



New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation
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www.NewOrleansOnline.com - The City of New Orleans' Official Tourism Web Site

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NEW ORLEANS PHARMACY MUSEUM

Learn About Medicine in America's First Licensed Pharmacy

New Orleans, LA – Sitting at the location of an apothecary shop opened in 1823 by America's first licensed pharmacist, the New Orleans Pharmacy Museum is one a one-of-a-kind attraction that takes visitors back to the early days of medicine. It is the largest and finest pharmaceutical collection in the United States and is a treasure trove of information, medicines, books and equipment dating back to the early 1800s.

The museum features a collection of 19th century pharmacy and medical artifacts including an exhibition on epidemics in New Orleans. There are magnificent hand-carved rosewood cabinets stocked with hand-blown apothecary bottles filled with crude drugs. Other items include live leaches, bloodletting devices, pharmacopoeias, prescription files, 19th century trade cards and daily journals. There are also instruments and medications used during the Civil War along with cosmetics and tools of the apothecary.

The Rosenthal Spectacle Collection illustrates the historical development of spectacles and other antique vision aids from around the world. There is also a 19th century physician's study and exhibits on homeopathic remedies, century-old dental instruments and other medical memorabilia. The New Orleans Pharmacy Museum also features a courtyard which contains a garden of herbs and remedies that have been used for medicinal purposes.

In 1804, the State of Louisiana passed a law that required a licensing examination for pharmacists wishing to distribute and sell pharmaceuticals. Prior to this law there were some informal licensing measures but none were enforced. At that time, a person could apprentice for six months and then sell concoctions without any regulations. Under new regulations, a person could become an officially licensed pharmacist once they passed a three-hour oral examination at the Cabildo. Louis J. Dufilho, Jr., was the first person to pass the license examination and purchased the building and opened his pharmacy in 1823.

The New Orleans Pharmacy Museum is located at 514 Chartres St. in New Orleans. Operating hours are Tue. and Thu. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Fri. and Sat. from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call (504) 565-8027 or visit www.pharmacymuseum.org.

The New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation promotes the city as a leisure tourism destination throughout the year. Annually, NOTMC's marketing campaigns include strategic print, broadcast, and Internet advertising and public relations. Web sites: www.NewOrleansOnline.com; www.NewOrleansMuseums.com; www.HearNewOrleansMusic.com.

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