

Insider: Can you handle Mardi Gras?

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With a bit of preparation and an open mind, anyone can handle Mardi Gras. The key is knowing what to expect and taking precautions to avoid the follies of an amateur. Start at the top of today's infographic designed by Tracey Bellina and test your readiness to enjoy the height of the 2013 Carnival season. Click the image to download a pdf.

CAN YOU HANDLE MARDI GRAS?

ARE YOU AN EARLY RISER?

NO.

Zulu followed by Rex featuring the Tulane University Marching Band begins at 8 a.m. You'll definitely want to see that.
START OVER!

YES.

Grab a piece of king cake for breakfast and put on your most comfy shoes. You're off to a great start!

ARE YOU MONITORING THE FORECAST?

YES.

You're already a pro at this! Consider a backpack for an umbrella, sunscreen or a sweatshirt—depending on the weather.

NO.

You are definitely a rookie! Knowing the weather is a must.

DO YOU HAVE TRANSPORTATION PLANS?

NO.

Transportation is essential during Mardi Gras. Download the [RTA Bus/Streetcar](#) schedule or program a taxi-cab phone number into your phone.

YES.

Of course you do! This isn't your first rodeo!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'LL WATCH THE PARADE?

YES.

Fantastic! Take one last look in the mirror! Are your hands free? If not, reassess the baggage you're carrying and take only the essentials! Just one more thing to consider...

NO.

Delays happen. Download a [Mardi Gras Parade Tracker App](#) for your phone.

ARE YOU TRAVELING WITH A GROUP?

NO.

It's always safer to travel in a group! Make arrangements to meet your friends at a specific location before, during and after the parade in case you get split up!

YES.

CONGRATULATIONS! You're ready! Bring on the king cake, masks and costumes!