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A GUIDE TO LOUISIANA WEBSITES

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Louisiana these days is most familiar to Americans as the site of the **Hurricane Katrina** disaster, but there is a lot more to the Bayou State. That is why I sought out **Dan Forrest**, a Louisiana native. Some of you may remember his column about online cookbooks. In this issue of "Wandering the Web," **Dan** researched and has found excellent Websites on Louisiana food, art, music, and culture as well as truly unique wildlife and environment that make Louisiana a national treasure. These Websites will help your patrons discover more about this state, from jazz and voodoo in the French Quarter to the marshes and bayous of Cajun country, it's all here. Allons-y!

If you're working on a homework assignment, planning a vacation, looking for a good place to retire, setting a new business, or scouting a film location, the place to start is <http://www.louisiana.gov>. The state's official Website includes all this plus the standard information on state agencies and statistics.

Readers of the Drudge Report will find the look of **The Dead Pelican** (<http://www.thedeadpelican.com/>) familiar, and anyone interested in keeping up with the contact sport that is Louisiana politics will appreciate this collection of the day's headlines from around the state. Also included are links to print, broadcast, and Internet media from around the state.

Encyclopedia Louisiana (<http://www.enlou.com/>) has many maps and historic documents about Louisiana, as well as a timeline and biographies of politicians and other notables from the state.



Louisiana has a rich literary tradition. Explore it at the **Louisiana Writers Directory** (<http://www2.state.lib.la.us/cftb/>), a database containing information on over 300 living Louisiana authors. The **Louisiana Authors Index** (<http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/la/>) is a complementary database featuring over 1,500 deceased Louisiana writers.

The **Encyclopedia of Cajun Culture** (<http://www.cajunculture.com>) is an A to Z listing of topics about all things Cajun assembled by a husband and wife team from New Iberia. The **Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism** (<http://ccet.louisiana.edu/index.html>) at the **University of Louisiana-Lafayette** maintains an archive of Louisiana folk culture as well as many links to resources for the traveler interested in the land and people of Louisiana.

Jean Lafitte National Park (<http://www.nps.gov/jela>) stretches from the site of the Battle of New Orleans in Chalmette to the **Liberty Theater** in Eunice (live Cajun music every Saturday at six). The park's Website contains a calendar of events, pages for children, and a wealth of information about the history, culture, and wildlife of south Louisiana.

Part of what makes Louisiana so special is the combination of cultures that have gone into it. Voodoo is a mixture of the Catholicism of the French and Spanish colonists with the traditional beliefs of the African people who were transported to the New World. The **Voodoo Spiritual Temple** (<http://www.voodoospiritualtemple.org>) has a site with information on the temple and the history of voodoo in New Orleans. The **Times-Picayune's Haunted**

New Orleans page (<http://nola.com/haunted>) also discusses voodoo as well as ghost stories and information on the famous cemeteries of New Orleans.

The **Jazz Roots** page (<http://www.jazz.com>) was created by **Tom Morgan**, who also hosts a jazz radio show in New Orleans. Articles on the history and development of jazz, biographies, links, photos, and reviews are found on this site. The **Louisiana Music Archive and Artist Directory** (<http://www.satchmo.com>) contains news about Louisiana music and musicians such as upcoming concerts and cd releases as well as online radio stations, links, and much more. To satisfy your desire for Louisiana music, the **Louisiana Music Factory** (<http://www.louisianamusicfactory.com>) is the source for everything from jazz to swamp pop to zydeco. They also have a broad range of books, videos, and posters.

The only thing more important to Louisiana expatriates than the music is the food. New Orleansian turned **Los Angeleno Chuck Taggart's Gumbo Pages** (<http://www.gumbopages.com>) is full of recipes and talk about the food of Louisiana. The links for ordering Louisiana foodstuffs are especially useful. **Taggart** is also the compiler of a box set of New Orleans music so there is plenty of info for music lovers on the site as well.

Tom Fitzmorris is the dean of New Orleans food writers, and his site **The New Orleans Menu** (<http://www.nomenu.com>) is full of restaurant reviews and recipes. As an essential service for people planning a trip to New Orleans, he also maintains a complete list of restaurants that have reopened since **Katrina**. Subscribers to the site get even more info, as well as access to the complete NOMenu archive.

The **Mellhenny** family of Avery Island has been making Tabasco sauce for over a hundred years. Their Website (<http://www.tabasco.com>) contains many recipes and a history of the company and Avery Island (a salt dome turned bird sanctuary and garden) as well as the company online store. A gallon jug of Tabasco sauce is the perfect gift for the hard-to-shop-for foodie in your life.

No discussion of Louisiana these days would be complete without a mention of **Katrina** and the other hurricanes that have struck the state and region over the years. The **National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center** (<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>) has an extensive history section in addition to information on current conditions in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean. The Center's site also offers tips on hurricane preparedness and thorough explanations of meteorological terms and methods. 🌩

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priorities are. In the case of **Yale**, these engagement efforts have included surveys, focus groups, and user forums. Their feedback has been of the decidedly "1.0" variety. A recent survey of 1,000+ faculty indicated that the highest faculty priorities included (1) easier electronic access to scholarly materials for themselves and their students, and (2) better search tools to locate materials across all of **Yale's** holdings and collections, not just electronic and not just in the libraries, but also in

museums and other information centers. Of the very least urgency were items such as services to publish faculty preprints and postprints and to understand copyright and rights. The best forms of library innovation, **Okerson** argued, will come from a deep understanding of what a wide swath of library users want.

Isabella Hinds was the session's final speaker. She presented a unique perspective on how advances in technology and content delivery are influencing e-learning. By way of background, nine in ten schools now have a course management system (CMS), and

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