



30 FREE THINGS TO DO

EVERY REASON TO CHOOSE NEW ORLEANS



1. GET JAZZED

Stroll along Bourbon or Frenchmen, where jazz pours out onto the street or duck into a few clubs for the full experience.

2. DIVE DEEPER INTO OUR MUSICAL HERITAGE

After you've heard your fair share of jazz, learn about its roots at the New Orleans Jazz National Historic Park (916 N. Peters).

3. BROWSE ART

It seems like you can find art in every corner of New Orleans—the galleries on Julia and Royal Streets, the Mid-City and Bywater art markets, Jackson Square vendors and so much more.



4. EXPERIENCE OUR PARKS

Walk among the centuries-old oaks of City Park, picnic in picturesque Audubon Park or enjoy views of the Mississippi River at Woldenberg Park.

5. TAKE IN A FREE FESTIVAL

At free festivals such as the Creole Tomato Festival, Cajun-Zydeco Music Festival and Louisiana Seafood Festival, explore the history of New Orleans and understand the culture of this unique city.

6. IMMERSE YOURSELF IN NEW ORLEANS HISTORY

Stop by The Historic New Orleans Collection (533 Royal) for a crash course on the city's history that spans almost 300 years.

7. ENJOY THE BYWATER

Spend an hour people-watching at a coffee shop in the Faubourg Marigny, New Orleans' bohemian, up-and-coming neighborhood.

8. BIKE ALONG THE LEVEE

Rent a bike and go for a ride along the levee while taking in the sights and sounds of the mighty Mississippi River.





9. OYSTERS AT LE BON TEMPS ROULE

Head Uptown to this Magazine Street club on Fridays for free oysters as you listen to the funk sounds of Joe Krown.

10. SHOP FOR MANSIONS ON ST. CHARLES AVENUE

Come on! You don't have to be in the market to appreciate these jewels on the Avenue.

11. VIEW FRENCH QUARTER ARCHITECTURE

I spy wrought-iron balconies, a cornstalk fence, a hidden courtyard.

12. GET IN TOUCH WITH NATURE AT JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL PARK

Just 30 minutes from downtown New Orleans and you can immerse yourself in Louisiana's rich ecological treasures—swamps, forests and marshland.

13. CATCH A FREE SUMMER SHOW AT TIPITINA'S

This uptown venue pays homage to the jazz legend Professor Longhair with free shows on Fridays during the summer months.

14. GO SEE FRERET STREET

Stroll down Freret for a prime view of New Orleans' post-Katrina renaissance. Lined with shops, restaurants and more.

15. CELEBRATE THE AMBIANCE OF THE ROOSEVELT

The \$145 million historic restoration added 504 rooms to New Orleans' hotel inventory, along with 60,000 square feet of event and meeting space.

16. HANG YOUR BUSINESS CARD AT THE OLD ABSINTHE HOUSE

Leave your mark on New Orleans by adding your business card to the wall at one of Bourbon Street's oldest bars.

17. SPEND SATURDAY MORNING AT THE FARMERS MARKET

Learn a bit about the famous New Orleans cuisine with free cooking demonstrations at the Crescent City Farmers Market.

18. CHECK OUT THE MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME

The Mercedes-Benz Superdome, with its multi-million dollar renovation, is a premier venue for major conventions and sporting events, including Super Bowl XLVII in 2013.

19. HAUNT OUR "CITIES OF THE DEAD"

Visit our famous above-ground tombs at Lafayette Cemetery No. 1 in the Garden District or St. Louis Cemetery No. #1 on Basin Street, believed to be final resting place of Voodoo Queen Marie Laveau. Knock three times on her crypt and make a wish.

20. TAKE YOURSELF ON A LITERARY TOUR

See where Tennessee Williams (722 Toulouse), William Faulkner (624 Pirate's Alley), Truman Capote (711 Royal), Thornton Wilder (623 Bourbon), Walker Percy (1820 Milan) and Anne Rice (1239 First) lived.

21. JAM AT WEDNESDAY AT THE SQUARE

During the spring and summer months, the Young Leadership Council of New Orleans hosts free concerts in Lafayette Square, featuring some of the hottest local acts.

22. GO WINDOW SHOPPING ON MAGAZINE STREET

While this might start out a free activity, you may find yourself with the uncontrollable urge to throw your money at any one of the unique shops that line Magazine Street so that you can bring a little bit of New Orleans home with you.

23. BE MOVED BY OUR SPECTACULAR CHURCHES

The large Catholic population of New Orleans gave rise to breathtaking churches such as St. Louis Cathedral, St. Augustine and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

24. DISCOVER THE BESTHOFF SCULPTURE GARDEN

Located amid the beauty of City Park, the Besthoff Sculpture Garden features one of the most impressive collections of contemporary sculpture in America.



25. BE A “VOLUNTOURIST”

Though New Orleans is thriving, there are parts of the city that could still use some help following Hurricane Katrina. Just a few hours of volunteering can leave a lasting impact on New Orleans.

26. WALK AND TALK

Network with thousands of your fellow colleagues in the world’s most walkable city.

27. ROOM WITH A VIEW

Soak up the views of the French Quarter, Warehouse District and Central Business District from your newly renovated hotel room.

28. SAVOR YOUR SENSES

Savor the smells of more than 1,400 restaurants as you walk the streets of the French Quarter and Riverfront.

29. WORLD CLASS VENUE

Browse the Morial Convention Center’s newest addition, The Great Hall, an elegant, state-of-the-art 60,000 s.f. ballroom and grand entrance.

30. UNIQUE DESTINATION

Listen to the rattle of the historic streetcar and know that you’re truly someplace different. Where else would you rather be?



10 UNDER \$10

1. BEIGNETS AT CAFÉ DU MONDE

Just one suggestion: don’t wear black.

2. THE CABILDO ON JACKSON SQUARE

Go see Napoleon’s death mask and a plethora of other fascinating items.

3. DUELING PIANOS AT PAT O’BRIEN’S

For a tip, they’ll play just about anything.

4. STREETCAR RIDE

For \$1.25, the streetcar will take you back in time.

5. SLOTS AT HARRAH’S

Ten dollars may not take you too far, but you never know. It’s worth taking a bet!

6. STREET PERFORMERS

Come on. Give a mime a buck.

7. ROMAN CANDY WAGON

One gooey stick will take you back.

8. FRENCH MARKET

Shop for affordable treasures.

9. SNOWBALLS

Treat yourself to an authentic New Orleans snowball. Nectar cream is a local favorite.

10. LUCKY DOG

You haven’t been to New Orleans till you’ve had one.