

We've added hyperlinks throughout to make this sheet as useful as possible!

GETTING THERE

Airport: MSY (Louis Armstrong International).

Getting downtown:

Renting a car is generally more trouble than it's worth, unless you plan to drive out to plantation-land on your own later (but there are bus tours for that)! Hotels tend to have valet parking for a fee, but you generally won't need a car anyway.

Uber or Lyft—In our experience they tend to be friendlier than taxi drivers if you've got less than 3 riders, and probably cheaper. Just set up the app if you don't already have it. Info from MSY's website: *Passengers can meet their app-based ride service outside of the Ground Transportation Center located on the first floor of the Short-Term Parking Garage by crossing the pedestrian crosswalk located outside of Baggage Claim 6.*

Taxi—easily catch one at the taxi stand. The rate is a flat \$36.00 for up to 2 passengers; for 3 or more, add \$15.00 per passenger. *Taxicab booths are located on the first level of the Terminal outside of Baggage Claim Belts 1 and 14. Passengers must wait in line at one of these booths for taxi service.*

Airport Shuttle—\$24.00 per person (one-way) or \$44.00 per person (round-trip). This is only a better deal if you're traveling alone. *Passengers can purchase tickets at the Airport at Airport Shuttle ticket booths located on the first level throughout the Baggage Claim area.*

Mass transit (Bus)—Cheap, if you're willing to figure it out and take the time!

GETTING AROUND TOWN

Walking:

It's pretty easy for the average person to walk anywhere between the Central Business District, the Warehouse District and the opposite end of the French Quarter (plus, it's always interesting—and we've walked even further!) To walk from the ACE Hotel to the French Quarter, just take a Right out the front door, follow Carondelet until you cross Canal St, and voilà, you're on Bourbon St.

A tip: Just one street down from Bourbon, or one street up, you'll find a much quieter scene!

Also: From the French Quarter, don't walk North (West?) of Rampart St. (the upper boundary of the FQ), especially after dusk.

Streetcar:

The *St. Charles Ave* streetcar (Green line) can be picked up around the corner from the ACE Hotel. It's a pretty ride through the Garden District, and will take you all the way to Uptown (Audubon Zoo, Oak Street) if you stay on for a while. If going to Magazine Street, we usually exit at the Washington Ave Stop, cross the track, and walk down Washington (past Lafayette Cemetery I) to Magazine.

The *Canal Street* line will take you up Canal Street to City Park, the Art Museum and more cemeteries.

A one-way fare (any distance) is \$1.25 and must be paid with exact change when you board. One or three-day unlimited ride "Jazzy Passes" are also available for \$3 or \$9 respectively. Purchase info and maps: <http://www.norta.com/>

Uber:

There's always Uber (or Lyft) to get from one area to another, and it's really easy. We've never had a bad experience; they're usually friendly locals, and are all over the city.

NEARBY THE ACE HOTEL

Lafayette Square: A nice, grassy park, just a block away.

The Arts District: Lots of galleries (*mostly on Julia Street*) and bars/restaurants. <http://www.artsdistrictneworleans.com/map>

The Company Burger: Mentioning this because we ate here after our venue tour of the ACE Hotel, and it's good for a quick, easy bite. There are a couple other café-type places next to it.

The National WWII Museum: About a half-mile/12-minute walk. Next door to it is *The American Sector Restaurant & Bar*, with a great Happy Hour from 4–6 PM. Also near here are [Cochon Butcher](#) and [Ugly Dog Saloon and BBQ](#).

And [The French Quarter](#) and [Garden District](#) aren't far!

OUR RECOMMENDED THINGS-TO-SEE IN NOLA

THE FRENCH QUARTER (You can probably fit in a few of these, even if you don't have much extra time):

- **Royal Street:** Lots of quaint art galleries, antique shops, and street performers. Check out the [Mask Gallery](#).
- **Jackson Square:** St. Louis Cathedral and the statue of Andrew Jackson; near the river.
- **The River:** [Riverfront Park](#) is a nice, long walking path along the river. (*A tip: if anyone says they bet they can't guess where you got those shoes at, don't play along - because the answer's always "on yo feet", and they'll ask you for money.*)
- **Café Du Monde:** Just across from Jackson Square. Grab a café au lait and an order of Beignets (*Ben-yay's*). *There's usually a line, so go to the takeout window (and sometimes the window also has a line).*
- **The French Market:** Contains food stands and a flea-market. It's open during the day, and is a good place to find a gator burger or other interesting things. There are also stores adjacent to the market.
- **Napoleon House:** We usually just grab a seat at the little bar, split a half of (*the best around*) muffaletta, and drink a couple Pimm's cups. Oh, and it has historical significance (Napoleon and all that).
- **Carousel Bar:** in the Hotel Monteleone (it rotates! And their Pimm's cup usually has strawberries in it).
- **Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop:** It's super old (*reputed to be the oldest structure used as a bar in the United States*). It looks neat on the outside, and at night there's usually someone playing the grand piano in the back.
- **Bourbon Street:** Famous for touristy bars and revelry. You'll no-doubt end up walking across - or along - Bourbon Street at some point, and that's OK. It's great for people-watching. Just don't get stuck there!
- **Erin Rose Bar:** Just a little off Bourbon, but locals also go here. It has Jill's favorite - the frozen irish coffee (which comes from a machine). *Tip: Another place to get a frozen Irish Coffee is Molly's at the Market on Decatur St. Trust us, you might get hooked on those.*
- **Preservation Hall:** Several nightly shows; stand in line ahead of time to purchase a ticket
- **Pharmacy Museum:** It's interesting

FRENCHMEN STREET: Just past the French Quarter, in the Marigny. This street is full of music clubs, and at night there's always a brass band playing on a street corner at some point - just follow your ears! It gets busy at night, but is the best place to catch local music. From the end of the French Quarter, cross Esplanade Ave and go through a small residential area to get there; or just pick it up from Decatur St (Frenchmen runs diagonally from there). *Tip: we had the most delicious soul food at the [Praline Connection](#) (we can recommend the baked chicken, jambalaya, and sides).*

THE GARDEN DISTRICT: You can ride the St. Charles Ave streetcar through here, and get off and walk when you choose. It's full of impressive mansions and oak trees, and has a completely different vibe from the French Quarter (very peaceful and quiet).

- **Lafayette Cemetery I:** Exit the streetcar at the Washington Ave Stop, cross the tracks, and walk down a block-and-a-half. Free to walk in and explore when the gate's open.
- **Magazine Street:** Runs parallel to St. Charles Ave, just another 3 blocks down from the Cemetery. It's very long (we once walked its full length, but we had lots of time). The action ends and picks up again at certain points, and there are lots of shops, bars and restaurants. A couple recommended stops:
 - **The Bulldog Tavern** (Uptown location): The place to go for *tons of beers* on tap. It gives back to animal shelters, and has a patio with a cool tap-handle fountain.
 - **Dat dog:** A colorful place with a patio and wide selection of interesting hotdogs and sausages, right near the Bulldog. (*Note: there's another Dat dog location on Frenchmen Street.*)

THE IRISH CHANNEL: A quiet section below Magazine Street in the lower Garden District that's mostly residential.

- **Parasol's:** A basic bar with Matt's favorite roast beef po-boy; one side is a bar and the other has an order window and simple tables.
- **Tracey's Bar:** A sports bar on Magazine, just a block up from Parasol's
- **NOLA Brewing:** Has a nice tasting room and upstairs patio that's sometimes open. Makes interesting brews and we like it. It's a little bit of a walk, or just call an Uber.

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.neworleans.com

www.norta.com (*mass transit info - streetcars and buses*)

www.neworleansonline.com

<https://www.thrillist.com/new-orleans>

<http://www.frenchquarter.com>

www.offbeat.com (*Offbeat Magazine—use the event search to find live music*)

