



New Orleans

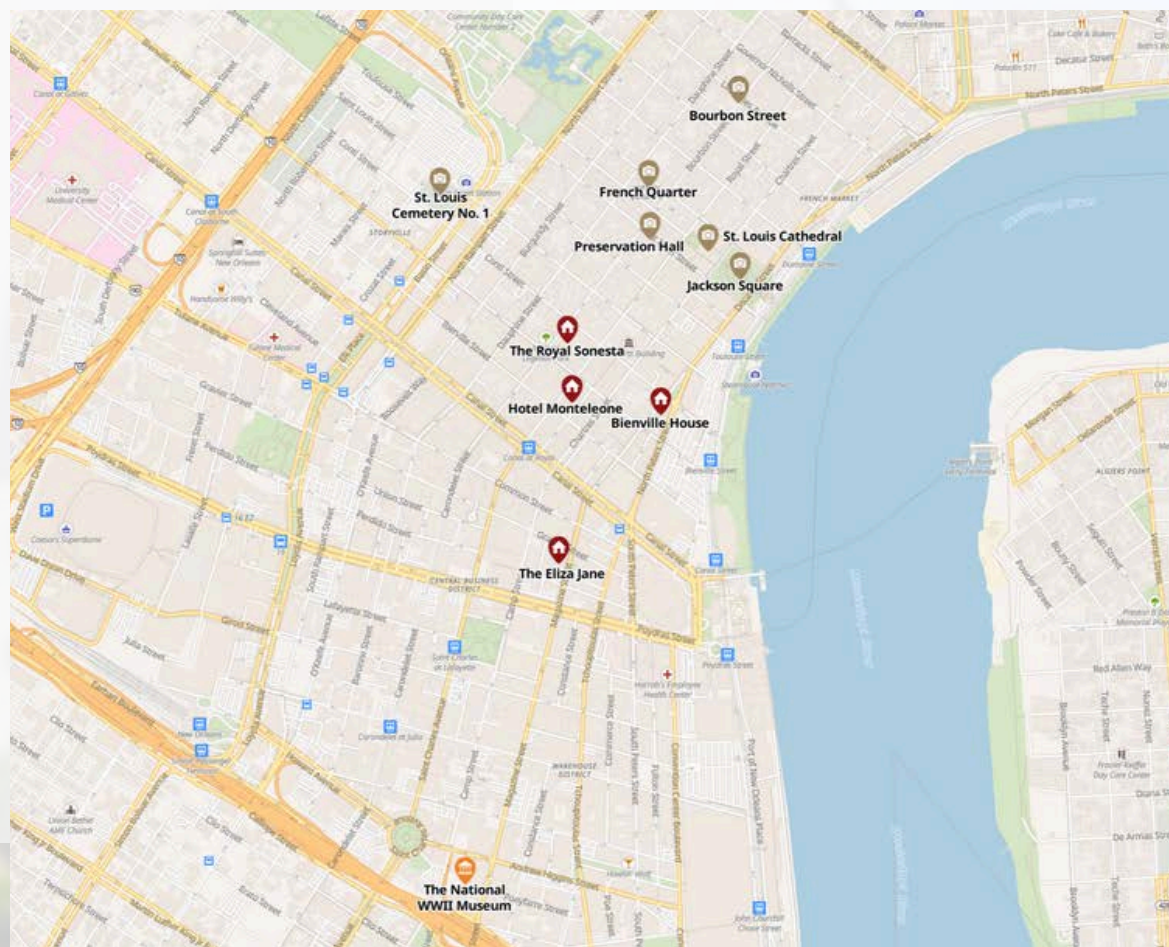
5 days / 4 nights from NZ \$1,599



TRAVEL USA

Ultimate New Orleans

Get swept up in the rhythm, flavour, and soul of New Orleans — where jazz fills the air, history lives on every corner, and every meal tells a story. Our Ultimate New Orleans suggested itinerary blends iconic sights with hidden gems, from the French Quarter's timeless charm and lively Bourbon Street to the bayou's natural beauty. Walk beneath the oaks at Oak Alley Plantation, followed by an exhilarating airboat swamp adventure through the Louisiana wetlands. Cruise the Mississippi River to live jazz, and savour Creole cuisine in landmark restaurants. You'll stroll vibrant neighbourhoods, take a streetcar to the Garden District, and even try your hand at making gumbo in a local cooking class. Whether it's your first visit or a long-awaited return, this 5-day journey captures everything we love about the Big Easy — music, culture, food, and that unmistakable New Orleans magic.



OpenFreeMap © OpenMapTiles Data from OpenStreetMap

French Quarter / Bourbon Street / Frenchman Street / Café du Monde / Jackson Square / St. Louis Cathedral / Vue Orleans / Paddlewheeler Creole Queen Jazz Dinner Cruise / Preservation Hall / Oak Alley Plantation / Airboat Swamp Adventure / St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 Tour / Musical Legends Park / Garden District / New Orleans School of Cooking Class Demo & Meal / National WWII Museum



New Orleans Waterfront

Day 1: Welcome to The Big Easy!

Arrive in New Orleans mid-to-late afternoon and check in to your hotel — we recommend staying in or near the **French Quarter**, where the city's energy, history, and hospitality all come together. After settling in, ease into the evening with a relaxed dinner at **Mr. B's Bistro**, a beloved Creole restaurant known for signature dishes like Barbecued Shrimp and Gumbo Ya Ya. Prefer something a little more tucked away? Try **The Pelican Club**, nestled in a restored townhouse and known for its upscale atmosphere, fresh seafood, and excellent cocktails. After dinner, take a short stroll down **Bourbon Street** to soak in its iconic neon glow, balconies buzzing with energy, and music drifting from classic spots like **Fritzel's Jazz Club** or **Maison Bourbon**.

Then, make your way to **Frenchmen Street** for an authentic taste of New Orleans nightlife — where smaller, more intimate venues like **Snug Harbor** and **The Maison** offer live jazz in true local style. Welcome to the rhythm of the Big Easy!

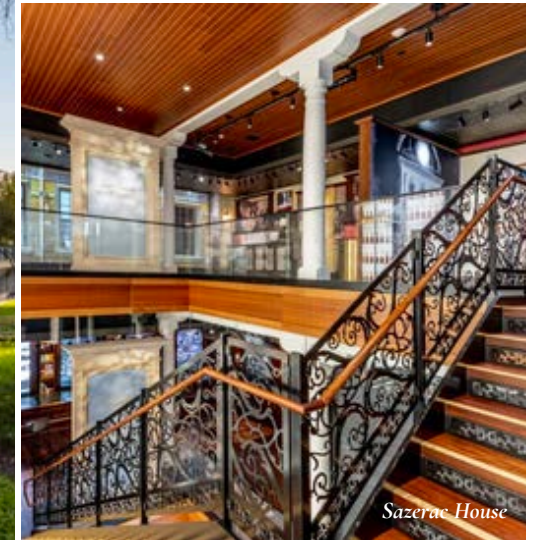
Day 2: French Quarter, History & a Jazz

Dinner River Cruise

Begin your day with coffee and beignets at Café du Monde, then explore the heart of the French Quarter. Wander through Jackson Square, visit the iconic St. Louis Cathedral, and browse local art and street performances. For a deeper dive into history, step inside The Cabildo or Presbytère Museum. Next, head to Vue Orleans for stunning 360° views of the Mississippi River and city skyline — a breathtaking way to see New Orleans from above. Just a short walk away is Sazerac House, an interactive museum celebrating the city's iconic cocktail legacy. Afterward, stroll through the vibrant French Market, full of local crafts, food stalls, and unique souvenirs. In the evening, set out on a memorable sunset jazz dinner cruise aboard the Paddlewheeler Creole Queen. Enjoy a full Creole-style buffet while sailing the Mississippi River, with live jazz performances and breathtaking skyline views from the open promenade deck. Cap the night off at Preservation Hall for an authentic New Orleans jazz experience.



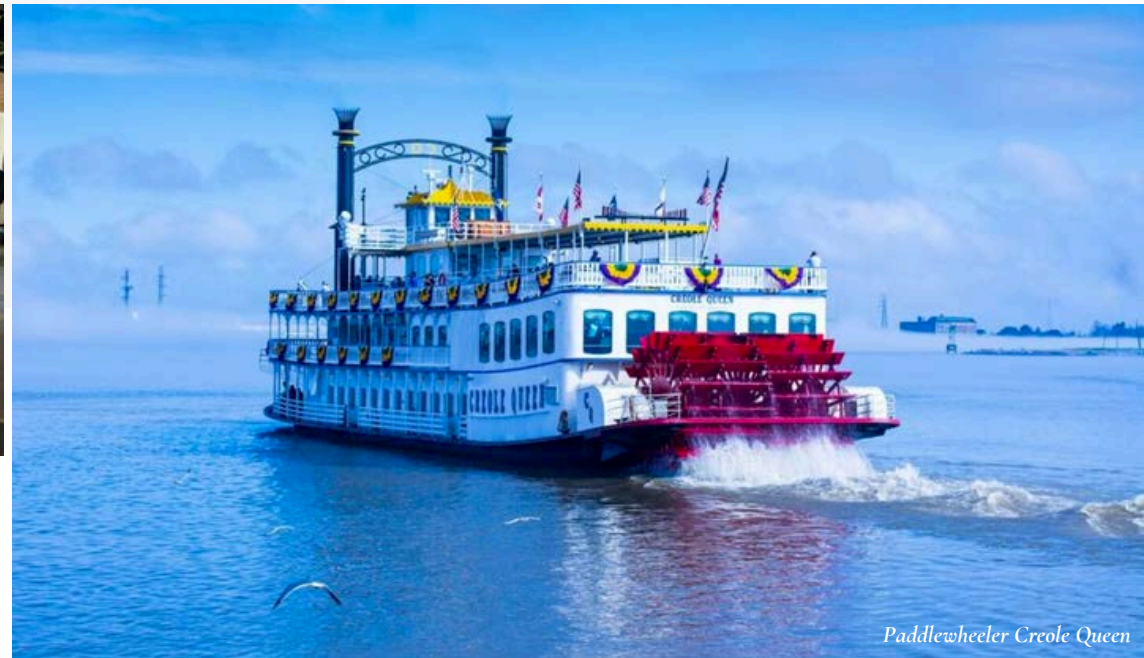
French Quarter, The Cabildo & St Louis Cathedral



Sazerac House



Vue Orleans



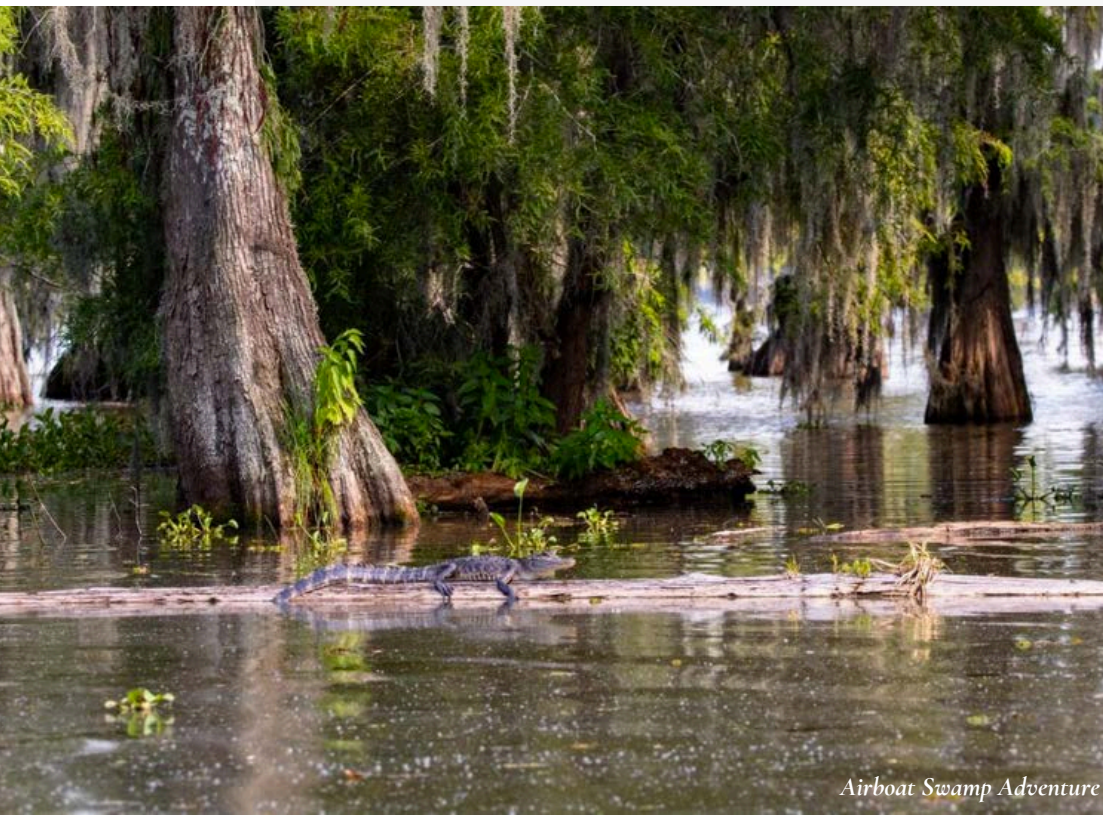
Paddlewheeler Creole Queen



Oak Alley Plantation

Day 3: Oak Alley Plantation & Airboat Swamp Tour

Today, immerse yourself in Louisiana's rich history and untamed natural beauty on a full day guided adventure. Begin with a scenic coach ride across the Mississippi River to the iconic **Oak Alley Plantation**. Wander beneath its breathtaking canopy of 300-year-old oak trees and tour the elegant antebellum mansion. Along the way, gain insight into plantation life, architecture, and the lives of the enslaved people whose stories are central to this historic site. Then, continue your journey into the nearby swamplands for an unforgettable **Airboat Swamp Adventure**. Speed through the winding bayous surrounded by moss-draped cypress trees, and keep an eye out for alligators, birds, and other native wildlife. This exhilarating ride offers a thrilling contrast to the morning's serenity. Return to New Orleans by early evening, with time to enjoy a relaxed dinner. For something local and full of flavour, try **Toups' Meatery** in Mid-City — or enjoy a peaceful stroll along the riverfront as your day in the Big Easy winds down.



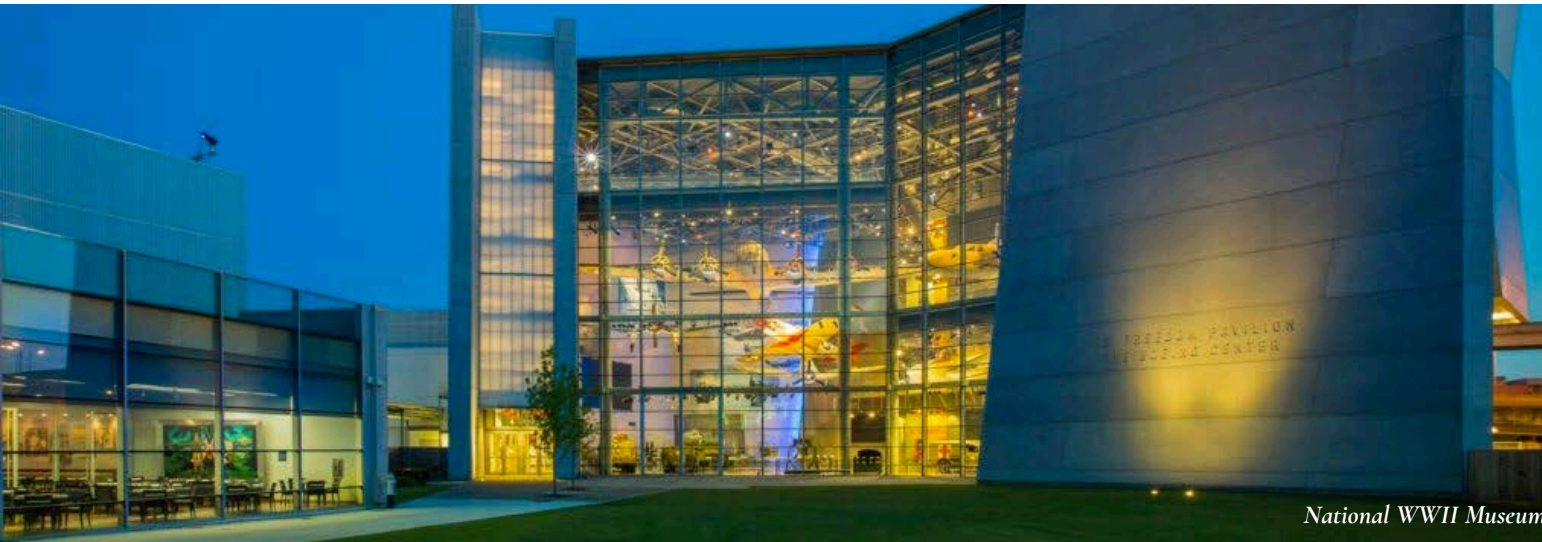
Airboat Swamp Adventure



Day 4: Mysteries of the Dead, Musical Legends, Gardens & Culinary Traditions

Start your day with a fascinating guided walking tour of St. Louis Cemetery No. 1, New Orleans' oldest and most famous resting place. Discover unique above-ground tombs, burial customs, and stories of notable figures, including Voodoo queen Marie Laveau. Next, visit **Musical Legends Park** in the French Quarter, a tribute to New Orleans' rich musical heritage featuring life-sized bronze statues of iconic legends like Louis Armstrong. Afterwards, ride the historic St. Charles Avenue streetcar and explore the elegant Garden District. Wander past grand 19th-century mansions with wrought-iron balconies and lush gardens, and visit nearby Magazine Street, a vibrant hub of unique boutiques, antique shops, art galleries, and cosy cafés. This afternoon, immerse yourself in local flavours at the New Orleans School of Cooking. Expert Cajun and Creole chefs lead lively demonstrations, teaching traditional dishes like gumbo, jambalaya, and pralines, with plenty of tastings to enjoy. Before dinner why not a cocktail at the iconic Carousel Bar, inside the historic Hotel Monteleone.





National WWII Museum

Day 5: A Taste of History and Farewell Flavours

Start your final day with a leisurely breakfast or brunch at the iconic Ruby Slipper Café, just a short 10-minute walk from the National WWII Museum. Indulge in Southern favourites like shrimp and grits or Bananas Foster pancakes. Afterwards, make your way to the museum, where immersive exhibits and powerful artifacts bring the story of World War II to life. Explore standout galleries such as the Campaigns of Courage and Liberation Pavilions, gaining deep insight into key battles, the sacrifices made, and the lasting legacy of the war. If time permits, enjoy a gentle stroll along the scenic Moonwalk Riverfront or meander through the quieter, historic streets of the French Quarter, revisiting favourite spots or picking up last-minute souvenirs. Before you depart, savour one last New Orleans delight — perhaps a muffuletta sandwich from Central Grocery or a praline from Southern Candymakers — a delicious farewell to the Big Easy before flying home or on to your next USA adventure!



French Quarter Architecture

What's Included?

- Return airport transfers
- 4 nights' accommodation at a centrally located hotel
- Vue Orleans Admission
- Paddlewheeler Creole Queen Dinner Jazz Cruise
- Oak Alley Plantation & Large Airboat Swamp Combo Adventure
- New Orleans School of Cooking Demo with Meal
- St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 Walking Tour
- National WWII Museum Admission
- 2-day all-inclusive Go City Pass
- Travel USA Planning Assistance

Pricing:

All of our pricing is based on dynamic rates meaning we will provide you with the best of the day at the time of booking. Our suggested itinerary has been created using fully refundable rates. Final pricing will depend on factors like month of travel, how early you book, availability and whether you choose non-refundable or fully refundable rates.

NZ\$ pricing for our 5 day / 4 night package

- Bienville House (Deluxe King) from \$1,599 - \$1,975 pp
- The Royal Sonesta New Orleans (Deluxe King) from \$1,799 - \$2,250 pp
- The Eliza Jane (Standard King) from \$1,949 - \$2,325 pp
- Hotel Monteleone (Traditional King) from \$2,075 - \$2,599 pp

Terms & Conditions apply - [CLICK HERE](http://www.travelusa.co.nz) or go to www.travelusa.co.nz for more details.

N.B. Accommodation surcharges apply during Mardi Gras celebrations and other major festivals

This is a suggested itinerary based on our recommendations. There are no fixed departure dates or schedules so you can customise the itinerary to suit your personal preferences and needs. Contact us with your proposed dates and we will create a personalised travel package just for you.

