

Haitian Studies Association, 29th Annual Conference

**VISITING NEW ORLEANS, THINGS TO DO AND SEE**

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

**1) FRENCH QUARTER WALKING TOURS**

**Option A-** Grey Line French Quarter Walking Tour

Description: Let your own "local expert" unravel the mysteries of one of America's oldest and most unique living neighborhoods!

Follow in the footsteps of historic figures as you stroll along the Mighty Mississippi, Jackson Square, and down the banquettes (sidewalks) of quaint streets named for saints and sinners from our European past. Learn about the Creoles on this tour through the original city, founded in 1718 by French explorer Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville. See the old Quarter come to life as your guide explains its secrets and helps you understand all it has to offer - architecture, courtyards, gardens, food, music, and art. Tour the oldest building in the Mississippi Valley, the Old Ursuline Convent, constructed by French Colonial engineers under the auspices of the crown and completed in 1753.

Over the centuries, this building has been a convent for the Ursuline Nuns, a school, an archbishop's residence, the archdiocesan central office, and a meeting place for the Louisiana legislature. Included in this tour is St. Mary's Church. Completed in 1848, it has served as a center of worship for the French, Spanish, African American, German, Irish and Italian communities.

Price: \$26/person

Group Rate: Minimum 10 people, \$23.50/person

**Group reservations must be made in advance**

When: Tours depart at 1PM and last for 2 hours

All tours begin and end at the Gray Line "Lighthouse" ticket office at Toulouse St. and the Mississippi River (at the Steamboat Natchez Dock), just one block from Jackson Square in the French Quarter

Contact: Grey Line Tours New Orleans

Leigh 504-569-1481

<http://www.grayline.com/tours/new-orleans/french-quarter-walking-tour-5912> 8/#

**Option B**-Free Tours by Foot- French Quarter Walking Tour

Description: Famous for its beads and beers on Bourbon Street, the reality of the Vieux Carré far surpasses its Mardi-Gras reputation. In a city that dazzles the visitor with its remarkable architecture, the French Quarter is certainly a standout, with Spanish, Caribbean, French and American influences. It's also a district full of characters: from musicians to magicians to voodoo practitioners.

Join Free Tours by Foot on our French Quarter Tour, as we wander the historic streets and alleys of the Old District, passing by the street theater, peeking into historic churches, discovering hidden courtyards, all while entertaining you with stories of authors, artists, priests and pirates. Join us as we uncover the real French Quarter.

Price: This tour is free to take, and you get to decide what, if anything, the tour was worth when it's done. A ***name-your-own-price tour*** is a tour for anyone's budget.

When: 10 am Tours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday (not offered on Wednesday) | 2 pm Tours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, Tours last for 2 hours

Contact: Free Tours by Foot

504-222-2967

2613 Laurel St.

New Orleans, LA 70130

<http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/new-orleans-tours/walking-tours/french-quarter-tour/>

## **2) TREME TOUR- HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS TOURS**

Description: Experience Treme, ancient neighborhood and tremendous source of Creole and African-American culture. Begin your journey from the St. Jude Shrine and see the former site of Storyville, St. Louis Cemetery, and Basin Street Station.

Continue to Louis Armstrong Park and Congo Square, then to St. Augustine's Catholic Church and the Tomb of the Unknown Slave.

**All reservations, group or individual, must be made in advance by phone or e-mail**

Price: \$20/person

Group Rate: Minimum 10 people, \$20/person; 15 people, \$15/person

When: Tour times are arranged upon reservation, Tours last 2 hours

Contact: Historic New Orleans Tours: Treme Tour

504-947-2120

Tour@TourNewOrleans.com

[https://www.tourneworleans.com/treme\\_set.html](https://www.tourneworleans.com/treme_set.html)

### **3) GREY LINE CEMETERY/MARY LAVEAU/VODOU TOUR**

Description: Walk through St. Louis Cemetery #1, the site of the classic movie "Easy Rider," as your professional licensed guide recounts the background of the famous and infamous people who are buried there. Make a wish or cast a spell at the tomb of Marie Laveau - the Voodoo Queen of New Orleans - and discover how she was able to be in two places at once. Listen to the evolution of Voodoo - which is still practiced today - and learn how it became such a factor in the Crescent City.

Learn about our unique above-ground burial customs and the tombs of various "societies." Also find out what "Gris-Gris" means and discover the mysterious ingredients in your souvenir "Gris-Gris" bag.

Price: \$27/person

Group Rate: Minimum 10 people, \$24.25/person

**Group reservations must be made in advance**

When: 9am or 1:30 PM tour departures, Tours last 2 hours

Contact: Grey Line Tours New Orleans

Leigh 504-569-1481

[http://www.grayline.com/tours/new-orleans/cemetery-voodoo-walking-tour-5912\\_10/#](http://www.grayline.com/tours/new-orleans/cemetery-voodoo-walking-tour-5912_10/#)

#### **4) SWAMP TOUR- CAJUN ENCOUNTERS**

Description: See the wildlife up close and personal as you explore narrow swamps that only our 22-passenger boats are built to navigate. Get the chance to see alligators, raccoons, wild boar, exotic birds, turtles, and many more creatures that call the swamp home. Hear all about the Louisiana bayou as your captain tells you all about the different types of flora and fauna that surround you.

Price: \$56/person (includes transportation to and from Honey Island Swamp, located 45 min. east of New Orleans); \$29/person to drive yourself.

When: Daily Pick-ups in the French Quarter at 8am, 10:15am, 1:15pm, and 3:30pm.

Contact: Cajun Encounters Tour Company

504-834-1770

941 Decatur St, New Orleans, LA 70116

<http://cajunencounters.com/tours/swamp/>

#### **5) WHITNEY PLANTATION TOUR**

**Option A (includes transportation)-** Grey Line Whitney Plantation Tour

Description: In 2014, the Whitney Plantation opened its doors to the public for the first time in its 262 year history as the only plantation museum in Louisiana with a focus on slavery. Through museum exhibits, memorial artwork, restored buildings and hundreds of first-person slave narratives, visitors to Whitney will gain a unique perspective on the enslaved people who lived and worked here.

The early owners of Habitation Haydel, later known as The Whitney Plantation, became wealthy producing indigo before the plantation transitioned to sugar in the early 1800's. Whitney is also significant because of the number of its historic outbuildings which were

added to the site over the years, thus providing a unique perspective on the evolution of the Louisiana working plantation.

As a site of memory and consciousness, the Whitney Plantation Museum is meant to pay homage to all slaves on the plantation itself and to all of those who lived elsewhere in the United States.

Price: \$63/person (includes transportation to Whitney Plantation)

Group Rate: Minimum 10 people, \$56.75 (including transportation)

**Group reservations must be made in advance**

When: 12pm Departure, Tours last 5 hours

Tour departs from the Gray Line "Lighthouse" ticket office at Toulouse St. and the Mississippi River (at the Steamboat Natchez Dock), just one block from Jackson Square in the French Quarter.

Contact: Grey Line Tours New Orleans

Leigh 504-569-1481

[http://www.grayline.com/tours/new-orleans/whitney-plantation-tour-5912\\_36/#](http://www.grayline.com/tours/new-orleans/whitney-plantation-tour-5912_36/#)

**Option B (does not include transportation to Whitney Plantation)-** Whitney Plantation Tours

Description: In 2014, the Whitney Plantation opened its doors to the public for the first time in its 262 year history as the only plantation museum in Louisiana with a focus on slavery. Through museum exhibits, memorial artwork, restored buildings and hundreds of first-person slave narratives, visitors to Whitney will gain a unique perspective on the enslaved people who lived and worked here.

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Price: \$22/person (does not include transportation to Whitney Plantation)

**Individual Reservations can be made online up to 12 hours in advance**

Group Rate: Minimum 21 people, \$15/person

**Group Reservations must be made 1 month in advance**

When: Tours are given every hour between 10am and 3pm

Contact: Whitney Plantation

(225) 265-3300

5099 LA-18, Edgard, LA 70049

<http://whitneyplantation.com>

**\*More information on things to do in New Orleans, including restaurants, tours, and museums, can be found at the New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau at <http://www.neworleanscvb.com> or by calling 800-672-6124.**

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