



New Orleans, LA



New Orleans is located on both sides of the Mississippi River in Southeastern Louisiana. The city was founded by a French explorer in 1718 and named for Philip II, Duke of Orléans. France lost the city to Spain in the Treaty of Paris of 1763 but regained control in 1800, only to sell it to the United States as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. This port city revels in its cross-cultural and multilingual heritage and is known for its distinct French and Spanish Creole architecture. New Orleans is also famous as the birthplace of jazz.

The New Orleans Jazz Museum is located in the Old U.S. Mint and celebrates the history of jazz through interactive exhibits, programs, research, and musical performances. This museum, along with the Cabildo and its collection of rare artifacts, two historic houses (Madame John’s Legacy and 1850 House), and the Presbytere, are part of the Louisiana State Museum. The Presbytere is 1 of 5 museums in New Orleans dedicated to Mardi Gras artifacts and memorabilia, the others being The Backstreet Cultural Museum, Mardi Gras Museum of Costumes and Culture, Blaine Kern’s Mardi Gras World, and House of Dance and Feathers.

Exhibits at the National World War II Museum depict America’s role in the war, from the prelude in the 1930s to the Normandy Invasion and the battles of the Pacific Islands. Louisiana’s Civil War Museum is also located in the city.

Local art museums include the New Orleans Museum of Art, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, Newcomb Art Gallery on Tulane University’s campus, Ashé Cultural Arts Center, Collins C. Diboll Art Gallery on Loyola University’s campus, the Contemporary Arts Center, George & Leah McKenna Museum of African American Art, Algiers Folk Art Zone & Blues Museum, and Guardians Institute.

Other museums include the Louisiana Children’s Museum, Pharmacy Museum, Voodoo Museum, Tulane Museum of Natural History, Tulane University’s Howard–Tilton Memorial Library, Southern Food and Beverage Museum, Irish Cultural Museum, and the American Italian Cultural Center. Tulane University’s Amistad Research Center contains a collection of manuscripts about African Americans, race relations, and civil rights. The history and conflict that surrounded the founding and shaping of New Orleans and the French Quarter are the focus of the Laura C. Hudson Visitor Center. The Historic New Orleans Collection is a research facility and museum dedicated to the preservation of New Orleans and Louisiana culture.

New Orleans’ 15 cemeteries, with their elaborate stone crypts and mausoleums, are other local attractions, as is the New Canal Lighthouse at Lake Pontchartrain.

Preservation Resource Center is dedicated to preserving the character of New Orleans’ neighborhoods. Historic houses depict various architectural styles, time periods, and social and economic statuses of their occupants and include the Beauregard–Keyes House, Edgar Degas House, Gallier House, Hermann–Grima House, Le Musée de f.p.c (free people of color), Longue Vue House and Gardens, Musee Rochon, Pitot House, and The Royal Street Complex (Merieult House, Counting House, Maisonette, Williams Residence, Townhouse, Louis Adams House, and Creole Cottage).

Preservation Hall was at the center of the jazz revival and presents intimate, acoustic New Orleans jazz concerts nightly. The city has many other clubs and bars that also offer jazz performances. The Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra performs many concerts during the year.

Many other opportunities to enjoy performing arts are available. The Saenger Theatre hosts touring Broadway shows. Other professional and community theaters include the Southern Repertory Theatre, Jefferson Performing Arts Society, Rivertown Repertory Theatre, Contemporary Arts Center, AllWays Lounge, Anthony Bean Community Theatre, Crescent City Youth Theater, the NOLA Project, See ‘Em On Stage, The New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts, Cripple Creek Theater Company, Tulane Summer Lyric Theatre, New Orleans Shakespeare Festival at Tulane, the University of New Orleans, Loyola University, and Delgado Community College.

The city offers 5 options for opera: New Orleans Opera Association, the Jefferson Performing Arts Society, Loyola University Opera Theatre, Bon Operatit!, and Opera on Tap.

The Marigny Opera Ballet, New Orleans Ballet Association, New Orleans Ballet Theatre, and Delta Festival Ballet stage dance performances.

The Mercedes-Benz Superdome is a destination for sporting events, concerts, family shows, and the Saints Hall of Fame Museum.

Mardi Gras and the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival are the city’s most famous annual festivals.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown New Orleans is a commercial center that is surrounded by several residential neighborhoods. The French Quarter has historic 100- to 200-year-old single-family and duplex homes on small lots; apartments are also available. The Warehouse District features loft-style residences. Mid-City features single-family houses and duplexes, some of which are raised with garages underneath the living areas; this area is still recovering from Hurricane Katrina.

CITY STATS

2016

City Population	391,495
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	1,268,883
Per Capita Personal Income, New Orleans–Metairie LA, MSA	\$47,205



Farther from the downtown, the Garden District features mid-19th century Greek Revival and Italianate homes. Some of the district's homes are still known by the names of the families that built them over a century ago; streets still bear the names of the nine muses of Greek Mythology. The Uptown District, beginning upriver of the Garden District and stretching to Broadway Street, is a self-contained residential world. The Uptown District features late-19th century homes along St. Charles Avenue and in exclusive cul-de-sac developments like Rosa Park. Frame houses with large galleries are located on oak-shaded cross streets. Closer to the river, 19th-century duplexes in the shotgun style are being refurbished. The nearby Carrollton neighborhood, which was originally built as a rural resort community, features large houses on tree-lined streets.

Originally developed in 1806, Faubourg Marigny is a cosmopolitan neighborhood that features restored Creole and Classic Revival cottages painted in rich golds, brick reds, and moss greens. The Bywater is located between the Faubourg Marigny and Holy Cross districts and features traditional architecture.

Historic neighborhoods like Holy Cross and Gentilly Terrace sit on some of the highest ground in the city. The Gentilly neighborhood features California Craftsman-style bungalows, English cottages, and Spanish and Mediterranean Revival raised houses from the early 1900s.

Frame cottages and brick ranch-style homes are available in Lakeview, which is close to Lake Pontchartrain. This area was one of the hardest hit by the flood caused from Hurricane Katrina.

Algiers Point is located on the other side of the Mississippi River and features tidy Victorian cottages adorned with gingerbread woodwork.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Among the city's 202 parks, City Park is the largest at 1,300 acres. Park amenities include the New Orleans Botanical Garden; Storyland, which is a children's fairy tale playground; the Hines' Carousel Gardens Amusement Park; and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden. The park also has 26 tennis courts, 2 golf courses and a driving range, and the world's largest stand of mature live oak trees. Plans for City Park include a 4-acre water park and the future home of The Louisiana Children's Museum.

A paved loop that surrounds a lagoon in Audubon Park is popular with walkers, joggers, cyclists, and rollerbladers. Other park amenities include the Audubon Trail Golf Course, Audubon Zoo, playgrounds, riding stables, tennis courts, Whitney Young pool, labyrinth, baseball diamonds, and soccer fields. Tucked behind Audubon Zoo across the Mississippi River

levee, the waterfront portion of Audubon Park is popularly known as "The Fly." Audubon Aquarium of the Americas is located in downtown New Orleans. The Entergy IMAX® Theatre is adjacent to the aquarium, and the Audubon Insectarium is located a few blocks away.

Other parks include the 110-acre Brechtel Park that is a premier bird watching location due to its lagoons and stands of native trees and vegetation. Located near the French Quarter, Louis Armstrong Park preserves the site of Congo Square, which was an historic meeting space of slaves and free blacks. New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park offers regular jazz performances, lectures, films, and visual displays. Champions Square provides a place for Saints fans to congregate near the Superdome.

Professional sports teams include the New Orleans Saints (football), the New Orleans Pelicans (basketball), the New Orleans Baby Cakes (baseball), and the New Orleans Jesters (soccer).

EDUCATION

Orleans Parish School Board oversees 41 charter schools in New Orleans. The Louisiana Recovery School District, which was created to improve underperforming schools, oversees 38 charter schools.

Higher education is available at the University of New Orleans, which is a public urban research university. Six professional schools comprise the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans: School of Medicine in New Orleans, School of Graduate Studies of the Health Sciences Center, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of Allied Health Professions, and School of Public Health. Tulane University, a private university, offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees at the School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

New Orleans is home to three historically Black universities: Dillard University (private), Southern University at New Orleans (public), and Xavier University (private, Catholic). In addition to Xavier, three other Catholic universities are located in the city: Loyola University New Orleans, University of Holy Cross, and Notre Dame Seminary. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Delgado Community College is a comprehensive, multicampus community college. Cameron College offers career-oriented programs.

HEALTH CARE

New Orleans is served by the following health care facilities:

- **Beacon Behavioral Hospital–New Orleans, Inc.:** 32 psychiatric beds
- **Children's Hospital:** 225 acute care pediatric beds
- **Cobalt Rehabilitation Hospital:** 60 physical rehabilitation beds
- **Community Care Hospital:** 36 psychiatric beds
- **Curahealth New Orleans:** 55 long-term acute care beds
- **New Orleans East Hospital:** 80 acute care beds
- **Ochsner Medical Center:** 473-bed acute care beds
- **Seaside Behavioral Center:** 24 psychiatric beds
- **St. Catherine Memorial Hospital:** 20 long-term acute care beds
- **Touro Infirmary:** 360 acute care beds
- **Tulane Medical Center:** 218 acute care beds
- **University Medical Center New Orleans:** 446 acute care beds and 60 behavioral health beds