



A wood table with a Fleur De Lis, a popular New Orleans symbol. *By Mary Bryant Fleming*

**"You get a taste here in
New Orleans that you
don't get anywhere else in
the country"**

-Regis Philbin

Live with Regis and Kelly

Dining in New Orleans



Camellia Grill

626 S Carrollton Ave
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
504-309-2679
Sunday- Thursday: 8 a.m.-12 a.m.
Friday-Saturday: 8 a.m.-2 a.m.

The restaurant only offers counter service and its staff is usually gregarious. It is well known for its long-serving waiters. The establishment is noted for such casual cuisine as giant omelettes, cheeseburgers, "freezes," and pecan pie heated on the grill.

By wikipedia.org



Cafe Du Monde

800 Decatur Street
70116 New Orleans
504-525-4544
Open 24 hours a day

Cafe Du Monde is a traditional coffee shop. It serves dark roasted Coffee and Chicory, Beignets, White and Chocolate Milk, and fresh squeezed Orange Juice. The coffee is served Black or Au Lait.

By cafedumonde.com



Angelo Brocato

214 N. Carrollton Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70119
504-486-0078
Tuesday-Sunday: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Angelo Brocato Original Italian Ice Cream Parlor has been operated by the Brocato family in New Orleans, Louisiana for over one hundred years, and serves assorted biscotti, torrone, frutta Marturana and many other confections.

By angelobrocatoicecream.com



Jackson Square in New
Orleans' French Quarter
bustles with activity,
including street performers,
paintings, and horse-drawn
carriages
By Mary Bryant Fleming

Southern Charm

New Orleans- A one of a kind experience



A statue of Andrew Jackson
in Jackson square honors
the hero of the Battle of
New Orleans
By Mary Bryant Fleming



A City Like No Other

By Gavin McOwan

I've barely had a spoonful of the spicy Cajun soup before the smiling waitress pulls me to my feet. "Gotta come dance, baby! I got your partner right here," she says, leading me towards an unsuspecting woman. Like most Englishmen, I need a healthy intake of alcohol before joining in with such merriment (it's not even 6pm) but the band is so damn funky my feet start dancing all by themselves.

Our next stop is an acoustic set by indie-folk band Hurray for the Riff Raff at Euclid Records, a shop next to the levee on the corner of Desire Street – immortalised by Tennessee Williams' Streetcar – in Bywater neighbourhood.

The store is packed with rare and affordable vinyl, and young hipsters who have come to hear one of the city's most talked-about new bands. It's so full I can't even see them, but within minutes the soulful bewitching voice of singer-songwriter Alynda Lee Segarra has me close to tears. (And by the end of the week, after I've begged for a ticket to her sold-out show, bought the new CD and the concert poster, I realise I'm smitten.)

As we head to our last gig of the night on Frenchmen Street, the rain is so heavy it feels like we're cycling through a Louisiana swamp – and I'm loving it. We pay the \$5 charge (the first of the evening) and pile into the DBA club to catch the legendary Tremé Brass Band bang out jazz standards. The set is not as fresh as the first two acts we've seen but – like everyone else in this town it seems – man, can they play. By

the end of the night I'm soaked to the skin and already head over heels for New Orleans.

In one night I've seen a large swath of this compact, bikeable city, visiting three neighbourhoods that represent its past, present and future. Tremé was not only the birthplace of jazz but is the oldest African-American



A street performer attracts a crowd of onlookers in the French Quarter.
By Mary Bryant Fleming

neighbourhood in the US, where free people of colour worked and owned property decades before the end of slavery. The Frenchmen Street

Streetcars are an excellent way to get around most of downtown and midtown. By Mary Bryant Fleming



area east of here (not to be confused with the touristy French Quarter) is the jumping musical heart of the city right now. On any night of the week you'll find world-class jazz, blues and funk for \$10 or less at clubs such as Snug Harbor, the Spotted Cat and the Blue Nile – some of the best musicians have weekly residencies.

Further east again, the Bywater is the neighbourhood most synonymous with post-Katrina gentrification.

Of course, there's nothing new about falling in love with New Orleans. Its easy charm and magical mix of cultures have been beguiling visitors almost since the day the French founded it in 1718. But post-Katrina (a phrase that is now part of the lexicon), a new wave of outsiders have been seduced by the city, while New Orleanians, many of whom were forced to live in exile for months or even years, have come to love and appreciate it more than ever – like getting a second chance with a beautiful lover you've taken for granted all those years.

This city has always been a magnet for artists, musicians and writers, but its pull now seems stronger than ever. Thanks to tax breaks the state of Louisiana is now an attractive alternative to Hollywood and some film-makers. Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt (a genuine local hero after pumping millions of dollars of his own money into a rebuilding programme) have a house in the French Quarter.

According to some locals, there is a flipside to this: "I had to leave the Bywater because so many hipsters are too cool to say good morning