

# New Orleans Offers Visitors Vast Array

Exciting history, excellent dining, fabulous night life and sight seeing galore will all present themselves to the golf course superintendent, his wife and guests in New Orleans, when they attend the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 46th Annual International Turfgrass Conference and Show, February 16-21, 1975.

While an excellent education program and turfgrass industry show will be the primary reasons for attending the annual Conference, there will also be sufficient time to take in some of the other attractions the city has to offer its visitors.

Originally claimed as a French territory in 1682, it became a Spanish possession after 80 years, beginning in 1762. In 1801 the French once again were granted title to the area and then sold it to the United States in 1803 as part of the \$15,000,000 Louisiana Purchase. Becoming the Union's 18th state in 1812, General Andrew Jackson, in the famous battle of New Orleans in 1815 finally secured the strategic port city.

By 1840, the development of the steamboat, and the cotton and tobacco industries made New Orleans the second wealthiest and fourth most populous city in the U.S. Because of its port activities, it recovered from the Civil War much more rapidly than most of the Southern cities.

Today's visitors to New Orleans will find that much of the history presents itself in ways other than just historic markers, and even the markers, such as Jackson Square, are quite notable.

Throughout the city, French, Spanish and Creole dining are highlights to menus that also feature more standard fare. Page after page of fine eating establishments could be written, but among the more famous are Antoine's, Brennan's, Commander's Palace and Top of the Mart, as well as the Cafe duMonde Coffee Stand with its cafe au lait and beignet (hot French donuts, sans holes).

A real delight to most visitors are the cast iron balconies found on many of the buildings of the French Quarter. This area was originally planned in 1718 by Sieru deBienville and his engineers, in honor of the Regent of France, Phillippe, Duc d'Orleans. Although two disastrous fires destroyed all but 20 per cent of the city in 1788 and 1794, it was rebuilt each time, and today its narrow, winding, and interconnecting streets, with the many specialty shops, still intrigue visitors.

As the birth place of jazz, New Orleans abounds with all types of nightly entertainers such as Al Hirt, Pete Fountain and others, who can be found on the "entertainment street of America," Bourbon Street.

While it is difficult to separate history, dining and night life from sight seeing in New Orleans, there are several places which visitors should make mandatory stops. In addition to the ½ French Quarter, Jackson Square, and Bourbon Street, there is the magnificent Longue-Vue Gardens Estate, the new Superdome, many restored antebellum homes, beautiful Lake Pontchartrain, the Garden District, Audobon Park and the campuses of Tulane and Loyola Universities.

New Orleans definitely measures up as one of the finest conference cities in the United States, it is a city with something for everyone, especially when the GC-SAA Conference and Show is in tow.

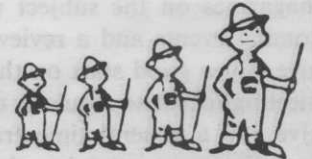
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