines—sugar-rich, pecan-laden confections—are one of our signature snacks. Stop by a sweet shop to watch them being made and indulge in a free sample.

8. Take a Legendary Literary Tour - Romance, mystery and poetic proclamations—New Orleans has inspired some of the world’s most celebrated authors. Embark on a self-guided walking tour and see where Tennessee Williams (722 Toulouse), William Faulkner (624 Pirates Alley), Truman Capote (711 Royal), Thornton Wilder (623 Bourbon), Walker Percy (1820 Milan) and Anne Rice (1239 First) once lived.

9. Gallery Hop - New Orleans’ diversity and culture has spawned an arts community that is world-renowned. Its epicenter is in the Arts District, specifically Julia Street, which is home to more than a dozen galleries. Spend an afternoon gazing at everything from contemporary photography to Newcomb pottery. Or join in a first Saturday Art Walk and mingle with featured artists.

10. See the Sights of Jackson Square - Soak in the culture of New Orleans. As you explore this picture-perfect square in the heart of the French Quarter, you may find yourself enjoying an impromptu concert, eyeballing colorful paintings by the local artist community or snapping photos of the surrounding historic buildings, including the towering triple steeples of St. Louis Cathedral.

SPORTS (CONTINUED)

New Orleans is a city that takes great pride, not only in hosting some of the greatest events, but in our great teams. The New Orleans Saints, Pelicans, Zephyrs and Voodoo are the pride and joy of every New Orleanian. Catch a game while you’re in town at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome or the Smoothie King Center.

Only slightly less well known is that New Orleans is fast becoming a golf mecca in the southern United States. An explosion of course development and renovation has made New Orleans a true urban resort. One of the oldest PGA Tour stops is located here, the Zurich Classic of New Orleans. A fabulous range of new and revitalized tracks await you in this golfer’s dream destination that delivers the thrill of the game amid the natural beauty of the New Orleans area landscape.

If you have a need for speed, visit NOLA Motorsports where you can drive race cars, exotic cars, go karts and more. From accident avoidance classes, private parties and meetings, to an extreme driving experience driving exotic cars on the track, NOLA Motorsports will satisfy your speed demon.

The “sport of kings” is in full swing at the New Orleans Fair Grounds Race Course, the nation’s third oldest track. The Fair Grounds Race Course is home to some of America’s most thrilling horse races. Also host to the world-renowned New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, the Fair Grounds has been entertaining the masses since 1852. With racing season traditionally opening on Thanksgiving Day, the Fair Grounds adds to the city’s sporting calendar a spectacular history of Thoroughbred racing through March.

The breadth of options may be why New Orleans received top honors in sports tourism at the 2013 World Travel Awards for excellence.
NOLA NEIGHBORHOODS

In one of America’s most walkable cities, explore New Orleans through its distinctive neighborhoods, each giving the city its unique character and easy living feel.

FRENCH QUARTER
Also known as Vieux Carré, is the heart of New Orleans, the original city. The French Quarter’s atmosphere and old-world charm is legendary, yet hard to describe. It’s block after block of classic hotels, fine dining, music venues, charming boutiques, antique shops and art galleries. Described by many as a living museum in itself, it’s home to the St. Louis Cathedral, Jackson Square, the historic Pontalba Apartments, rich in architectural detail and hidden courtyards. It is where the Mississippi River meets the city’s sidewalks, and where you can relax and observe ships and charming paddlewheelers navigate the river. It’s the clanking of coffee cups, the aroma of delicious cuisine, the sounds of a trumpet, or the whistling of the calliope, the tinkling of wind chimes and balconies with overflowing greenery nourished by the city’s lush climate.

While you’re there, grab a go-cup, take a photo of St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square and experience the history and mystery of antique shops on Royal Street.

FAUBOURG MARIGNY AND BYWATER
Just steps away from the French Quarter, these hidden treasures are alive with music clubs, great eateries, historic cottages and its own brand of funkiness. Within the quaint Faubourg Marigny is the ever-bustling Frenchmen Street – an entertainment district full of life from dusk till dawn and dawn till dusk. Gypsy street bands, intimate jazz clubs, artists selling their work and tempting food trucks line the street. Commitment to preservation and diversity along with a heavy influence from the arts make for two beautiful and vibrant neighborhoods.

While you’re there, be sure to grab breakfast at the Ruby Slipper Café, browse the Frenchmen Street Art Market, enjoy the unique sounds of street musicians and pick-up bands, and dance the night away at The Maison.

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
Like so many American urban centers, New Orleans’ Central Business District (CBD) used to be a ghost town after work – but not anymore. Evenings now bring crowds to historic Lafayette Square for free concerts, local favorite cocktail bars and renowned restaurants in the area. Saturday mornings, the Crescent City Farmer’s Market draws shoppers from all over the city.

This historic neighborhood has become a hot address for residents who enjoy around-the-clock access to all the city offers. From studios to penthouses, lofts to townhouses, residential property is drawing young professionals, empty nesters and even families.

While you’re there, don’t miss the Saturday morning farmers market, pick up some local art and grab a cocktail at a local favorite lounge.
NOLA NEIGHBORHOODS

WAREHOUSE ARTS DISTRICT
Just a streetcar ride from the CBD, is the Warehouse Arts District with its galleries, restaurants, hotels and warehouse residences. Monthly “First Saturdays” bring hundreds of visitors to Julia and Camp streets for art openings and parties at museums and galleries. And as a designated Louisiana Cultural District, there is no sales tax charged on any original works of art sold in the Arts District!

While you’re there, grab an original craft cocktail at Victory New Orleans, bowl a few rounds at Fulton Alley and browse the gallery at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art.

MID-CITY
Once referred to as the back of town, is now the heart of the city. You’ll find that the residents of this solid neighborhood, which developed over the last century as a working and middle class, are family-oriented people. Today the sense of old-time community is ever apparent in the wide porches with their metal gliders or hanging wooden swings constantly in motion. The architecture, like the residents, is unpretentious, solid and pure New Orleans. Mid-City showcases the spirit of a true neighborhood as defined by that unique measure of camaraderie found only in this city.

GARDEN DISTRICT
Tradition, opulence and beauty can all be used to describe New Orleans’ historic Garden District. With its well-preserved collection of antebellum mansions, pristine gardens and southern charm, the Garden District certainly stands out as one of the country’s most lovely neighborhoods and a popular destination for visitors.

The sites may seem familiar to visitors because this neighborhood has been popular stage for Hollywood South. What visitors rarely see, though, is the close-knit neighborhood that keeps this historic district alive and thriving. Neighbors here expect to see familiar faces as they jog under the oaks near Lafayette Cemetery in the early morning or when they take the dog for a walk down Prytania Street at dusk. The same faces will likely crop up in a local coffee shop or at one of the neighborhood restaurants along Magazine Street. Garden District residents can even call world-famous Commander’s Palace their neighborhood eatery.

Conveniently located on the St. Charles Street Car Line, among the many historic locales in this neighborhood, is The Columns Hotel. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, The Columns offers a unique blend of modern amenities and décor from its heyday in 1883. The Victorian Lounge Bar in the hotel is a popular hotspot for locals and visitors with indoor and outdoor seating, delightful staff and scrumptious dining options.

While you’re there, admire the historic architecture on St. Charles Avenue and Prytania Street, dine at one of the many restaurants along Magazine Street and take a walk through Lafayette Cemetery No. 1.
NOLA NEIGHBORHOODS

IRISH CHANNEL
The origin of the neighborhood’s name has been the source of debate, as has what truly constituted the center of the Irish population of New Orleans at any given time. It is, however, home to one of New Orleans’ most distinctive parade traditions, the Irish Channel St. Patrick’s Day Parade, which adds cabbages, potatoes and carrots to customary parade throws like beads and moon pies.

Beyond the Irish and the raucous St. Patrick’s Day, the Irish Channel was home to the Original Dixieland Jazz Band – the first jazz band to make a phonographic record and the first to go to Europe. Other Jazz greats, including Tom Brown, George Brunies, Tony Spargo, Nick LaRocca, Harry Shields and Eddie Edwards, are some of the musicians who came from the Irish Channel and helped spread jazz throughout the world.

While you’re there, take a tour of the NOLA Brewery and taste some amazing local brews and grab a new costume at Funky Monkey.

TREMÉ
Long before the neighborhood had its own popular HBO series, the Tremé was already heralded as a vital American landmark for African-American and Creole culture. Today, Tremé retains the feel of an old Creole New Orleans neighborhood. The festive second line parades and the equally festive jazz funerals are still common, and several neighborhood bars are gathering places for musicians and the local Mardi Gras Indians.

A landmark of the neighborhood, Armstrong Park, was a popular location for the enslaved, free people of color, Europeans and Americans to gather on Sundays throughout the 18th and 19th century to drum, dance and trade. Here, African dance, rhythms and drum beats survived despite oppression and contributed to the first forms of jazz music and modern American dance. Today, People United for Armstrong Park put on an eight week concert series, Jazz in the Park, in the spring and fall to celebrate the musical tradition.

The Tremé’s architectural integrity and African-American heritage has drawn new residents from all over the country. At the same time, many Tremé families can proudly trace their heritage in the neighborhood back four and five generations. The neighborhood celebrated 200 years, and many more to come in 2012. To get a better feel of the history, visit the New Orleans African American Museum which was created to preserve and promote the African American cultural heritage with an emphasis on the impact of the Tremé neighborhood.

While you’re there, visit Armstrong Park to see the New Orleans African American Museum and dance in Congo Square, visit the burial site of the Voodoo Queen, Marie Laveau at St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 and catch a show at the Mahalia Jackson Theater.

ALGIERS POINT
It’s only a short ferry ride from the foot of Canal Street in busy downtown New Orleans to Algiers Point, but the transition is dramatic. Algiers Point is the place with great views of the city skyline and the Mississippi River. This neighborhood still has the small-town homey feel of a village. That character has made “The Point” a favorite with musicians and artists who play into the wee hours of the morning at Old Point Bar bordering the River.

While you’re there, visit the historic Algiers Courthouse and enjoy one of the weekly summer concerts or other celebrations happening at The Point.
CONVENTIONS

With its legendary cuisine and architectural charm, New Orleans is an ideal place to hold a meeting.

RENOVATIONS/UPDATES
Completed in 2013, the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCCNO) recently added a 60,000 square-foot Great Hall to 1.1 million square-feet of contiguous event space on one level, making it the sixth-largest and one of the most technologically advanced convention facilities in the country. MCCNO consistently ranks in the country’s top ten of facilities that hold the most conventions and tradeshows annually.

THE CRESCENT CITY
New Orleans boasts one of the freshest hotel products with more than 38,200 hotel rooms citywide with 209 metropolitan area accommodations open and more than $200 million spent on renovations in the last two years. With technologically-enhanced convention facilities, more than 1,000 world-class restaurants and 22,000 hotel rooms all within a 2 mile radius, New Orleans remains a “walkable” destination, making it the perfect place to network.

DID YOU KNOW?

• NOla’S hOSPlItalITY INDUSTRY IS THE CITY’S LARGEST EMPLOYER WITH A WORK FORCE THAT IS MORE THAN 78,000 STRONG

• THERE ARE 1,400 RESTAURANTS IN NOla

• NOla WELCMeD 9.28 MILLION VISITORS IN 2013, A 3% INCREASE FROM 2012

• THE NEW ORLEANs ERNESt N. MORIAL CONVEnTIoN CENTER WAS NAMED #1 FOR NEW/EXPANDED CONVEnTIoN CENTER IN A STUDY OF MEETING PlANNER’S PERCEPTIONS OF 40 NOrTH AMeRICAN MEETING DESTINATIONS CONDUCTED BY METROPOLL

• AUSTRALIA’S FLIGHT CENTRE NAMED NEW ORLEANS AS ONE OF THEIR TOP DESTINATIONS IN 2014. NEW ORLEANS IS THE ONLY CITY IN THE UNITED STATES TO MAKE THIS LIST
FUN FACTS

SOUND LIKE A LOCAL

• **LAGNIAPPE** - a lil’ something extra
• **BAYOU** - Choctaw for a “small stream.”
• **CAJUN** - nickname for Acadians
• **CITIES OF THE DEAD** - cemeteries
• **DIRECTIONS** - there is no West, East, North or South in New Orleans. We head uptown, downtown, lakeside and riverside.
• **FAIS-DO-DO** (day-doe-doe) - means, “Put the kids to sleep.”
• **GRIS-GRIS** (gree-gree) - “X” marks the spot. Voodoo spells were often indicated with an “X” marker on a grave.
• **LAISSEZ LES BON TEMPS ROULER!** - Let the good times roll!
• **MAKIN’ GROCERIES** - shopping for groceries.
• **NEW ORLEANS** - pronounced noo-aw-lins or new or-lins, or new or-lee-yuns but NOT new or-leens. Confused yet?
• **PARISH** - equivalent of a county in the other 49 states.
• **SECOND LINE** - the people who follow a brass band on the street while swinging a handkerchief in a circle over their heads and dancing.
• **BEIGNET** (BEN-yay) - Creole pastries fried to crusty perfection and generously sprinkled with powdered sugar.
• **CHICORY** (CHICK-er-ree) - Endive roots are roasted and ground into Louisiana coffee.
• **DRESSED** - a po-boy with lettuce, tomato, pickles, and mayo (known locally as “MY-nez,” usually Blue Plate.)
• **GUMBO** - New Orleans’ signature Creole dish. It’s made with dark roux (gravy base), shellfish and sausage, served over rice.

NEW ORLEANS TRIVIA

• Tourism generates more than $6 billion dollars in direct visitor spending and $200-225 million in direct tax revenues for New Orleans. No other business sector generates more tax revenues.
• Antoine’s, established in 1840, is the state’s oldest continuously operating restaurant and the oldest single family owned restaurant in the nation.
• More than 38,200 hotel rooms are available throughout the city, most of which have been recently renovated with 22,000 rooms located within a 2 mile radius of the Morial Convention Center
• When states had their own currency, the Louisiana Dix (French for ten) was a favored currency for trade. English speakers called them Dixies and coined the term Dixieland.

LOUISIANA TRIVIA

• The first Mardi Gras Parade took place on Shrove Tuesday in 1838 in New Orleans.
• The Lake Pontchartrain Causeway is the longest over-water bridge in the world at 23.87 miles.
• Opera was first performed in the United States in New Orleans in 1796.
• New Orleans is the number one port in trade with Latin America.
• Tabasco, a Louisiana pepper sauce bottled on Avery Island, holds the second oldest food trademark in the U.S. Patent Office.
• Steen’s Syrup Mill is the world’s largest syrup plant producing sugar cane syrup.
• The first theatre established in the U.S. was established in New Orleans.
• Louisiana is the number one producer of crawfish, alligators and shallots in America.
• Louisiana has the tallest state capitol building in the nation at 450 feet.