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TOUR UPDATE



The Newsletter of mikesworldtour

Tour Highlight:

August 2020-July 2022
New Orleans, USA



GEAUXING AROUND THE BIG EASY

Contributed by Michael Davis



After two years of attending Tulane University in New Orleans, I think it is time to add New Orleans as a stop on my world tour. Before my Freshman year, I had spent a whopping 25 hours in New Orleans which included going to Bourbon street with my dad as soon as we got off the plane and a campus tour. That was enough to convince me that Tulane and New Orleans would become my new home for the next four years. Coming to New Orleans was one of my best decisions ever, and I have had a wide range of experiences Uptown near campus, having a little too much fun downtown in the French Quarter, and interning in the Central Business District.

New Orleans is one of the most distinct and to be honest craziest (in the best way possible) city in the US, and I am excited to share my experiences and recommendations for your travels to New Orleans in this newsletter!

New Orleans, Louisiana

FOOD & DRINK

The New Orleans cuisine may be one of the best in the United States. The Cajun influence in the city brings together a wide variety of flavors. In the spring and summer its Crawfish season bringing people together for good food and good times. In the summer cool off with a sno-ball (similar to a snow cone but **don't** call it that or ice cream from the famous Creole Creamery. Any time is a good time for a beignet, but I would not know because I still have yet to try one (please don't sue me).

With French, Irish, Vietnamese, and Jewish (too name a few) influences in the city, there are so many amazing restaurants. In Uptown check out Freret street for a bunch of great restaurants including:

- Good Bird
- Dat Dog
- Humble Bagel

Saint Charles is one of the most iconic streets in New Orleans and is home to the street car line. Right off the Saint Charles/Carrolton streetcar there are also some great restaurants here including:

- Superior Seafood
- Superior Grill
- Cooter Browns
- Camelia Grill

Magazine street in the Garden District and the Central Business District have great breakfast places and upscale restaurants including:

- Stein's Deli
- Ruby Slipper Cafe
- Domenica

When you are in New Orleans, you are always eating good no matter where you are. Food is such a big part of the city's culture.



CRAWFISH



SNO-BALL



CREOLE CREAMERY

GOING OUT/EVENING ACTIVITIES

UPTOWN

Going out in Uptown is dictated by the Tulane social scene, and obviously you have the famous campus bars of the Boot, Brunos, and Palms. However, Uptown has some great happy hours, BYOB places, and weeknight specials. **BYOB places** include: Lebanons, Ba Chi, and Chillout Cafe. The **weeknight specials** include \$1 Taco and tequila shots at Chilangos, Wine Wednesday at Brunos, and pitcher night at the Boot on Thursday.

IN BETWEEN

There is so much to do at night in New Orleans. Other fun activities include concerts at **Tipitinas** (free on Fridays in the summer), Republic, or The Metropolitan. Catch **Flamingos** for bottomless mimosas, and if you are really down bad you can hit up **Red Eye** and Apres in the warehouse district (don't say I didn't warn you). In the CBD Lucy's Retired Surfer Bar is very fun with their famous shark attack drinks that may end your night right there.

DOWNTOWN

Any day of the week is fair game to go out in New Orleans. Even on a Monday you can expect to see tourists flooding Bourbon street looking for a good time. It is usually packed until 2-3am and when I worked in the CBD I would see some people still stumbling home at 9am (yikes). My personal favorites stops on Bourbon include:

- **Boot Scootin Rodeo:** They have a mechanical bull which is surprisingly easier as the night goes on :)
- **Studio 504/Bourbon Fuego:** Do not let the name change fool you, this place is so fun, they have an outdoor patio dance floor and play Latin music
- **Beach on Bourbon:** The music here is usually decent, but the ambience is superb, they have a giant fountain and very good drinks
- **Honorable Mentions:** Bourbon Heat, Krazy Korner

New Orleans, Louisiana



**ONE OF MY FRIENDS RIDING
THE BULL AT BOOT
SCOOTIN RODEO**



**FREE FRIDAY CONCERT AT
TIPITINAS DURING THE
SUMMER**



**\$1 TACO AND \$1 TEQUILA
SHOTS AT CHILANGOS ON
TUESDAYS. ALL OF THIS
COST LESS THAN \$15!**



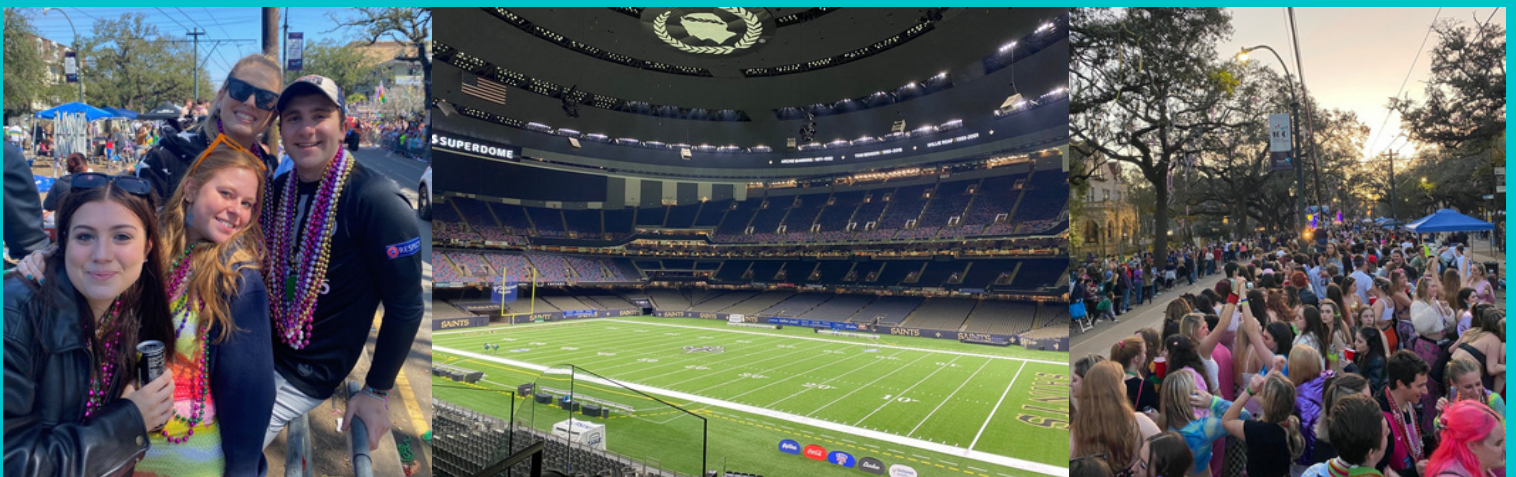
**SHARK ATTACK DRINK AT LUCY'S
RETIRED SURFER BAR. YES YOU
GET TO KEEP THE SHARK:~) THE
FOOD HERE IS SURPRISINGLY GOOD
TOO.**

New Orleans, Louisiana

SPECIAL EVENTS

I am surprised it took me three whole pages to talk about Mardi Gras. Before I begin I want to say that it does live up to the hype. Mardi Gras includes six endless days of going to parades and catching beads and having the best time ever with your friends. If you plan to come to New Orleans in February/March, Mardi (as Tulane calls it) is a must. The Monday night (lundi gras) you stay up all night up to Tuesday morning (tequila sunrise) which is Mardi Gras day. By then you collapse in your bed and catch up on sleep. I got Monday and Tuesday off of school and most kids did not go the Friday the week before. Also my teachers were having just as much fun as me that many cancelled class for the week. It is a BIG deal here.

New Orleans does not only have Mardi Gras, there are more festivals in the city than days of the year. Some of these include Buku, Voodoo, Jazz Fest, Craw Fest, and French Quarter Fest to name a few. Besides festivals the city is also home to the Saints and the ~~Mercedes-Benz~~, my apologies, Caesars Superdome. People in New Orleans are obsessed with the Saints and Drew Brees is basically on the same level as Jesus. I was able to see inside the Superdome for a sorority formal, and although the indoor football stadium threw me off, definitely a cool place to see.



New Orleans, Louisiana

NATURE/MORE WHOLESOME ACTIVITIES

With the festivals and craziness that is New Orleans, it is necessary to enjoy the nature and weather the city has to offer. Across from Tulane's campus in Uptown is Audubon park. It has a ~2 mile loop around a golf course including gazebos and benches throughout. Saturday and Sunday morning expect to see people walking, biking, and rollerblading around the park. Giant oak trees provide much needed shade and add to the beautiful atmosphere.

Just across Magazine street from the park is Audubon zoo. Here you can find a wide range of animals, and is the perfect daytime activity when you're not... day drinking :). Seriously though the zoo is great and has something for everyone.

If you keep walking towards the Mississippi river past the zoo you get to one of my favorite place in New Orleans: Avenger Park or "The Fly". I will get into this more in a bit, but this is a must see!



New Orleans, Louisiana

EXTRAS

THE FLY

Nestled on the Mississippi river is a small oasis that is perfect for a sunny day. On Fridays expect to see the park packed with college kids letting some steam off with a few drinks (knowing Tulane a few is really like 10) and people picnicking while the sun is setting. Since it is warm in New Orleans year round expect the fly to be bumping any weekend of the year.

STREETCAR

When you think of New Orleans you probably think of the iconic streetcar going down St. Charles. The streetcar is convenient in that it can take you from one side of the city to the other, but do be prepared that to get from Uptown to Downtown via the streetcar, it can take anywhere from 1-1.5 hours, yes I know long. Nevertheless, it only costs \$1.25 to ride and is a great way to see the city.



Since I have been in New Orleans for 2 years, this was bound to be a longer issue. Thank you for giving this a read and I will...

See You On the Next Stop on the Tour!