

INCENTIVE ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL
IN THE CRESCENT CITY!



RIVERBOAT CHARTER WITH DINNER AND LIVE JAZZ

Experience an evening on the mighty Mississippi River with a live Dixieland Jazz Band providing the entertainment and a delicious Cajun or Creole dinner buffet. You can book the entire vessel for large groups, or the private room for a smaller group.

PRIVATE DINNER AT A PLANTATION HOME

Enjoy a candlelight dinner at a historic antebellum plantation home. You can be greeted by a rousing gospel choir upon your arrival. You can also dress up in antebellum dresses and suits to complete the early 1800s atmosphere of the old South.

HAVE YOUR OWN PARADE

Led by a traditional Dixieland Jazz marching band or combo, grab your napkin and dance on down the street in your very own “second-line” marching parade. This is a great way to travel from your hotel to your dinner destination for the evening.

SEAPLANE/SWAMP TOUR/PLANTATION ADVENTURE WITH LUNCH

See the city and the surrounding swamplands from high aboard a small twin-engine seaplane. After landing, board a swamp tour boat or airboat to see the swamps and bayous up close. You may have a near encounter with an alligator! Then, relax at a beautiful plantation home and have lunch and/or mint juleps on the veranda.

RECEPTION AND/OR DINNER AT A GARDEN DISTRICT HOME

Experience the elegance of a reception and/or dinner in a St. Charles Avenue or Garden District historic home.

FRENCH QUARTER PUB CRAWL

Did you know that the term “cocktail” was coined in New Orleans? That’s right! In May of 1806 (the earliest known use of the word), the Editor of The Balance and Columbian Repository (a local publication) said “Cock-tail, then a stimulating liquor, composed of spirits of any kind, sugar, water and bitters it is vulgarly called a bittered sling....”. And so the term “cocktail” was born! Take a tour through some of the old and established drinking holes in the French Quarter and sample some of the adult beverages that helped make New Orleans famous.

RECEPTION AT PRESERVATION HALL

If you want the truly authentic Jazz experience, then a visit to Preservation Hall is a must. Originally built in 1750 as a private residence, Preservation Hall opened its doors as a Jazz hall in 1961 as a sanctuary to protect and honor New Orleans Jazz. The entire hall can be reserved and catered for a private function.

COOKING DEMONSTRATION WITH LUNCH OR DINNER

For lunch or dinner, nothing can be compared to the enjoyment & pleasure of a New Orleans Cooking Class. Learn how to make some of our most famous Creole and Cajun dishes, such as Red Beans & Rice, Chicken & Andouille Gumbo, or Jambalaya. And here’s the best part! You get to sample everything at the conclusion of the class! When you return home, you’ll be able to prepare an authentic Cajun or Creole meal and really impress your family & friends with your world-cuisine savvy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT A SALES MANAGER IN THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT
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PRIVATE PARTY ABOARD A STREETCAR

Charter a Streetcar for a private ride down historic St. Charles Avenue. View the stately mansions and ancient oak trees that line the Avenue. You can also have some light snacks and sodas catered on the Streetcar for your enjoyment. Don't forget the live Jazz Combo to complete the experience!

SCAVENGER HUNT

Never heard of a scavenger hunt? Well, here's how it works. Get a bunch of your friends together and divide into teams. Set a time to find as many things as possible on the list below. The team with the most items from the list at the end of that time wins. What a great way to explore the French Quarter!



VOODOO EVENT

Did you know that Marie Laveau, the Queen of Voodoo, (Or, as the song says – “The Witch Queen of New Orleans”) was born in, and also died in, the French Quarter? Have a special evening event with a Voodoo theme in an old historic French Quarter building. Who knows...maybe Marie will show up to liven up the festivities!

TOUR & MINI FLOAT BUILDING AT MARDI GRAS WORLD

Kick off the experience with a short movie, and then you'll have an opportunity to try on genuine Mardi Gras costumes. Next, enjoy some King Cake & coffee en route to a tour of the Prop Shop, where you will see the artists creating, painting, constructing and sculpting the figures you see mounted on the floats. Then, after dividing into groups, you will have the opportunity to design and create your own mini-floats!



TRADITIONAL CAJUN OUTDOOR PARTY

A fais-do-do? Or maybe a coucou de lait? Or perhaps a crawfish boil? It's really hard to decide how to experience a traditional Cajun outdoor party! No matter which type of party you choose, it will be a rousing and memorable experience, just as long as a live Cajun music band is playing! You can also learn how to dance Cajun-style.

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THREE DAYS IN THE CRESCENT CITY!



DAY ONE

First, enjoy a traditional New Orleans style breakfast with **beignets** and **café au lait**. After your breakfast, head down Decatur Street to the **French Market**. This historically charming open-air market, similar to some European markets, features 5 blocks of local produce, specialty art, handmade crafts, retail shopping and more. **Jackson Square** is also nestled in the center of the French Quarter. Known as one of New Orleans' most recognizable landmarks, this 2.5-acre space boasts unique shops, art galleries, and the local artists and musicians that cascade the fences of the Place d'Armes. Must-see venues include the **Cabildo**, the **Presbytère**, and **St. Louis Cathedral**.

For lunch, check out any of the 1,400 restaurants that New Orleans has to offer. These restaurants offer delicious, diverse, and superb cuisines. Try some of New Orleans' famous dishes such as a **po'boys**, **crawfish etouffée**, **jambalaya**, or **gumbo**. Looking to try some local seafood? Staples such as **Acme Oyster House** or **Landry's Seafood House** are sure to impress.

After lunch, explore the city on the **City Sightseeing Hop-on, Hop-off bus**. Experience New Orleans with a guided tour through different neighborhoods of the Crescent City. Relax and enjoy the ride or hop off and explore the different areas of New Orleans such as the **Garden District**, **St. Louis Cemetery No. 1**, the **National World War II Museum**, **Tremé**, or **Magazine Street**. The bus makes a continuous loop every thirty minutes and with all day passes there is no charge to hop back on the bus.

End the afternoon with a **carriage ride** through the French Quarter. The original ridesharing service and the chief way folks traversed the city's unpaved streets and byways, mule-drawn carriages still line up on the Decatur side of Jackson Square, offering leisurely city tours, filled with colorful commentary.

For dinner, try one of New Orleans' signature restaurants like **Palm Court Jazz Café**, featuring Creole and International cuisine and nightly live music, or **Palace Café**, with modern Creole cooking and a live jazz brunch on the weekends. Any of New Orleans' restaurants are guaranteed to offer the best of savory Creole, Cajun, or seafood dishes that will satisfy your hunger.

After dinner, take a taxi to **Frenchmen Street** for an evening dedicated to music and cocktails. Frenchmen Street boasts multiple music venues that range from traditional jazz to rock, from reggae to Latin, and from Bluegrass to the Blues. Also, be sure to check out the Frenchmen Art Market, open at night.

DAY TWO

Enjoy a lively Jazz Brunch at **Court of Two Sisters**, home to the French Quarter's largest historical courtyard, or take the streetcar Uptown to **Superior Seafood & Oyster Bar**, where you'll delight in a fresh take on many Louisiana classics.

After your brunch, take a walking tour or a bus tour through the famous streets of the **Garden District**. The neighborhood is known for its variety of historic homes, from colorful row houses

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to Classic Revival mansions and charming cottages shadowed by giant oak trees. Nearby Magazine Street offers great shops, restaurants and bars.

Next, see where Mardi Gras is made with a tour of **Mardi Gras World**. More than 80 percent of the floats that journey down New Orleans' streets during the Carnival season are designed and built here. Learn about the many traditions surrounding Mardi Gras parades, balls and music, as well as the intricacies of float designing and building. Don't leave without trying a piece of king cake!

A must-see for history lovers and all patriots, **The National WWII Museum** is the next stop on the list. Powerful images and extraordinary artifacts bring to life the American Spirit, the courage, teamwork and sacrifice of the young men and women who won the war and changed the world.

Wind down your time in the Crescent City with an authentic Cajun dinner at **K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen**, **Coterie Restaurant & Oyster Bar**, or **Mulate's, The Original Cajun Restaurant**. Finish the evening in true New Orleans style with a cocktail and some live jazz music at **The Davenport Lounge** or **The Jazz Playhouse**.

DAY THREE

Enjoy a quick breakfast at your hotel or local coffee shop before hitting the road for a **plantation tour**. The Antebellum south comes to life at the many plantations that line the Mississippi

River, a throwback to the city's agrarian past. Located as close as an hour outside of New Orleans, you can tour stately mansions such as **Houmas House**, **Oak Alley**, or **Laura Plantation** and hear stories from all perspectives, from the famous local families that built and owned them to the views of the slaves who worked there. Many of the plantations serve lunch, so plan to visit as many as you can before finishing off with lunch on the property.

While exploring outside of the city limits, journey through Louisiana swamplands on a **Cajun Pride Swamp Tour**. This privately-owned wildlife refuge provides narrated tours with native Cajun Captains on an exploration through the Manchac Swamp with moss-draped cypress trees, American Alligators and abundant wildlife.

When you return to the city, spend the late afternoon exploring the Vieux Carré and its many antiques and souvenir shops. For a last-minute token to bring home, stop by **Aunt Sally's Pralines** for a famous praline, or **New Orleans School of Cooking's** Louisiana General Store for authentic Cajun spices, cookbooks and other gifts to remind you of your fun-filled trip to New Orleans.

For a final farewell, treat yourself to one of New Orleans' long-standing restaurants filled with tradition and history. Dinner at the iconic **Antoine's Restaurant**, **Arnaud's Restaurant**, or **Brennan's** will ignite your palate and leave you with an unforgettable experience that will have you planning your next trip to New Orleans!

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