

The Insider: Top 10 Reasons to Call NOLA Home

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I've thought all week about what to say in this commencement edition of the Insider. After all, parting is such sweet sorrow. So today I present to you: The top 10 reasons to make New Orleans home after graduation.



10?Mardi Gras and Bourbon Street

Need I say more?

9?It's a Carnival cruise port

While family and friends are having to book flights to experience a cruise to exotic islands, you can await your escape with beignets and a caf   au lait!

8?City Park

Everyone knows that we rock, including *Travel & Leisure* magazine. It ranked New Orleans as having one of "[America's Coolest City Parks](#)".

7?Mild winters

Have you ever noticed that celebrities flock to the South during the winter? Trade in those snow boots for a light jacket and those earmuffs for a pair of sunglasses.

6?Hollywood South

[LA is the new L.A.](#) Check out the city's filmography [here](#).

5?Music

New Orleans is the birthplace of jazz, but it's also widely known for other genres such as funk and bounce, which recently was highlighted in a *New York Times* [story](#). Regardless of your taste, there's surely a sound in the air that you'll love.

4?Coolest startup city

Attention entrepreneurs: New Orleans is the coolest startup city in America according to *Inc.* [magazine](#).

3?Top big city for jobs

In a tough economy like the current one, it's good news to hear that *Forbes* has ranked New Orleans second on the list of [Best Big Cities for Jobs](#).

2?Food

Aside from those who are allergic, try naming two people who don't enjoy Gulf shrimp and crabs. The restaurants in New Orleans are a culinary treat for visitors and a weekly staple for those who live here.

1?It's New Orleans!

If you tell someone you're from New Orleans, it will likely spark a conversation because they'll really be interested in hearing what it's like. You also can sleep easy knowing that just by calling the city home, you're aiding in post-Katrina rebuilding.

Have you got news for the Insider? [Email](#) today!