

# MARTHA STEWART Living

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**SONIAT HOUSE**

## NEW ORLEANS

With its live oaks, antebellum mansions, Creole cottages, and crumbling plaster walls, New Orleans remains one of the few American cities with its aesthetic integrity intact. Since moving here from New York a year ago, I've fallen in love, not just with the look of the place but also with its aromas and flavors: citrus and olive blossoms, beignets and chicory. And then there's the music. On weekends, my kids like to march alongside the jazz bands, followed by gumbo at the Camellia Grill, where the waiters in bow ties give them fist bumps. The city may have been devastated just over seven years ago, but today the cafés are full, a spate of national advertising agencies—drawing an influx of young creatives—are setting up shop, and the romance of the past is being matched by the optimism of a vibrant town rising from the ashes.

**BEVOLO GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHTS**



**THE CAMELLIA GRILL**



**TREME BRASS BAND**

### SONIAT HOUSE

The most romantic place to stay for a long weekend, this boutique hotel, composed of three early-1800s Creole townhouses, is filled with French antiques, Frette sheets, and an interior courtyard so lush that palms, ginger, and philodendron brush the top of your head. 1133 Chartres Street, [soniathouse.com](http://soniathouse.com).

### BEVOLO GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHTS

Founded in 1945 and still run by the same family,

Bevolo crafts the classic lanterns seen all over the French Quarter—and a slew of other styles—from a workshop above its charming showroom, where you can order one of your own. 521 Conti Street, [bevolo.com](http://bevolo.com).

### THE CAMELLIA GRILL

This classic diner doles out stellar onion rings, gumbo, fresh sliced turkey with coleslaw and Russian dressing, and more at two locations: the original, in Uptown,

and a new outpost in the French Quarter. The staff of handsome, friendly waiters are as much of a draw as the food. 626 South Carrollton Avenue, 504-309-2679; 540 Chartres Street, 504-522-1800.

### TREME BRASS BAND

This renowned mobile brass band is funky, talented, and above all else, seriously authentic. To find out where they're playing, check [twitter.com/tremebrassband](http://twitter.com/tremebrassband).