

**New Orleans fun fact:**

The first Mardi Gras celebrated in the United States actually took place in Mobile, Alabama, in 1703—not New Orleans.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

New Orleans is often referred to as America’s Most Haunted City.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

It snows every Christmas in New Orleans on Fulton Street.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Most New Orleans street names are French and Spanish. Architecture is uniquely Creole.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Opera was first performed in the United States in New Orleans in 1796.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Travel + Leisure Magazine ranked New Orleans as one of the top 10 cities in the United States and Canada in 2010.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Hungry? Indulge in some of New Orleans’ most popular goodies: muffulettas, red beans and rice, po’boys or gumbo.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Tabasco, a Louisiana pepper sauce bottled on Avery Island by the McIlhenny Company, holds the second oldest food trademark in the U.S. Patent Office.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Poker and craps were both invented in New Orleans.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

The word jazz means “energetic or vigorous.”

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Mardi Gras, or Carnival, begins on the Feast of the Epiphany, also known as Twelfth Night.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Jazz, which originated in New Orleans, gave birth to the Blues and Rock ’n Roll.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

When states had their own currency, the Louisiana Dix (French for ten) was a favored currency for trade. English speakers called them Dixies and coined the term Dixieland.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Beignets are a popular sweet treat in New Orleans made from deep-fried dough sprinkled with confectioner’s sugar.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Want to learn about the history of voodoo? Visit the New Orleans Historic Voodoo Museum on Dumaine Street in the heart of the French Quarter.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

There are 20 historic districts on the National Register in New Orleans, more than any other city in the United States.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

Hear reference to Satchmo? That’s Louis Armstrong—famous New Orleans jazz trumpeter.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

The traditional colors of Mardi Gras are purple (symbolic of justice), green (faith) and gold (power).

**New Orleans fun fact:**

There are 42 cemeteries in the metropolitan New Orleans area. Most tombs are above ground due to the high water table.

**New Orleans fun fact:**

The now-famous Hurricane drink was created at Pat O’Brien’s Bar in the 1940s.