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# Tour New Orleans' Magazine Street for 6 miles of shopping, eating

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Story and photography by LAURA CLAVERIE / Special Contributor to The Dallas Morning News

NEW ORLEANS – On any given day, a visitor to Magazine Street near the French Quarter can buy a magnificent antique, eat elegant cuisine, buy funky clothes or haute couture, down a gravy-laden po-boy or create personalized bath suds. And those are just a few of the kaleidoscope of opportunities that await the shopper on the city's most eclectic street.

The street's six miles stretch from Canal Street to the snaking Mississippi River. Its nearly 300 shops, many in restored Creole cottages and 1800s storefronts, are 90 percent locally owned with knowledgeable merchants ready to answer even the most obscure questions.

"New York has Fifth Avenue, Palm Beach has Worth Avenue and LA has Rodeo Drive," says Aidan Gill, owner of the namesake turn-of-the-century haberdashery and barbershop where a customer is served a pint of Guinness or shot of Irish whiskey with his haircut and shave (\$75). "Magazine Street is the quintessential Main Street of 100 years ago. It puts the adventure back into shopping."

So put on your walking shoes, make sure your credit cards have lots of breathing room and enjoy one of America's most eccentric shopping experiences. Here are some favorites.

Art

**New Orleans Glassmaking and Printworks**, 727 Magazine St. Hand-fired glass goblets, objets d'art and bold chandeliers. Observe glassmakers work in this Louvre-affiliated arts center. [www.neworleansglassworks.com](http://www.neworleansglassworks.com)



Photos by LAURA CLAVIERE/Special Contributor

Glass objets d'art are a specialty of New Orleans Glassmaking and Printworks, 727 Magazine St.

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**Gallerie I/O**, 1812 Magazine St. Thomas Mann showcases avant-garde art, wall hangings and jewelry here. [www.thomasmanngallery.com](http://www.thomasmanngallery.com)

**Cole Pratt**, 3800 Magazine St. Highest-quality works from emerging Southern artists. [www.coleprattgallery.com](http://www.coleprattgallery.com)

**Shadyside Potters**, 3823 Magazine St. Master potter Charlie Bohn specializes in raku and stoneware pottery. [www.shadysidepottery.com](http://www.shadysidepottery.com)

**Kevin Gillentine**, 3917 Magazine St. Mr. Gillentine is known for his landscapes. [www.kevingillentine.com](http://www.kevingillentine.com)

**Scriptura**, 5423 Magazine St. Art on paper. Custom leather journals, keepsake albums and its own creative line of stationery. [www.scriptura.com](http://www.scriptura.com)

Home decor

**Shop of the Two Sisters**, 1800 Magazine St. Fabulous accessories, a large assortment of sconces, good reproduction and antique furniture. [www.shopofthetwosisters.com](http://www.shopofthetwosisters.com)

**U-Dwell**, 2101 Magazine St. Upscale contemporary furnishing for the bold trendsetter. [www.udwellhome.com](http://www.udwellhome.com)

**Brass Menagerie**, 2105 Magazine St. Antique and new brass hardware and decorative items. Ross Perot Jr. and Anne Bass shop here. 504-524-0921

**Agora Galleries**, 2240 Magazine St. A hip emporium filled with gifts and affordable antiques. 504-525-2240

**Villa Vici**, 2930 Magazine St. Classic furnishings, lighting and accessories with continental flair. [www.villavici.com](http://www.villavici.com)

**Julie Neill**, 3908 Magazine St. Graceful chandeliers, furniture and sconces designed by Ms. Neill. [www.julienecill.com](http://www.julienecill.com)

**Stafford Tile and Stone**, 5234 Magazine St. Old-world-style shop filled with decorative tiles to fit the fussiest of tastes. [www.staffordtile.com](http://www.staffordtile.com)

**Hazelnut**, 5515 Magazine St. Sparkling tableware, its own line of New Orleans Toile and Palm Beach fabrics. *Mad Men* star Bryan Batt, a New Orleans native, is a co-owner and often on-site. [www.hazelnutneworleans.com](http://www.hazelnutneworleans.com)

Antique furniture

**Source**, 2103 Magazine St. Swedish antiques set among contemporary art and accessories. [www.sourcenola.com](http://www.sourcenola.com)

**Bush Antiques**, 2109 Magazine St. Eclectic assortment of antique garden urns, religious artifacts and beds. [www.bushantiques.com](http://www.bushantiques.com)

**Petricia Thompson**, 3522 Magazine St. Great selection of French tables, buffets and more. [www.petriathompsonantiques.com](http://www.petriathompsonantiques.com)

**Hal Williamson, La Vieille Maison**, 3646 Magazine St. Renowned antiques, custom furniture and design services. [www.williamsondesigns.net](http://www.williamsondesigns.net)

**Wirthmore Antiques**, 3727 Magazine St. French antiques set in a shop that is straight out of Provence. [www.wirthmoreantiques.com](http://www.wirthmoreantiques.com)

**Mac Maison Ltd.**, 3963 Magazine St. Hands down, no one has a better eye for elegant architectural details than Michael Carbine. 504-891-2863

**Gerrie Bremermann**, 3943 Magazine St. Bremermann decorates some of the finest homes in America and showcases a dazzling array of antiques. [www.bremermandesigns.com](http://www.bremermandesigns.com)

Antique silver

**As You Like It**, 3033 Magazine St. An authentically re-created 1800s silver shop, located in an 1880s building. A breathtaking array of estate silver. [www.asyoulikeitsilvershop.com](http://www.asyoulikeitsilvershop.com)

**Mélange Sterling Silver**, 5421 Magazine St. Beautiful antique sterling serving pieces, baby gifts and baskets of demitasse spoons and discontinued pieces. [www.melangesterling.com](http://www.melangesterling.com)

Jewelry

**Katy Beh**, 3708 Magazine St. Daring, contemporary jewelry by Ms. Beh and other artists. [www.katybeh.com](http://www.katybeh.com)

**Mignon Faget**, 3801 Magazine St. Sterling and gold designs, most with nature and New Orleans motifs. [www.mignonfaget.com](http://www.mignonfaget.com)

**Dominique Giordano**, 5420 Magazine St. Delicate, handcrafted jewelry versatile enough to wear with jeans or ball gowns. [www.dgiordano.com](http://www.dgiordano.com)

Upscale clothing

**Total Woman**, 3964 Magazine St. Clean-lined, fashion-forward clothing and accessories. [www.totalwomanla.com](http://www.totalwomanla.com)

**Feet First**, 4119 Magazine St. Carrie Bradshaw, eat your heart out! More than 50 brands of shoes, purses and to-die-for accessories. [www.feetfirststores.com](http://www.feetfirststores.com)



Feet First features more than 50 name brands of footwear.

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**Mimi**, 5500 Magazine St. "Baby Bergdorf's" of New Orleans. Haute couture plus the largest Vera Wang bridal salon south of D.C. [www.miminola.com](http://www.miminola.com)

**Shoefly**, 6010 Magazine St. Progressive fashion for men and women. Pricey, edgy, cool. [www.shoeshoefly.com](http://www.shoeshoefly.com)

**Perlis**, 6070 Magazine St. Seersucker and white linen suits, polo shirts with crawfish logos. How Southern can a gentleman get? [www.perlis.com](http://www.perlis.com)

Casual clothing

**Ah Ha**, 3129 Magazine St. Young, hip trendsetter fashion. 504-269-2442

**Blink**, 5419 Magazine St. More trendsetting fashions for the young. [www.blinkboutique.com](http://www.blinkboutique.com)

**Fairy/Pixie**, 5715 Magazine St. Fairy sells clothes; Pixie sells makeup in the back half of the building. Fairy, 504-269-2033; Pixie, 504-895-5571

Children's

**Pippen Lane**, 2929 Magazine St. Annabeth Goodman (actor John's wife) features high-end baby furniture and clothing fit for any prince or princess. 504-269-0106

**Orient Expressed**, 3905 Magazine St. Displays its nationally known children's smocked clothing line among Oriental antiques and decorator items. [www.orientexpressed.com](http://www.orientexpressed.com)



The Magic Box offers upscale toys, games, dolls and make-believe dress-up clothes.

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**The Magic Box**, 5508 Magazine St. High-quality toys, dolls, games and the best make-believe dress-up section around. [www.magicboxneworleans.com](http://www.magicboxneworleans.com)

**Little Laughter**, 5530 Magazine St. Fun play clothes and dress-up wear, colorful painted furniture and children's gifts. 504-897-4880

Totally funky

**Garden District Needleworks**, 2011 Magazine St. Fabulous yarns and its own line of needlepoint canvases, displayed among plantation-style antiques. [www.nolaknits.com](http://www.nolaknits.com)

**Aidan Gill**, 2026 Magazine St. An authentic antique haberdashery and barbershop, which uses handmade razors and badger shave brushes. [www.aidangill.com](http://www.aidangill.com)

**House of Lounge**, 2044 Magazine St. Lingerie to bring out your "inner Madam." [www.houseoflounge.com](http://www.houseoflounge.com)

**Mayan Import Co.**, 3000 Magazine St. The city's largest array of cigars, humidors, tobacco and La-Tee-Dah lamps. 504-269-9000

**Funky Monkey**, 3127 Magazine St. Audacious clothes, accessories and costumes. 504-899-5587

**RetroActive**, 5414 Magazine St. Floor-to-ceiling retro fashion, accessories and housewares. 504-895-5054

**Blue Frog Chocolates**, 5707 Magazine St. Dark, milk, white chocolate in every conceivable form. [www.bluefrogchocolates.com](http://www.bluefrogchocolates.com)

**Bath Junkie**, 6071 Magazine. Create your own bubble bath, shampoo and toiletries amid a gazillion rubber duckies. A chain, but cool. [www.bathjunkie.com](http://www.bathjunkie.com)

Fine dining

**Cuvée**, 322 Magazine St. French and Spanish style applied to New Orleans fare. [www.restaurantcvee.com](http://www.restaurantcvee.com)

**Lillette**, 3637 Magazine St. Featured in *Food & Wine* magazine and others, this is lively, upscale dining. [www.lilletterestaurant.com](http://www.lilletterestaurant.com)

**La Petite Grocery**, 4238 Magazine St. Casual yet sophisticated, gourmet food in a delightful bistro setting. [www.lapetitegrocery.com](http://www.lapetitegrocery.com)

**Martinique**, 5908 Magazine St. Classic, country-French fare. Courtyard dining recommended! [www.martiniquebistro.com](http://www.martiniquebistro.com)

Casual dining

**Liborio's**, 321 Magazine St. Incredible Cuban food. [www.liboriocuban.com](http://www.liboriocuban.com)

**Magazine PoBoys**, 2368 Magazine St. Awesome roast beef or veal parmesan po-boys. 504-522-3107

**Café Rani**, 2917 Magazine St. Sumptuous salads and light fare, with outside dining. 504-895-2500

**Joey K's**, 3001 Magazine St. Killer fried onion rings, down-home food and mug beer. [www.joeyksrestaurant.com](http://www.joeyksrestaurant.com)

**Baru Bistro and Tapas**, 3700 Magazine St. Best tapas in the city. BYOB. 504-895-2225

**Theo's Pizza**, 4218 Magazine St. Pizzas made with Anaheim peppers and the thinnest crusts. Order the signature Marilyn's POTA Supreme and Rebo's Super Soaked Salad. [www.theospizza.com](http://www.theospizza.com)

**Casamento's**,

4330 Magazine St. Quintessential New Orleans seafood restaurant. Closed June-August, major holidays. [www.casamentosrestaurant.com](http://www.casamentosrestaurant.com)

**La Boulangerie**, 4600 Magazine St. Classic French bakery featuring light lunches and decadent desserts. 504-269-3777

*Freelance writer Laura Claverie lives just blocks from Magazine Street and does most of her retail therapy there.*

## WHEN YOU GO

### Resources

[www.neworleansvb.com](http://www.neworleansvb.com)

[www.neworleansonline.com](http://www.neworleansonline.com)

[www.magazinstreet.com](http://www.magazinstreet.com)

### Insider's tips

**Parking is always a challenge.** There are no public lots, so bring lots of quarters for meters. Meter maids are plentiful and aggressive.

Magazine Street runs from Canal Street to the Audubon Zoo, a 62-block stretch. Stores are loosely clustered in categories (art, antiques, clothing, etc.). Get a Magazine Street map (found on [www.magazinstreet.com](http://www.magazinstreet.com)) and scope out stores that interest you ahead of time.

**Hours of operation vary.** Refer to Web sites or call before starting your excursion.

**If you're staying in the French Quarter:** Take the streetcar (\$1.25 each way), disembark on St. Charles Avenue and walk five blocks to Magazine Street. The Magazine Street bus runs often (\$1.25). For information on public transportation and one- and three-day passes, visit [www.norta.com](http://www.norta.com).

**For a historic tour of Magazine Street (on foot or bus),** contact Custom Conventions, 1-800-426-2315; [www.customconventions.com](http://www.customconventions.com).

**Personal antiques shopper and guide:** Nationally known and respected, Macon Riddle of Let's Go Antiquing! can help locate hard-to-find objects. 504-899-3027; [www.neworleansantiquing.com](http://www.neworleansantiquing.com).

**Cheapest times to visit:** Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve and the summer months. Hotels and restaurants have great bargains, and the shopping is great.