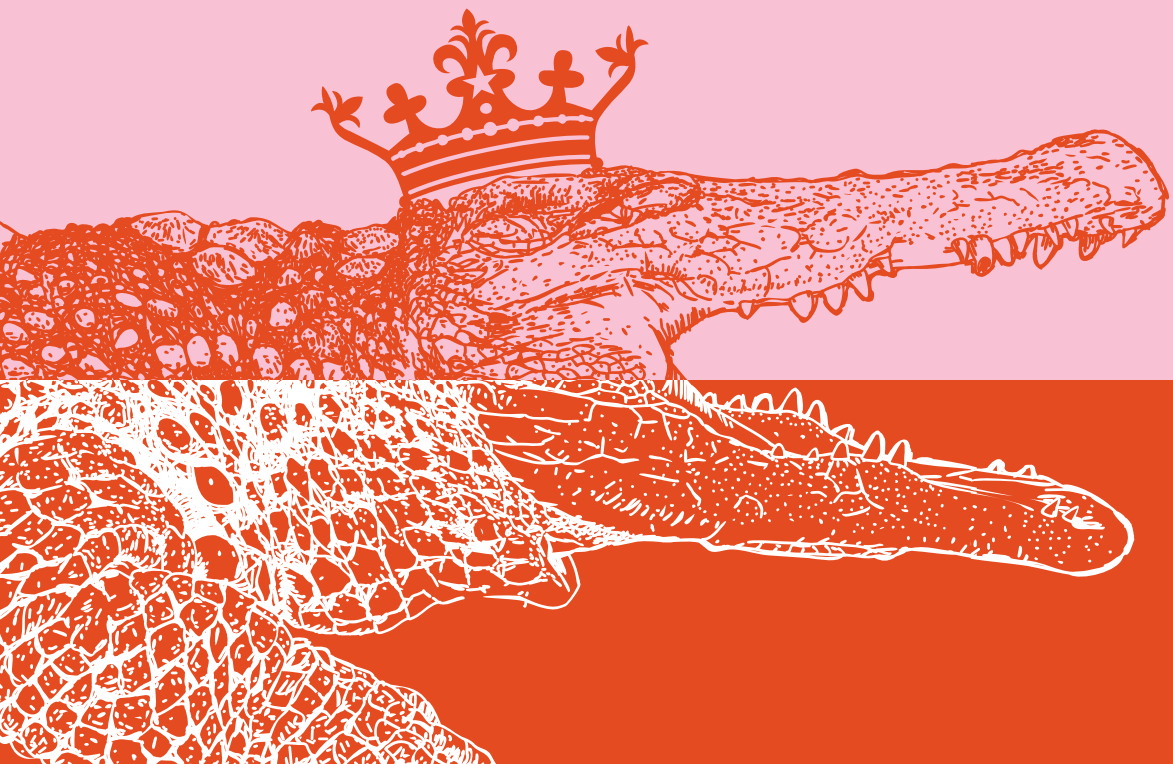


New Orleans



NOVEMBER

2017

AFAR
EXPERIENCES



Our sincere thanks to **Alexa Pulitzer**—whose creativity inspired our Experience artwork—for graciously allowing us to reinterpret themes from her unique and charming animal images.

Since I first started coming to New Orleans, my love for this remarkable city has continued to deepen. There is no place anywhere quite like New Orleans, and the experiences I've had here are like no other. New Orleans offers something that isn't easily found in other cities—a deeply entrenched passionate culture, one that's built on stories and tradition, hope and resilience, and is celebrated through music, food and a spirited community of soulful people.

It's incredibly unique, seeming foreign and exotic yet feeling like home at the same time. Over the next couple of days, you'll meet some incredible characters—from award winning chefs and brilliant writers to historians, geographers, and cultural experts that can't wait to share their passion for New Orleans with you. And we're pretty sure you'll fall in love too.

We're so looking forward to seeing you this week to share in great conversation, amazing food and lots of laughs.

Laissez les bon temps rouler!

With love,

JILL GREENWOOD / Director, AFAR Experiences

IT WAS BLANCHE
DUBOIS AND JACK
ROSE ON THE VESPER
WINDING THROUGH
THE VIEUX CARRÉ
THEY WERE TO
MEET



#afarnola

itinerary / laissez les bon temps rouler!

5 PM

Depart lobby
Windsor Court hotel

5:30 PM - 7:15 PM

Welcome Reception at
Preservation Hall

Meet fellow travelers and the AFAR team over a Sazerac at this iconic venue, and hear jazz from the legendary **Preservation Hall Jazz Band**.

7:45 PM - 10:30 PM



Opening Dinner

Dinner by award winning chef **Nina Compton**, music by **Tom McDermott Trio**, and a mini pop-up shop featuring some faves of our gracious hosts, **Sara** and **Paul Costello**.

WEDNESDAY



8:45 AM

Depart lobby
Windsor Court hotel—
ON FOOT

9 AM - 11 AM

Speaker Session I: New Orleans Past & Present

Historical geographer **Richard Campanella** opens our program with a keynote to help give context to the city, from its rich and complex history to present day prominence.



Speaker Session II: The Future of the Waterways

Author, historian and policy maker, **John Barry** talks about coastal land loss and environmental devastation caused by the oil companies, and the ongoing lawsuits against them.

11:30 AM - 1 PM

Son of a Saint Picnic Lunch

Relax with friends at a casual picnic lunch in City Park, along with some of the boys from the **Son of a Saint** mentorship program.

1 PM - 3 PM

Breakout Activities Day One

Small-group breakout activities give you the chance to spend one-on-one time with local characters, exploring hidden corners of their beloved city.

See pgs 6-7 for descriptions

3 PM - 5:30 PM

Free Time

5:30 PM

Depart lobby
Windsor Court hotel

6 PM - 10 PM

Cocktails, Dinner, DANCING!

On the shores of Lake Pontchartrain, enjoy cocktails on a PT boat, followed by an amazing spread by star **Chef Stephen Stryjewski**. Then get on the dance floor — R+B phenom **Jon Cleary** is in the house!



10:30 AM

Depart lobby
Windsor Court hotel

10:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Speaker Session: South of the South

Learn the fascinating history of the calas—a Creole rice fritter with a storied past—from renowned culinary experts **Dr. Jessica Harris**, **Poppy Tooker**, and **Lolis Elie**.

1 PM - 2:30 PM

Breakout Activities Day Two

Small-group breakout activities give you the chance to spend one-on-one time with local characters, exploring hidden corners of their beloved city.

See pgs 6-7 for descriptions

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Free Time

4:30 PM / SHARP

Depart lobby
Windsor Court hotel

5 PM - 6:30 PM

Speaker Session: Hurricanes, Hand Grenades, Shark Attacks: The Geography of Drinking in New Orleans

Richard Campanella, **Wayne Curtis**, **Rien Fertel**, and **Brett Martin** lead a fun-filled discussion about the charm and history of Bourbon Street's notorious libations.

7 PM - 11 PM

Farewell Party

New Orleans "It Girl" **Alexa Pulitzer** hosts a final celebration with food from acclaimed chef **Michael Gulotta** and entertainment from **Roots of Music**, the legendary clarinetist **Dr. Michael White**, and burlesque diva **Trixie Minx**.



breakout activities / thursday & friday

The Landscape of Art I

New Orleans is visually rich, with exotic sub tropical gardens, one of the largest urban public sculpture collections in America, three centuries of architectural gems, and homes filled with eclectic art collections. Stops on this Art + Gardens tour with arts maven **Jeanne Nathan** include the worldly City Park sculpture garden; an historic and contemporary Louisiana collection in a Creole cottage; a South East Asian inspired home and garden; and a riverfront studio in a classic Louisiana bayou setting; and the Make it Right contemporary architecture village.

A Walk Down Bayou Road

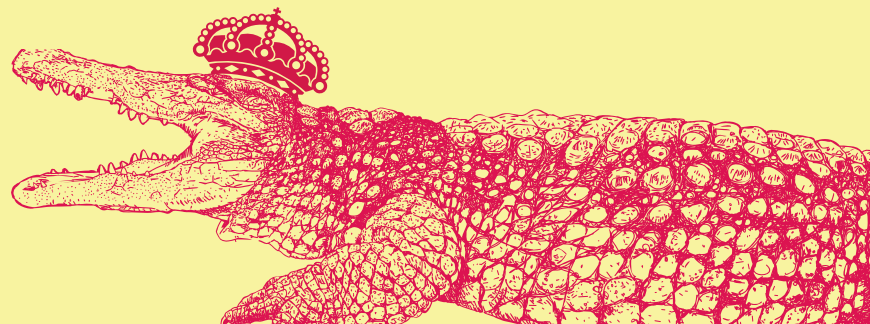
Join geographer **Richard Campanella** for a walk along the route of an important Native American portage which led directly to the French decision to establish New Orleans at what is now the French Quarter. Traverse historic neighborhoods in the 6th and 7th wards, including the Faubourg Tremé and magnificent Esplanade Avenue, and through the entire French Quarter with architecture dating back to French and Spanish colonial times.

Bike the Streets I: Mid-City, Bywater & the Marigny

Local writer and NOLA expert **Wayne Curtis** leads a bike ride to two of the city's newest linear parks—the Lafitte Greenway and Crescent Park, along with detours through Louis Armstrong Park and the Bywater and Marigny neighborhoods, with a traverse of the historic French Quarter.

Grand Dames of the French Quarter

Join historian **Rien Fertel** for a backstage tour of New Orleans's most elegant and historic restaurants including Brennan's, a newly remodeled and re-imagined capital of Creole dining. Meet the legendary team at Antoine's, the nation's oldest family run restaurant, celebrating its 177th birthday this year, and stop by Tujague's, a French Market favorite since 1856, and the original home of brunch, to enjoy a cocktail at the iconic stand-up bar.



Nikon Garden District Photo Walk

Dive into the visual riches of New Orleans' distinctive architecture, history and natural beauty. Photographer **Pableaux Johnson** will lead you through the lush Garden District, one of the city's most picturesque neighborhoods. Explore the photographic possibilities of the neighborhood—from the stately Victorian mansions to century-old live oak trees and visit the distinctive above-ground crypts of Lafayette Cemetery No. 1. See the city through the lens of a Nikon camera, Afar's photo partner.

Downtown New Orleans, From End to End

Revered geographer **Richard Campanella** takes you across what were once some of the most diverse and interesting neighborhoods in New Orleans, including Louis Armstrong's old neighborhood, Chinatown, the "back of town," and present-day City Hall. Visit the former Cotton District, "the Wall Street of New Orleans," Newspaper Row, and sites associated with the slave trade.

The Landscape of Art II

Jeanne Nathan continues the Art + Gardens tour where you'll see even more NOLA gems, including: the monumental works of southern narrative artist Keith Duncan in a repurposed school building; the arts-rich homes and gardens in the lush Garden District and Carrollton; a private sculpture garden in St. Rose; and a final stop in the French Quarter at a prize winning sustainable green garden

Bike the Streets II: Uptown, Garden District, Irish Channel

Wayne Curtis starts this ride with a lunch-burning, 20-minute ride uptown to Audubon Park. From here, take your time winding back downriver through the Garden District, the Irish Channel, and the Central Business District, touring some of the city's leafiest, most iconic neighborhoods.



entertainment / let's dance!

Evan Christopher combines virtuosity, immaculate taste, and enthusiasm with a commitment to exploring the full range of possibilities in the New Orleans clarinet tradition. His highly personal brand of "contemporary, early jazz" strives to extend the legacies of early Creole clarinetists such as Sidney Bechet, Barney Bigard and Omer Simeon.

Jon Cleary's love and affinity for New Orleans music goes back to the rural British village of Cranbrook, Kent, where he was raised in a musical family. As soon as he was old enough to leave school in 1980 Cleary took off for the Crescent City. After years as Bonnie Raitt's pianist, Cleary struck out on his own, and won a Grammy Award for Best Regional Roots Music Album on 2015.

Tom McDermott is one of New Orleans' premiere piano players and composers. Tom is known for his eclecticism, and is just about the only New Orleans pianist to stretch from the mid-19th-century music of Louis Moreau Gottschalk to the funky New Orleans piano today.

The lovely and delightful **Trixie Minx** is New Orleans' own Burlesque Queen, and a leader in the preservation and innovation of the art of tease. As a performer, she is best known for her classic yet playful style of dance, and is recognized as the premiere burlesque producer in town. Trixie also proudly works with New Orleans Musicians Clinic as an advocate for affordable performer healthcare.

Preservation Hall Jazz Band is named after the legendary venue where the city's great musicians came to play: Preservation Hall, located in the heart of the French Quarter. Known for performing traditional New Orleans-style jazz, the band has been comprised many notable musicians since the hall's beginning in the sixties: Louis Nelson, Kid Thomas Valentine, and Sweet Emma Barrett, to name a few. Vocalist and trumpeter **Wendell Brunious** will lead the performance during our opening night welcome reception.

Roots of Music is an after school program for middle school students founded in 2007 by drummer Derrick Tabb of the Rebirth Brass Band. The Roots of Music empowers the youth of New Orleans through music education, academic support, and mentorship while preserving and promoting the unique musical and cultural heritage of our city.

Dr. Michael White has been instrumental in keeping alive the New Orleans jazz tradition of his ancestors, some of whom were among the earliest jazz musicians. In addition to touring worldwide with his own Original Liberty Jazz Band at major concert halls, he is widely acknowledged as an expert in the field of traditional New Orleans jazz, and is a professor of Spanish and African American Music at Xavier University in New Orleans.

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featured locals / our speakers & hosts

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John Barry [A] John M. Barry is a prize-winning and *New York Times* best-selling author. In 2005 the New York Public Library named his book *Rising Tide* one of the 50 best books in the preceding 50 years, including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. After Hurricane Katrina, the Louisiana congressional delegation asked him to chair a bipartisan working group on flood protection, and from 2007 until October 2013 he served on the levee board responsible for protecting most of metropolitan New Orleans, and on the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, which is responsible for the state's hurricane protection.

Photo courtesy of Ken Goldstein

Wendell Brunious [B] is a legendary jazzman with deep roots in the Seventh Ward's close-knit Creole community. His 40-year career has taken him around the world and he has fronted the Preservation Hall Jazz Band for 23 years, still performing at its namesake French Quarter venue.

Richard Campanella [C] is lauded for his unparalleled knowledge of New Orleans. A geographer with the Tulane School of Architecture and author of over 150 articles and nine critically acclaimed books on the city, Richard is happy to share his insight across all media platforms and was voted New Orleans' "Most Informative Twitter Account" in 2014.

Photo courtesy of Paula Burch-Celentano of Tulane University

Compère Lapin Chef/Owner **Nina Compton** [D] began her professional journey at Daniel in New York City, working and continuing her culinary education alongside world renowned chef/ restaurateur Daniel Boulud and his team. Nina opened her first solo restaurant, Compère Lapin in 2015 and within a very short time, she was named *Food and Wine's* Best New Chef 2017 as well as a James Beard Finalist for *Best Chef South*.

Jeremy Cooker [E] leads a small, talented team of marketing, development, and design professionals at New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corp. (NOTMC), where they promote and position New Orleans as one of the top destinations in the world. His love for New Orleans culture, food, music, and people is unmatched and he's thrilled y'all are here to enjoy it all for yourselves

See pg 12 for Featured Locals pictures

Paul Costello [F], a lifestyle photographer known for imagery that captures the beauty of everyday moments, has a long list of commercial and editorial clients that includes Kate Spade, *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times* and *Architectural Digest* to name a few! Paul has shot several books including *The Big Book of Chic*, *Julia Reed's South*, and *One Man's Folly: The Exceptional Houses of Furlow Gatewood*.

Sara Ruffin Costello [G] a veteran of the magazine publishing world (*Domino*, *Glamour*, *WSJ*) is a freelance journalist covering art, food, travel, and fashion for various publications. Costello has written three books: *Domino Book of Decorating*, *Jeffrey Bilhuber American Master*, and the newest release from Rizzoli, *About Decorating: The Remarkable Rooms of Richard Keith Langham*. Costello and her family live in the Garden District in New Orleans where her decorating and dress design headquarters are located.

Wayne Curtis [H] is a contributing editor at *The Atlantic* magazine and a freelance journalist. He's written about travel, architecture, and cocktail culture for publications such as *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Smithsonian*, and *Saveur*. He's the author of *And a Bottle of Rum: A History of the New World in Ten Cocktails*, and *The Last Great Walk*, about an elderly man's New York to San Francisco walk in 1909, and why it matters today. He lives in New Orleans and Grand Lake Stream, Maine.

Thomas Czekanski [I] is the Senior Curator and Restorations Manager of the National WWII Museum, the top-rated tourist destination in New Orleans, which tells the story of why the war was fought, how it was won, and what it means today. Over the last 15 years, Tom has supervised the growth of the museum's collections and is particularly fond of the armored vehicle collection, which he operates on a regular basis.

Photo courtesy of Jeff Johnston

Lolis Eric Elie [J] is a New Orleans native who chronicles the food, history, and culture of the city. A former columnist for *The Times-Picayune*, Lolis has written for the HBO series *Treme* and published two books, *Smokestack Lightning: Adventures in the Heart of Barbecue Country* and *Treme: Stories and Recipes from the Heart of New Orleans*. The PBS documentary he co-produced with Dawn Logsdon, *Faubourg Treme: The Untold Story of Black New Orleans*, premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Rien Fertel [K] is a Louisiana-born and -based writer, historian, and teacher, who grew up washing dishes and bussing tables in his family's chain of restaurants. He's the author of two books, *Imagining the Creole City*, a literary history of New Orleans, and *The One True Barbecue*, a travelogue/personal reflection on race, labor, and foodways in the Deep South.



[D]



[J]



[C]



[L]



[O]



[V]



[T]



[S]



[H]



[G]



[E]



[K]



[I]



[N]



[M]



[R]

[U]



featured locals / our speakers & hosts

Named one of *Food & Wine's* 2016 "Best New Chefs in America"

Michael Gulotta [L] is Chef/Co-owner of Maypop and MOPHO in New Orleans. A former Chef de Cuisine of John Besh's Restaurant August and former contestant on *Iron Chef Gauntlet*, he is revered for his signature Southeast Asian-meets-Southern Louisiana cuisine. Gulotta remains deeply connected to his city and home, working with farmers, fishermen and foragers to create sustainable restaurants.

Dr. Jessica Harris [M] is a culinary historian and considered one of the preeminent scholars of the food of the African Diaspora, authoring 12 cookbooks on the subject. She lectures internationally and holds a PhD from NYU. Her articles have appeared in *Vogue*, *Food & Wine*, *Essence*, and *The New Yorker*, and she's been profiled in *The New York Times*. Dr. Harris has been inducted into the James Beard *Who's Who in Food and Beverage in America*, and recently helped the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture to conceptualize its cafeteria.

Photo courtesy of John Pinderhughes

Pableaux Johnson [N] is a New Orleans-based photographer, journalist, and author of three books on Louisiana food culture whose writing and photography appears regularly in *The New York Times* and *Garden & Gun*. He has pronounced weaknesses for fine bourbon whiskey, funky sousaphones, raw oysters, coconut cream pie, and talking dog jokes. Pableaux is currently touring the US with his food/travel project the *Red Beans Road Show*.

Bivian (Sonny) Lee III [O] is the Founder/President of Son of a Saint, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of fatherless young males through mentorship, emotional support, constructive experiences and positive peer-to-peer relationships. Son of the late New Orleans Saints defensive back Bivian Lee, Sonny is the former chief aide to New Orleans Saints owner Tom Benson and the recipient of numerous awards for his non-profit work.

Brett Martin [P] is a Correspondent and Chief Food Critic for *GQ Magazine*, a two-time James Beard Award winner and a six-time selectee of the annual *Best Food Writing* anthology. His work has appeared in *Vanity Fair*, *Bon Appetit*, *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*, among others, and on public radio's *This American Life*.

Jeanne Nathan [Q] is Executive Director of the non-profit Creative Alliance of New Orleans, representing artists, designers, and producers. As creative industries are important for economic growth, Jeanne established the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Arts and Entertainment, and co-founded the Contemporary Arts Center with Robert Tannen, producing cultural events that have helped build the warehouse arts district. Most recently she has developed Creative Spaces in underserved neighborhoods of New Orleans to showcase regional artists and creative producers.

Alexa Pulitzer [R] is highly sought out for her custom stationery and private label collections, inspired by native New Orleans culture. For over 20 years, her company has become one of New Orleans' proudest exports. Always seeking to give back, Alexa currently serves as a goodwill ambassador to the city and offered her services, pro bono, to rebrand the Office of Recovery & Development. Alexa proudly designed the logo for the New Orleans 300th Anniversary celebration in 2018.

Mark C. Romig [S] is the President and CEO of the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation (NOTMC), the city's official leisure travel promotion agency, and the President and CEO of the 2018 NOLA Foundation, the support arm for the city's 2018 Tricentennial Commission. Always striving to give back to his hometown, Mark is also involved in numerous charitable endeavors, including the Emeril Lagasse Foundation and the Fore!Kids Foundation, to name a few. You may even recognize Mark's voice—he's currently the stadium announcer for the New Orleans Saints.

Matt Sakakeeny [T] is well versed in music, race, and power in New Orleans and brings an anthropological perspective to sound studies. As Associate Professor of Music at Tulane University and board member and proud supporter of Roots of Music, Matt strives to extend his musical expertise to the city's youth through education and mentorship. Matt is also a community activist, the author of numerous articles and the book *Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans*, and the bandleader and guitarist of Los Po-Boy-Citos.

Winner of the 2011 James Beard Foundation *Best Chef South*, **Stephen Stryjewski** [U] is Chef/Partner of New Orleans' award winning restaurants Cochon, Cochon Butcher, and Pêche Seafood Grill. In 2014, Pêche Seafood Grill won the James Beard Foundation *Best New Restaurant* award, and Cochon was recently named one of the 20 most important restaurants in America by *Bon Appétit*. In 2015, Stryjewski and his business partner Chef Donald Link created the Link Stryjewski Foundation to address the persistent cycle of violence and poverty, as well as the lack of quality education and job training opportunities available to young people in New Orleans.

Poppy Tooker [V] is passionate about food and the people who bring it to the table. A celebrated culinary teacher (*Food & Wine* praised her "fascinating culinary wisdom") and award-winning author (*New Orleans Magazine* named *The Crescent City Farmers Market Cookbook* "Cookbook of the Year"), Poppy somehow finds time to host a weekly NPR-affiliated radio show, *Louisiana Eats!* Poppy has also been instrumental in reviving endangered foods and food traditions in NOLA and is celebrated for her work reviving restaurants and food providers following Hurricane Katrina.

See pg 13 for Featured Locals pictures

credits / our destination partners

New Orleans



WINDSOR COURT HOTEL



At the heart of the image™

AFAR Experiences

Jill Greenwood, *Director*
Samantha Juda, *Registrar*

Onsite Production Team

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Zach Lawson
Ivy Mabijs
Tara Wadkins

Student Volunteers

Abby Dolan
Nick Dorsey
Montana Pinell
Ragan Digirolamo
Ezra Isaacson

Video / Photography

Paul Costello, *Videographer*
Amy Jett, *Photographer*

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Jeremy Cooker
Wayne Curtis
Lolis Eric Elie
Alisha Farmer
Pableaux Johnson
Alexa Pulitzer and Seth Levine
Mark Romig
Matt Sakakeeny
Kristian Sonnier
Emery Van Hook

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