

LOUISIANA – From A to Z

A is for

Alligator (LA has many alligators and alligator farms)

Books about alligators

Alligators and Crocodiles, by Gerald Legg

There's an alligator under my bed, by Mercer Mayer

Snap! A book about alligators and crocodiles, by Melvin & Gilda Berger

Gator web cam

<http://www.gatorland.com/public/web-cams/index.cfm>

Alligator worksheets, printables

http://www.edhelper.com/teach/teach_Alligators.htm

Alligator facts

<http://www.zooview.com/Animalfacts/alligatorf.asp>

<http://www.leeric.lsu.edu/le/cover/lead014.htm>

Louis Armstrong (Jazz musician, New Orleans native)

Books about Louis Armstrong

If I only had a horn: Young Louis Armstrong, by Roxane Orgill

What a wonderful world, by George David Weiss & Bob Thiele

Louis Armstrong web sites

<http://www.redhotjazz.com/louie.html>

<http://www.npg.si.edu/exh/armstrong/>

Aquarium of the Americas (In New Orleans. One of the Top 5 in the country)

<http://www.auduboninstitute.org/site/PageServer>

Atchafalaya swamp (large wetlands regions with 300+ species of birds.

Pronounced: Uh-chaff-fuh-LIE-yuh)

<http://dnr.louisiana.gov/crm/coastmgt/gems/atchafal.htm>

B is for

Boudin (a spicy Cajun sausage pronounced: BOO-dan)

<http://louisianalife.com/news/news/boudin-by-the-bite-1567.html>

Bayou (a small stream or river)

<http://images.google.com/images?um=1&tab=wi&hl=en&q=bayou>

Bienville (French explorer who established the site of New Orleans)

<http://www.answers.com/topic/bienville-sieur-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-de>

Beignets (popular New Orleans square donuts served w/powdered sugar

Pronounced: Ben-YAY)

<http://www.crescentcitybeignets.com/beignet.html>

Baton Rouge (state capitol, name derived from "red stick" that was a border marker)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baton_Rouge,_Louisiana

C is for

Crawfish (also called "mud bugs" they are boiled spicy and eaten in large numbers)
<http://whatscookingamerica.net/Seafood/CrawfishBoil.htm>

Canal Street (one of the country's widest main streets...it was supposed to be a canal)
City Park (in New Orleans. One of the largest city parks in the country, it has "dueling oaks" under which actual duels were fought.)

Cemeteries (because of the high water table, many tombs in New Orleans are above ground)

Chalmette Battlefield (site of Battle of New Orleans)

Crescent City (nickname of N.O. because of its placement in the bend of the MS river)

Catahoula Hound (weird looking state dog pronounced: Catta-HOO-luh)

D is for

Ducks (Louisiana waterfowl, central flyway)

Decatur Street (picturesque street in the New Orleans French Quarter)

Driskill Mountain (highest pt. in LA - only 535 ft above sea level)

E is for

Etouffee (a spicy New Orleans dish pronounced: Ay-too-FAY)

Easy (N.O. is known as the Big Easy)

F is for

French Quarter (popular New Orleans tourist destination also called the Vieux Carre)

Festivals (strawberry, alligator, rice, watermelon...you name it, LA has a festival for it)

Farmer's Market (on the edge of the New Orleans French Quarter)

Faubourgs (French name for New Orleans neighborhoods pronounced: FAW-bergs)

G is for

Gumbo (spicy stew...comes from African Bantu word for "okra")

H is for

Huey Long (colorful LA governor who was assassinated in the state capitol)

Hurricanes - Many hurricanes have hit LA over the years. See "Katrina" below.)

I is for

Islenos (Canary Islanders that are descended from immigrants of the Canary Island have a community in St. Bernard Parish, LA)

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5041976>

Indians (a number of Native American tribes have reservations in LA)

J is for

Jazz (New Orleans is the home of Jazz)

Jazz Fest (huge New Orleans music/food fest draws 400,000+ every year)

Jackson Square (New Orleans historic site where France handed LA over to US at LA Purchase)

Jellyroll Morton (Jazz Musician, N.O. native)

K is for

Katrina (Hurricane) - The most devastating hurricane to ever hit the U.S.

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2005/katrina/>

K-Paul's Restaurant (site of Cajun Chef Paul Prudhomme's restaurant in N.O.)
Kenner (Rivertown is a 16 block historic district in Kenner, upriver from N.O.)

L is for

Lafayette (city in S.W. LA that is the capitol of Cajun Country)
Laissez les bon temps roulette (french term meaning: let the good times roll)
Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, home of the LSU fighting tigers)
Louisiana Hayride (old C&W radio show in Shreveport, LOA featuring Hank Williams and Elvis)
Famous Louisianians: <http://louisianahistory.ourfamily.com/page7.html>

M is for

Mardi Gras (celebration of Fat Tuesday, the day before Lent begins)
Mississippi River (New Orleans is bordered on the south by the MS river)
Mosquitoes (perennial problem in LA...caused yellow fever epidemic in early 1900's and continue to spread deadly West Nile virus.
Music (Jazz, rock, R&B, Classical, Cajun, even country...you can find it in LA)

N is for

New Orleans (world famous for food and fun)
Neutral ground (the New Orleans slang for a grassy median)
Natchez (historic riverboat that shuttles tourists up and down the MS river)

O is for

Oyster (one of the seafood delicacies of LA)
Oil (offshore oil drilling is a major component of LA's economy)

P is for

Parish (in LA, "counties" are called "parishes" - LA is the only state that does this)
Port (the port of New Orleans is the busiest grain port in the nation)
Pelican (the brown pelican is the state bird)
Pelicans (New Orleans' NBA team)
Po-boy (some people called it a "hero" or a "submarine" - in N.O. it's a Po-Boy)
<http://www.gumbopages.com/food/samwiches/po-boys.html>

Pontchartrain (large lake -actually a bay - named after a French count)
<http://landsat.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/archive/e0004.html>

Q is for

Queen Ida (Louisiana Zydeco musician)
Quitman (teeny tiny town in LA - pop. 162)

R is for

Roux (pronounced: Roo. The basis for many Cajun dishes - equal parts of oil and flour)
Red fish (a popular game/food fish)
Rigolets (pronounced RIG-oh-leez - a narrow neck of water joining Lakes Borgne & Pontchartrain)
Red Stick (*Baton Rouge* are the French words for "Red Stick.")

S is for

Saints (the N.O. professional football team)
Snowballs (in other cities, they're called "snow cones."

Streetcars (electric trolleys that roll up and down Canal St. and St. Charles Avenue)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Streetcars_in_New_Orleans

St. Charles Ave. (picturesque N.O. street with large, Victorian homes)
Superbowl (N.O. has hosted more superbows than any other city)
St. Louis Cathedral (one of the oldest Roman Catholic cathedrals in the country)
Sugarcane (important LA agricultural crop)

T is for

Tulane University (important medical and research university)
Tunica-Biloxi (one of many LA Indian tribes)

U is for

Ursuline Academy (In N.O. The oldest continuously operating girls' school in U.S.)
<http://www.ursulineneworleans.org/content.cfm?id=178>

V is for

Vieux Carre (another named for the French Quarter pronounced: VIEW-cah-ray)
Voodoo (nature-based religion still practiced by some people in LA)

W is for

WRBH (New Orleans radio station for the blind/print handicapped)
Williams, Tennessee (writer, N.O. resident)
http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/english/ms-writers/dir/williams_tennessee/

Wynton Marsalis (jazz musician, N.O. native)

X is for

Xavier University of LA (ranks 1st nationally in # of African-American students earning undergraduate degrees in biology, physics & physical sciences.)

Y is for

Ya/Ya (Young Aspirations, Young Artists - nonprofit org. that helps young talented artists develop their skills and sell their work)
<http://www.yayainc.com/about.html>

Ycloskey (fishing village in southern LA)
Y'all (Up north they say, "you guys" in Louisiana we say, "y'all")

Z is for

Zydeco (Music that blends traditional Cajun music with Rhythm & Blues)
<http://www.zydeco.org/>

Zulu (one of the oldest Mardi Gras organizations - known as krewes- made up mainly of African American men)
<http://www.kreweofzulu.com/>