Uptown & Riverbend

UPTOWN | RIVERBEND

Neighborhood Top Five

 Savoring a blue-cheese smothered steak and a slice of alligator-sausage cheesecake at Jacques-Imo's Café (p138) before catching the Rebirth Brass Band next door at the Maple Leaf Bar (p141). 2 Strolling beneath live oaks in Audubon Park then ogling alligators, foxes and swamp monsters in the **Audubon Zoo** (p132).

3 Shopping for eyecatching pottery, housewares and art on bustling Magazine Street (p142). Dining and imbibing at locally owned eateries on ever-so-hot Freret Street (p138).

5 Learning about art, jazz and African American history on the scenic campus of **Tulane University** (p133).



Explore Uptown & Riverbend

If you've only got one day, check out the Audubon Zoo in the morning. Magazine St runs past the zoo, so after your visit with the elephants and giraffes, spend the rest of the day exploring the shops and art galleries that line this busy thoroughfare. Enjoy dinner on Freret St, located above St Charles, then catch a band or grab drinks at a local dive.

If you've got another day, ride the St Charles Ave streetcar to Tulane for a bit of wandering. Continue into Riverbend to check out the shops and restaurants off S Carrollton Ave, particularly along Maple St and Oak St. For dinner, take your own po'boy challenge, sampling different versions from some of the most famous po'boy shops in the city and finding your favorite.

Maps of New Orleans rarely agree on the area's extents, but we'll say Uptown includes everything west of Louisiana Ave, between Magnolia and the river, including the universities and Audubon Park. St Charles Ave, Magazine and Tchoupitoulas Sts are the main routes that more or less follow the contours of the river. The Riverbend is the area above the campuses and Audubon Park. Where St Charles Ave meets S Carrollton Ave is the nexus of the area.

Local Life

Exercising Lush Audubon Park (132), with its 100-year-old live oaks and paved jogging trail, is beloved by runners, walkers and cyclists.

Shopping Magazine St lures the masses with indie shops, galleries and, yes, Whole Foods (p136), while boutiques and thrift stores alike draw students to Riverbend.

→**Dive bars** Spending a blurry evening at grungy but loveable dives, from Ms Mae's (p140) to Snake & Jakes (p140), is part of what it means to be a New Orleanian.

Getting There & Away

Bus Bus 11 runs along Magazine St from Canal St to Audubon Park. Pick it up at the corner of Canal and Magazine Sts in front of the Sheraton Hotel.
Streetcar The St Charles Ave streetcar travels through the CBD, the Garden District and into Uptown.
Car Metered parking (\$1.50 per hour) is required along much of Magazine St between 8am and 6pm Monday through Saturday. Look for free parking on side streets.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Magazine St stretches from downtown to Audubon Park, covering 4 miles in the Garden District and Uptown. To get a handle on its shops, galleries and restaurants before your trip, order or download the block-by-block guide published by the **Magazine St Merchants Association** (II)342-4435; www.magazine street.com). You can also pick it up at many member stores. Visit the website for a listing of upcoming events.

Best Places to Eat

- Jacques-Imo's Café (p138)
- ➡ Gautreau's (p137)
- Clancy's (p137)
- ➡ Patois (p137)
- Boucherie (p137)
- Domilise's (p134)
 For reviews, see p134 I

Best Places to Drink

- ➡ St Joe's (p139)
- Columns Hotel (p139)
- Bouligny Tavern (p140)
- Delachaise (p136)
- Snake & Jakes (p140)
 For reviews, see p139

Best Places to Shop

- Potsalot (p142)
- Hazelnut (p142)
- Cole Pratt Gallery (p142)
- Crescent City Comics (p142)
- Dirty Coast (p142)
 - For reviews, see p142