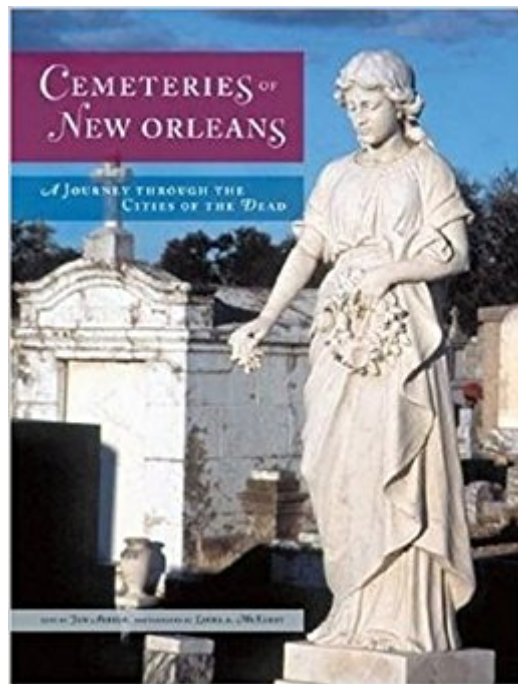




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Cemeteries Of New Orleans: A Journey Through The Cities Of The Dead



Synopsis

Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Journey through the Cities of the Dead is a photographic tour of the city's captivating graveyards. Glorious photographs accompanied by interesting captions showcase more than fifteen of New Orleans's historic and fascinating cemeteries (or "cities of the dead"), such as St. Louis #1, Greenwood, St. Roch, Lafayette, and bayou and plantation country cemeteries. This intriguing volume includes helpful travel information, such as a list of "who's buried where." Sidebars and captions discuss origins of All Saints' Day, architectural styles, burial processes, cemetery preservation, history, jazz funerals, and voodoo, making "Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Journey through the Cities of the Dead" a stunning keepsake. About the Author and Photographer: Jan Arrigo of New Orleans is the author of "Explore Jean Lafitte National Park and Preserve Louisiana" and Voyageur Press's "New Orleans." She is a member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors and Editorial Freelancers Association. Laura A. McElroy of Atlanta, Georgia, is a freelance travel photographer whose work can be found in magazines, including "Y'all" and "Destinations," on postcards and in regional travel books. She teamed up with Jan Arrigo for Voyageur Press's "New Orleans."

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Customer Reviews

Inside Northside, November/December 2006 – If you're looking for something interesting to do this fall, if you're fresh out of new places to take out-of-town guests, or if you want to join the festivities on All Saints' Day, pick up a copy of Cemeteries of New Orleans. Go Ahead. You know you are dying to. •

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Not what I expected however it served a new purpose for inspirational art for one of my clients!

I live in New Orleans & found alot of information with this book!!! Excellent pictures, great articles. Wonderful reading for anyone. Great coffee-table book.

Strange, but I enjoy the history and facts regarding old cemeteries, this book is very good.

This book was sent to me to review before Katrina was a puff of air. As New Orleans became inundated with water from broken levees, I tried to remember when I first learned that New Orleans was below sea level. It hit me . . . when I was driving by a cemetery and saw the vaults standing tall above ground. Sure enough, as I opened this book, it quickly pointed out that burying people is challenging because of the ground water due to being below sea level. The text is an amazing presage of what just happened in New Orleans as it relates to what happened to cemeteries in the past when floods hit. Prior to the disaster, New Orleans was famous in part for its unusual rituals and practices involving the deceased. Cemeteries of New Orleans gives you a visual expression of those rituals and practices (from visiting your loved ones on All Saint's Day to a jazz funeral procession) while showing you the different structures and layouts of the city's major cemeteries. They do resemble cities more than any other cemetery you've ever visited, I'll wager. If you decide that you want to visit New Orleans after the reconstruction, this book will be a valuable guide to the cemeteries. You'll have pre-Katrina photographs to compare to the post-Katrina reality. You will also know where to visit to see the resting places of the famous, such as Confederate president Jefferson Davis. This is a photography-intensive look, rather than a text-intensive look. As a result, I think most people will find this resource to be just about perfect in helping them understand how New Orleans likes to handle its dead. I know that seems like a gruesome subject right now, but that's the book's focus. May all those who need help in New Orleans find it!

Visitors to the Crescent City are always intrigued by the cemeteries with their aboveground tombs, like miniature marble cities with narrow lanes and alleyways, and necessitated by marshy ground and a high water table. Traditions included burial of a wife with her birth family, not her husband, and entombment of slaves with the family, and numerous ethnic and fraternal societies have sponsored tombs, especially in the three St. Louis cemeteries. There's a great deal of local history here, but this is primarily a picture book of high quality that includes twenty-eight cemeteries in Orleans Parish, the River Parishes, and neighboring communities like Chalmette and Lacombe. Featured tombs include those of Jefferson Davis, Benjamin Latrobe, Marie Laveau, John Kennedy Toole, Louis Prima, and many ordinary citizens and families. The photography is first-rate and the discussions of architectural styles, religious observances, and the jazz funeral will keep you engaged.

This book cannot decide if its supposed to be a coffee table book or be informative. The photo quality is not artistic enough to be a coffee table book, and the information included was sounded more like second hand gossip than as if the authors had actually any knowledge of their subject. Their knowledge of cemetery art was obviously lacking. I also found it annoying that they included so many cemeteries outside New Orleans, when they could have spent more time on the cemeteries within the city.

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