



New Orleans Museum of Art



Langles Bridge



Sculpture Garden



Peristyle Pavilion

Points of Interest: New Orleans City Park Kayak & Canoe Tour

City Park is a scenic oasis of enchantment, featuring many colorful and cultural highlights. Create your own adventure, with a self-guided kayak or canoe tour!

New Orleans Museum of Art

The New Orleans Museum of Art is an exquisite pearl wrapped inside City Park's gorgeous natural landscape. The city's oldest fine arts institution contains a permanent collection with more than 40,000 objects and is noted for its extraordinary strengths in French and American art, as well as photography, glass, and Japanese works.

There is a gift shop and Cafe NOMA in the museum. You can enter the museum from the side entrance if you'd like to only have lunch and not tour the museum.

Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

Created by the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Foundation, this 11-acre Sculpture Garden holds nearly 90 different sculptures throughout City Park. Located by reflecting lagoons, lakes, foot paths, and 200-year-old oak trees, you'll experience these sculptural works in the picturesque landscape from the water. Created in 2003, the Sculpture Garden has more than doubled in size over the recent years.

Flora and Fauna

There is a plethora of oak trees throughout New Orleans City Park. The park is known to have one of the world's largest groves of mature oak trees. Including two of the world's oldest Oak Trees, Anseman Oak and McDonogh Oak, both are 750 to 900 years old! Other trees you will see along the way are bald cypress, magnolias, slash pine, and sweet gum.

Singing Oak Tree – One of the special Oak Trees in City Park is the Singing Oak Tree. It is a large Oak tree located adjacent to Big Lake near the intersection of Wisner and Lelong. The name "Singing Oak Tree" comes from an art installation done by Jim Hart, where he added wind chimes throughout the tree to show that music is always in the air!

Spanish Moss and Resurrection Fern are two of the most common growths in the park. They are a staple in creating the "Deep South Oaks" atmosphere, by hanging from the trees and growing along the lakes.

Bird Watching – New Orleans City Park is one of the top locations for bird watching in the nation. With more than 280 species bird lovers are guaranteed to see at least 40 different bird species in one outing. On your kayak tour you will be sure to see some various birds like the Double-crested Cormorant, Herons, American Kestrel, and the American Goldfinch. If you're lucky you may even spot a Bald Eagle!

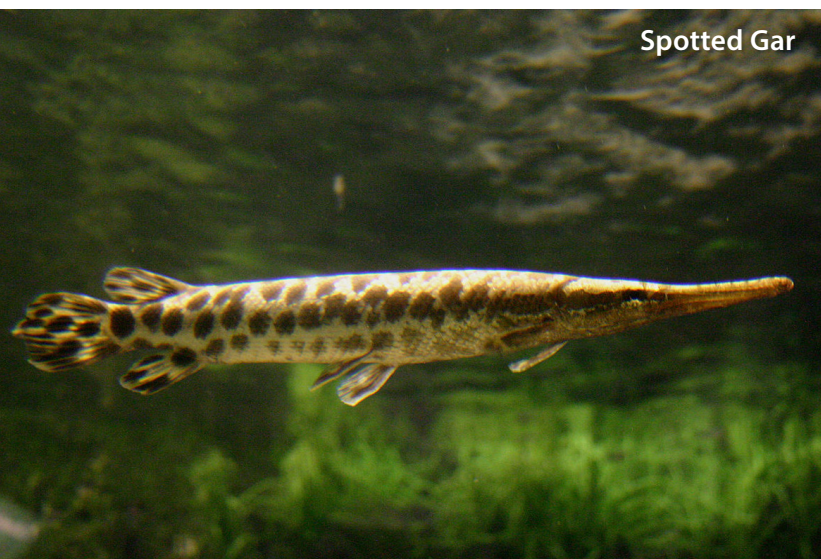
Fishing is a popular sport in the City Park area. While on the water you may see largemouth bass, Blue Catfish, spotted Gar, and American Eels. See how many different species of fish you can spot in the water or being caught by the local fisherman on the shores and bridges. **Fishing is not allowed from boats on the water.**

Special Annual Events

New Orleans City Park is proud of their abundant natural and cultural resources. They host many events throughout the year like Celebration in the Oaks, Big Bass Pro Fishing Rodeo, VooDoo Fest, and various park restoration projects.

History

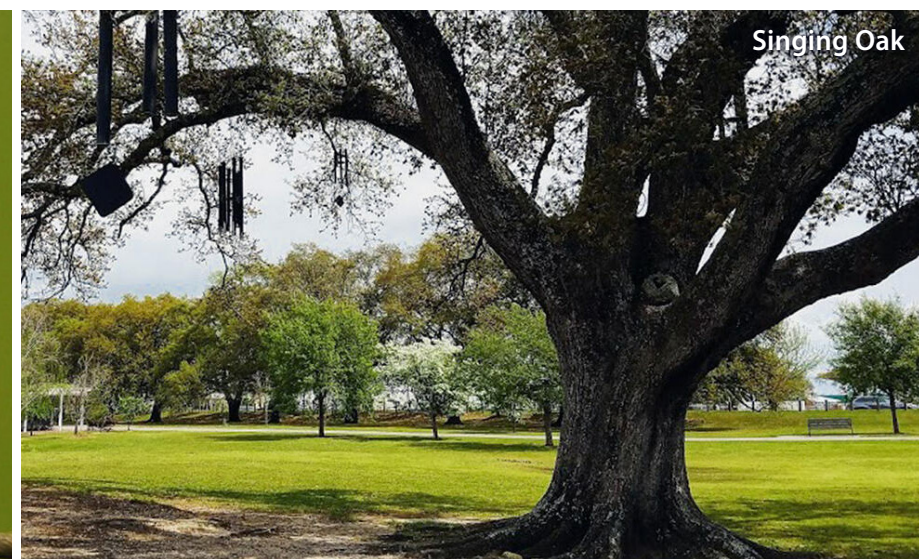
New Orleans City Park was formed by the Great Depression in the 1930's when the Works Progress Administration run by the Roosevelt Administration employed 20,000 women and men to build fountains and roadways throughout the park. In 2005 when Hurricane Katrina swept through New Orleans the park was 95% flooded with \$43 million in damages. After the tragic ruining, the public came together to raise funds for the park restoration. Leaving the park in the naturally preserved beauty it is today. Locals and people all over the nation come to visit New Orleans City Park annually to see the large old oak trees, bird species, and fishing.



Spotted Gar



American Goldfinch



Singing Oak






Resurrection Fern

Customize your own self-guided kayak & canoe tour. Explore Historic City Park, Big Lake, Bayou Metairie, and more!

Boating & Water Safety

- You must wear a life jacket at all times.
- Make sure you understand all verbal boating and safety instructions provided before starting the tour.
- Do not enter or exit your watercraft from anyplace other than the designated launch area on Big Lake.
- Alcohol is not allowed.
- The gondolas have the right away, including under bridges. Let them pass before proceeding.
- Approx. tour time on designated route is 2 hours.
- If you fail to return your watercraft, you will be charged a recovery fee of \$50 +tax.
- In case of a life-threatening emergency, call 911.
- If you need NON-EMERGENCY assistance, call the Wheel Fun Rentals dock at (504) 300-1289.
- If you see an alligator, please contact the City Park wildlife relocation team at (504) 483-9385.

Tour Route

-  Launch Area
-  Designated Route
-  Restroom

