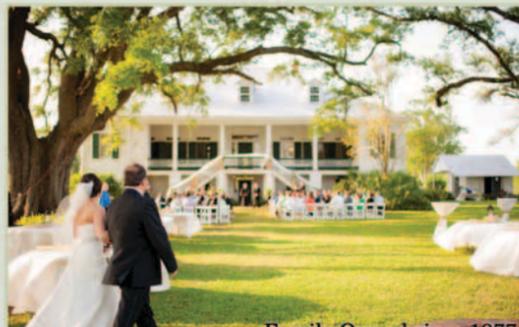


St. Joseph Plantation
 3535 Hwy. 18
 Bayou, La. 70000
 252-263-4073
 stjosephplantation.com

Family Owned since 1877
 Tours are on the hour with the first tour starting at 10am and the last tour at 3pm

St. Joseph Plantation
 This 1,200 acre plantation has been called home by wealthy planters, a French doctor, and Josephine Ferry, daughter of Valcour Aimé, who was nicknamed "Louis XIV of Louisiana." It is also the birthplace of H.J.I. Richardson, one of the most important American architects of the 19th century. See original slave cabins, a detached kitchen, a school house, and many other dependencies required during the 1800's and 1900's.
 In the heart of Plantation Country, we are conveniently nestled between Laura, and Oak Alley plantations. We look forward to seeing you at St. Joseph Plantation.
 Call us for wedding or special event information.

EXPLORE
 The CAJUN COAST!



TOUR DU TECHE
 Oct. 2-4 • Bayou Teche
 This 133-mile, three-stage canoe and kayak adventure race takes competitors from Port Barre to Berwick on the Bayou Teche, through the heart of Cajun Country.



HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL
 Oct. 31 • Downtown Franklin
 Welcome fall with all-day festivities on Franklin's charming Main Street featuring live music; a children's carnival; teen activities; an antique, hot rod, classic car and motorcycle show, concessions and retail promotions.



Download our free Cajun Coast Travel Guide app from the App Store or Google Play



CAJUN COAST
 (800) 256-2931
 www.cajuncoast.com

With its exhibits and swamp view, our new visitor center on Hwy. 90 in Morgan City is your gateway to the Cajun Coast.

Cajun Music Capital of the World!

MAMOU
 LOUISIANA

Home of the Courir du Mardi Gras!

Located in the heart of the Zydeco-Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway, Mamou has the distinction of being called "Cajun Music Capital of the World." And for good reason!

You see, music and dancing were always the chief social events of this community since shortly after it was first settled in the early part of the 18th century. The Acadian exiles – whose descendants are now referred to as "Cajuns" – started arriving here in the second half of the century. Once they got settled in well, out came the fiddles and the accordions. And they've been playing this distinctive form of music here ever since.

There's even a Cajun Music Festival each August or September. Call 337-789-0646 for more information. It's something to behold, and the public is invited to attend.

Hometown musicians known around the world




"Bois-Sec" Ardoin Jimmy C Newman

In addition to this, every Saturday morning at Fred's Lounge in downtown Mamou there is a Cajun music performance which is broadcast live over the radio. It's all in French – the songs, the commentary and the commercials. It's something of a cultural phenomenon!

Another local event of real interest is the annual *Courir du Mardi Gras à Cheval* (the Mardi Gras run on horseback). For info, call 337-580-4562. Local men and boys ride on horseback or in wagons through the countryside, stopping at farm houses and asking for live chickens or rice for a big gumbo to be made at the end of the day and shared by the riders and their families and friends.

For more information, please call Mamou Town Hall at 337-468-3272. The welcome mat is always out.



The Courir du Mardi Gras à Cheval (Mardi Gras on horseback) is a major local tradition.



Frenchmen Street Art Market

TRAVEL

New Orleans

WEEKEND ITINERARY FOR EXPLORING LIKE THE LOCALS

People travel to New Orleans from all over the globe; fortunately for residents of Acadiana, it's a relatively quick (and picturesque) road trip. What follows is a tentative itinerary for a weekend jaunt to the Crescent City. Readers, be aware that part of the excitement of New Orleans comes from its spontaneity.

BY SARAH RAVITS// PHOTOS BY SARA ESSEX BRADLEY



ABOVE, LEFT: With a spacious wooden bar, exposed brick and comfortable seating, *Tonique* on Rampart Street is a great place to stop in for a creative cocktail on the outskirts of the French Quarter. **ABOVE, RIGHT:** Located on Frenchmen Street, *DBA* hosts live music nightly with a huge beer and wine selection. **BELOW, LEFT:** The *Delachaise* is primarily a wine bar, but its food, intimate atmosphere and location along the historic St. Charles Avenue make it a prime destination for visitors. **BELOW, RIGHT:** *Washboard Chaz*, pictured here at *Spotted Cat*, is one of the city's well-known local musicians.



Sights to See

After dinner, stroll through the nearby **French Quarter**, the oldest neighborhood in the city and home to hundreds of bars and tourist attractions. Whether you choose to party on Bourbon Street at night or meander through the quieter, more residential Lower French Quarter, it's a must-see for all visitors. Most of the buildings were built in the late 1700s, and you'll feel transplanted to a bygone era while walking around and soaking it in. Beyond the French Quarter is the **Faubourg Marigny** neighborhood, where you'll find **Frenchmen Street**, lined music clubs and eateries. With a more bohemian flair than that tourist-packed Bourbon Street, Frenchmen Street is a favorite hangout among locals and visitors alike.

ENTERTAINMENT

SPOTTED CAT

One great spot to catch live music is **The Spotted Cat Music Club** (spottedcatmusicclub.com) which doesn't look like much from the outside. It's a tiny, one-room music joint but what it lacks in size it makes up for in sound. It hosts a variety of musicians daily – shows generally take place at 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. On Friday night, a real standout is the **Cottonmouth Kings**, who perform jazz, swing and traditional New Orleans jazz, often accompanied by swing dancers.

BAR TONIQUE

If you're not tired from dancing and want to keep going, head over to Rampart Street and grab a nightcap at **Bar Tonique**, known for its hand-crafted cocktails. It's in a historic building with exposed brick walls and a laid-back, intimate atmosphere.

IMBIBE

The Delachaise

Sophisticated yet unpretentious, **The Delachaise** is a dimly lit, cozy wine bar with a romantic ambience. With an extensive wine list and other libations, it also serves elevated bar fare, including goose-fat french fries, a huge selection of cheeses, seasonal snacks, entrees and dessert. Sit outside on a balmy evening as the iconic streetcars rumble past you on St. Charles Avenue.

3442 ST CHARLES AVE.
(504) 895-0858 // THEDELACHAISE.COM

PICTURE THIS

Squid ink tagliolini topped with blue crab and herbs; Calabrese pizza (tomato, spicy salami, mozzarella, capers, olives); and the whole roasted Gulf fish with tomatoes, olives, chili peppers and garlic.

DINNER

Domenica

Bring your hearty appetite to dinner at **Domenica**, a sleek, stylish Italian restaurant (owned by the Besh Restaurant Group) inside the elegant Roosevelt Hotel. Executive chef Alon Shaya's Neapolitan-style pizzas (baked in a wood-burning oven) have garnered him numerous local and national awards, including the prestigious James Beard Award. Aside from the pizzas, there are a number of fresh pastas, seafood dishes, and innovative appetizers, including crispy fried kale. The restaurant's popularity led to the opening of a spinoff Uptown, **Pizza Domenica**, which is smaller and more casual.

DOMENICA
123 BARONNE ST. // (504) 648-6020 // DOMENICARESTAURANT.COM

PIZZA DOMENICA
4933 MAGAZINE ST. // (504) 301-4978 // PIZZADOMENICA.COM

SUGGESTIONS

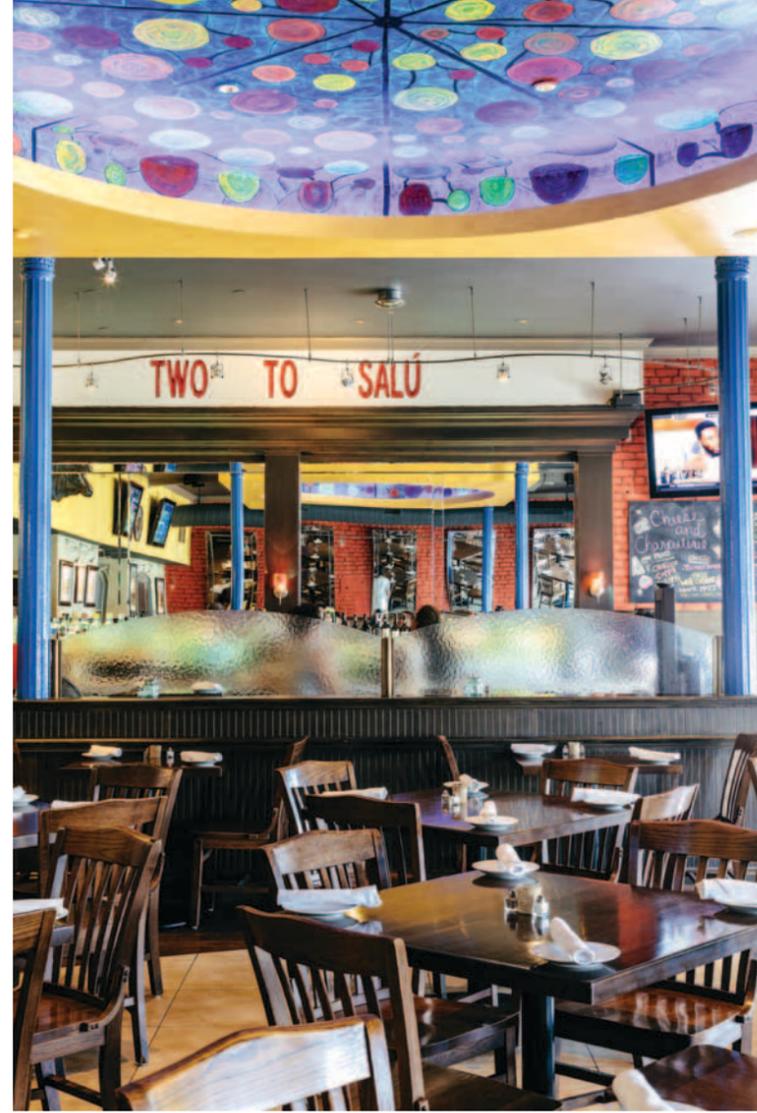
APPETIZER

The best appetizers might be a tie between the roasted cauliflower, with sea salt and comes with creamy whipped feta; and the fried Tuscan kale, drizzled with pine nuts, tomatoes and Parmigiana Reggiano.

ENTREE

Get a few entrees and share. Pizzas, fresh pastas and seafood dishes cooked to perfection are just a few mouth-watering options.





RIGHT: The interior dining room at La Petite Grocery is elegant but comfortable with white tablecloths and booths lining the walls. **LEFT:** Salú is a spot for casual dining, also Uptown on Magazine Street. On weekends, it offers a brunch special and lively atmosphere.

BRUNCH

Salú

Associate editor of *Acadiana Profile*, Melanie Warner Spencer, swears that brunch at **Salú** on Magazine Street is one of the best deals town, due to its \$15 bottomless cocktail offerings (including mimosas and Pimm's cups) and its \$8 Bloody Mary bar which features a zesty homemade mix. (And if you're following this itinerary as a loose guide, you might need some hair of the dog after Friday night.) While this place is normally known as a wine and small plates bar, its "Boozy Brunch" on weekends exudes a festive atmosphere and lasts from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., offering a number of breakfast sandwiches, omelets, Benedicts and flatbreads.

3226 MAGAZINE ST. // (504) 371-5809
SALURESTAURANT.COM

SUGGESTIONS

TO EAT
Try the Crab Cakes Benedict for a hearty brunch option. For lighter fare you can always order one of their many salads or a soup of the day.

TO DRINK
The \$15 bottomless cocktail offerings include Pimm's cups, screwdrivers and mimosas. You can also opt for wine, beer or another cocktail.

Shopping

After brunch, meander down **Magazine Street** in either direction to check out boutiques, restaurants (it's never too early to plan for your next meal), coffee shops and galleries. If you head further Uptown on Magazine Street, eventually you'll hit **Audubon Park** and the **Audubon Zoo**, a world-class attraction with an African savannah exhibit; the **Asian Domain** (with sun bears, elephants and a rare white tiger);

an aviary with exotic birds; a sea lion exhibit; a swamp exhibit and much more.

Meanwhile, on the nearby **Freret Street**, you'll find a bustling landscape dotted with shops, restaurants, bars, coffee shops and live entertainment venues. The area experienced a major renaissance over the past decade and is now a popular destination for all ages, including college

students from the nearby Tulane and Loyola universities and yuppies in search of a good craft cocktail at **Cure.Gasa Gasa** livens up the scene even more. An intimate concert space with a full bar that this joint attracts a range of local, independent artists and national acts. It's also part "folk museum" – as it hosts film screenings, art exhibitions. Make sure you check out the murals outside, too.

DINNER

La Petite Grocery

La Petite Grocery is helmed by Chef Justin Devillier, who serves French cuisine with a creative Southern twist. Think fine dining blended with comfort food, using local Louisiana ingredients. He's been a finalist for the James Beard Award four years in a row, and his successes have garnered him much local and international praise. The atmosphere at La Petite Grocery is airy, with lots of natural light streaming in, and its Magazine Street location is charming and lively. You will definitely leave more than satisfied and with something to tell your friends back home about.

4238 MAGAZINE ST. // (504) 891-3377
LAPETITEGROCERY.COM

SUGGESTIONS

APPETIZER
Highlights include the blue crab beignets; steak tartare with quinoa, buttermilk, horseradish and pickled quail egg.

ENTREE
LPG is renowned for its gourmet hamburger with house pickles, onion marmalade, arugula, whole grain mustard, aioli gruyere on a soft bun with hand-cut fries.

DESSERT
The real winner here is the Cardamom-mascarpone cheesecake with brown butter shortbread, Mayhaw granita and coconut-ginger sorbet.

PICTURE THIS

The Turtle Bolognese features bucatini, sherry, parsley and a fried soft-boiled egg



ENTERTAINMENT

NEW MOVEMENT THEATER

The **New Movement Theater** (newmovementtheater.com) on St. Claude Avenue hosts "The Megaphone Show," which features a well-known local telling three stories, inspiring improvisers to work their magic. Another act is rude. (www.rudestever.com) a witty multi-media sketch duo that performs on the first Saturday of every month at the New Movement.

HI-HO LOUNGE

For late-night dancing, head back downtown to St. Claude Avenue to the **Hi-Ho Lounge** on Saturday night. From 11 p.m. until 3 a.m., the lovable (and longtime local favorite) DJ Soul Sister spins a blend of underground disco, rare groove, old school funk, boogie, hip hop and fusion jazz.



PICTURE THIS

City Park is known for its natural beauty and particularly for its majestic oak trees, some of which are between 600 and 900 years old.

BREAKFAST

Beignets

No trip to New Orleans is complete without a beignet, or three. These delightful deep-fried pastries are smothered in powdered sugar and go great with coffee, hot or iced. There's the storied, tourist-filled **Cafe du Monde** in the French Quarter overlooking the Mississippi River, or you can head over to City Park, where the **Morning Call** coffee stand is a local favorite. Grab a bite, dust the sugar off your shirt and then explore the park itself, which is one of the biggest urban parks in the U.S. Attractions include a lagoon, a small lake, and majestic oak trees and greenery—plus, it is also home to the New Orleans Museum of Art; a sculpture garden; an amusement park; and City Putt, a mini-golf course. Throughout the year, it also hosts free concerts, movie screenings, and other community events.

Café du Monde French Quarter
800 DECATUR ST. // (504) 525-4544

Morning Call City Park
56 DREYFOUS DR. // (504) 300-1157

GETTING AROUND

The **STREETCARS** of New Orleans travel two routes: Canal Street, which goes from the French Quarter to the cemeteries that border City Park Avenue in Mid-City; and the St. Charles line, which runs from Carrollton Avenue and brings you up and down St. Charles Avenue.

Another option for transportation is **UBER**, which provides you with a personal driver who is summoned via a smartphone app. The driving service is similar in price point to a cab ride but much more reliable and timely; plus you can track your driver's whereabouts on the GPS.

Another option is to rent a **SCOOTER** from a place like Eagle Rider of New Orleans – thought we don't suggest this if you are imbibing. It's a fun, efficient way to get around the city and parking is much easier in high-traffic areas. Plus the company frequently has deals available on Groupon.



Both Morning Call (left) inside City Park and Parkway Bakery and Poor Boys (right) in the Bayou St. John neighborhood are nostalgic places that continue to serve New Orleans classics, like cafe au lait and fried shrimp po' boys washed down with a cold Barq's root beer.

LUNCH

Parkway Bakery

For lunch, stop by the nearby **Parkway Bakery**, the easygoing, laid-back sandwich spot along Bayou St. John that looks like it hasn't changed in half a decade (it was renovated following Hurricane Katrina, but maintained its down-home, friendly atmosphere). Known for its signature poor boy sandwiches and cold beer, the place is an inviting, classic New Orleans spot that's favored among neighborhood residents and tourists from all over – President Obama even ate there a few years ago on a visit.

538 HAGAN AVE. // (504) 482-3047
PARKWAYPOORBOYS.COM

Sights to See

Kayak rentals are available on Bayou St. John if you're interested in one last hurrah before you hit the road. Visit kayakitiyat.com for more information.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

10 DAYS OF COMEDY

*The burgeoning comedy scene in New Orleans features the **Hell Yes Festival** (hellyesfest.com) Oct. 1-11, featuring local and national comedians, sketch, improvisational theater, standup and film at several live entertainment venues.*

A MAJOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

***Voodoo Music Experience** (worshipthemusic.com) one of the city's largest music festivals, takes place Oct. 30-Nov. 1 in City Park, which provides a picturesque, eerie backdrop for the hundreds of live acts that grace the stages. Headliners this year include Florence+The Machine, Modest Mouse, Ozzy Osbourne fea. Geezer Butler, Jane's Addiction, the Zac Brown Band, and the Cult – not to mention all the local acts.*

A HALLOWEEN PARADE

*On Oct. 24 check out the **Krewe of Boo** (kreweofboo.com) parade, with eye-popping, spooky floats, costumed revelers and masked mad men running amok through the French Quarter.*