

OUT & ABOUT NEW ORLEANS GUIDE

A *Conde Nast Traveler* Reader's Choice Awards 2017 winner, we make sure that you have everything you need to enjoy New Orleans. This resort-style luxury hotel is a hub of authentic jazz, vibrant nightlife and refined southern design and is within walking distance to the Mississippi Riverfront, the Central Business District, and world famous visitor attractions.



TRENDY GAY & LESBIAN FRIENDLY BARS

Bourbon Pub: 801 Bourbon St. 504-529-2107

This popular hot spot is two clubs in one. Downstairs is a premiere video bar with some of the hottest videos while the second floor boasts of a dance club.

Oz: 800 Bourbon St. 504-593-9491

Located across the street from Bourbon Pub, this club is high energy all the time. It is the place to party until the sun comes up.

Good Friends: 740 Dauphine St. 504-566-7191

Laid back atmosphere that is home to the Queens' Head Pub located upstairs. Try the mind eraser for an experience you won't soon forget.

Rawhide: 740 Burgundy St. 504-525-8106

This is the only leather/Levi bar in town. Located two blocks off Bourbon St, this is the place where New Orleans hottest men come to meet the tourists.

Golden Lantern: 1239 Royal St. 504-529-2860

Second oldest gay bar in the city. Official home to Southern Decadence where the parade starts. Sundays are the days for the drag shows.



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RESTAURANTS



Restaurant R'evolution: 777 Bienville St. 504-553-2277

*Located inside Royal Sonesta New Orleans, Chef's John Folse and Rick Tramonto approach to Cajun and Creole cuisine, with an aim to push the boundaries and expectations of dining in Louisiana. One of the best restaurants in the city.

Desire Oyster Bar: 300 Bourbon St. 504-553-2281

*Located inside Royal Sonesta New Orleans, this vibrant eatery serves up some of the best seafood you will ever try. The award winning gumbo is just the start to the Cajun-Creole dished served in this casual bistro.

Doris Metropolitan: 620 Chartres St. 504-267-3500

Upscale chophouse and butchery featuring dry-aged beef served in a modern setting.

Cane & Table: 1113 Decatur St. 504-581-1112

Rum-based cocktails and eclectic small and large plates in environs that evoke Old Havana

SoBou: 310 Chartres St. 504-552-4095

Slick eatery and lounge in the W Hotel with elevated Creole bar food, plus cocktails and self-serve wine.

GW Fins: 808 Bienville St. 504-581-3467 Creative, ever-shifting seafood menu featuring fresh catches in a stylish warehouse space.

Brennan's: 417 Royal St. 504-525-9711 Fine dining landmark famed for Creole cuisine, posh breakfasts and Bananas Foster for dessert.

Bayona: 430 Dauphine St. 504-525-4455

Chef Susan Spicer took an old Creole Cottage and turned it along with its charming courtyard into an inspired spectrum of styles and influences. Using the freshest local ingredients to craft flavorful, balanced yet complex dishes. Easy walk from hotel

Elizabeth's: 601 Gallier St. 504-944-9272 A quick trip to the Bywater area of New Orleans is fun and funky. This down home country classics & busy brunch eatery is perfect for the casual diner.

Café Du Monde: 800 Decatur St. 504-525-4544 Casual restaurant that serves beignets and café au lait 24 hours a day. It is a cannot miss café. No reservations needed.



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EVENTS

Southern Decadence: Since 1972 over 125,000 people from around the world gather to celebrate gay life, music and culture at one of New Orleans' premier annual events over Labor Day weekend.

New Orleans Pride: Recognized by the International Association of Pride Organizers (InterPride) and the fastest growing LGBT event according to GayTravel.com, this celebratory series occurs annually the third week of June and embraces the history and future prosperity of all communities along the entire Gulf Coast region.

Halloween in New Orleans: Halloween weekend has such a fun international reputation for its colorful creative costumes and variety of events, including HNO ("Halloween New Orleans") a fundraiser benefiting Project Lazarus which provides healthcare services to men and woman in New Orleans with HIV/AIDS.

Voodoo Fest: You're going to have a blast at this music festival in City Park happening on Halloween weekend. Amazing music lineup and killer dance party makes this another perfect opportunity to wear costumes, wigs, face paint and tutus.

Drag Brunch at The Country Club: Join the "Southern Barbitchuates" on the first Saturday and third Sunday of every month at The County Club for bottomless mimosas and a memorable brunch. Bring your swimsuit for a leisurely dip in their pool too!

Saints & Sinners Literary Festival: Since 2003 this annual festival occurring mid-May is an opportunity to hear colorful, enlightening literature from the GLBTIQA (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex) community of New Orleans and directly benefits the NO/AIDS Task Force.

Mardi Gras: In New Orleans there are eight gay carnival organizations – Krewe of Amon Ra, Krewe of Armeinius, Krewe of Mwindo, Krewe of Petrinius, Krewe of Queenateenas, Lords of Leather and Mystic Krewe of Satyricon.

Mardi Gras Bourbon Awards: One of "the most famous drag-queen contests in America" for 4 decades is held at the corner of Dumaine and St. Ann Streets. Participants compete in the following categories: Best Drag, Best Leather, Best Group and Best of Show. First, Second and Third place prizes will be awarded in each category.

Gay Easter Weekend: Join the Easter Parade (literally) in your finest seersucker and pastels on Easter Sunday in the French Quarter. The weekend is filled with events like the Gay Easter Egg Hunt, drag brunches, and an Easter bonnet competiton.

To learn more visit <u>www.neworleansonline.com/neworleans/lgbt/</u> Or contact our Concierge Desk at 504.553.2229 | mbienvenu@sonesta.com | jwiegand@sonesta.com



FAST FACTS OUR HOTEL



Location: Located 16 miles from Louis Armstrong International Airport, the hotel is steps from the Central Business District, Convention Center, Royal Street, French Market and Riverwalk Marketplace.

Accommodations: 483 newly appointed guest rooms and 36 suites, some with balconies, all with dramatic views of the French Quarter or courtyard

- The R Club Level, a luxurious space on a private guest room floor, provides an elevated level of service and amenities featuring personalized concierge service, private keyed elevator, and access to an intimate lounge with adjoining terrace
- Complimentary breakfast and evening hors d'oeuvres for R Club guests
- Complimentary high-speed wireless internet access
- Keurig coffee makers and refrigerators

Dining & Entertainment:

- The Jazz Playhouse featuring live jazz 7 nights a week
- Restaurant R'evolution is a cross-cultural fusion of Cajun and Creole flavors from award-winning Chefs John Folse and Rick Tramonto
- Desire Oyster Bar is a casual street-side eatery overlooking Bourbon Street serving fresh Louisiana seafood and New Orleans classics daily
- PJ's Coffee Café offering light fare, specialty coffees and beverages daily
- Le Boozé on Bourbon Street is the perfect place for cocktails and people watching
- Oasis Pool Bar (open seasonally)

Services & Facilities:

- Concierge
- Room service
- 24-hour business center

Recreation:

- 24-hour fitness center
- Outdoor heated swimming pool and Oasis Pool Bar