



Following a month-long series of parades and other preliminary celebrations, the major carnival event before Lent completes its schedule this year on that final day. The famed celebration had its first introduction in 1781 at the then-Spanish colony by the Perseverance Benevolent & Mutual Aid Association.

Be there to enjoy Mardi Gras music, parades, dining, drinking, contests, costumes and exciting festivities. Join in dressed in purple, green, and gold, and don't forget to wear colorful bands of beads you can toss and exchange with other revelers. For detailed schedules, costs, hotels and other info, go to [www.mardigrasneworleans.com](http://www.mardigrasneworleans.com)