

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO The American Legion's 105th National Convention

August 23 – 29, 2024
\*Subject to Change Without Notice\*
As of 8/16/2024

#### **TIME ZONE:**

New Orleans is Central Time Zone.

#### **TEMPERATURE:**

The average high temperature in New Orleans in mid-August is 93 degrees F; average low is 76 degrees F. The extended forecast may be found at <a href="New Orleans">New Orleans</a>, LA Daily Weather | AccuWeather</a>. Plan and pack accordingly. Be weather alert!

## **HEADQUARTERS HOTELS:**

The headquarter hotels for The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion will be at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside.

#### **MEETINGS/EVENTS LOCATIONS:**

The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion General Sessions will be held at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, located at 900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130. The center will open one hour prior to the start of the first event each day.

The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center will also be the site of the exhibit hall and Emblem Sales Store, Be the One Symposium color guard and band contests, ANAVICUS breakfast, Patriotic Memorial Service, PDCC luncheon, continuing education workshops, subject matters expert training, National Commander's Banquet, and Auxiliary States Dinner.

The Blood Center needs You! Make an appointment in advance or stop by Friday, Aug. 23 or Monday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to donate & receive a shirt. Walk-ins are welcome!

National Staff Offices for The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, and Badges & Packets will also be in the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, as well as Distinguished Guest Registration. Please visit the mobile app or <u>Convention Information | The American Legion</u> for exact meeting room locations.

## **REGISTRATION/CREDENTIALS:**

All attendees must wear the proper credentials to access most areas. If you pre-registered with your department, you will obtain credentials on-site from your department. Contact your department for their applicable on-site registration location.

There will be two on-site registration locations in the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in the foyer closest to the Hilton, First Floor and near Hall E (closest to the shuttle hub). To register on-site, you will need your ID, current American Legion Family Membership card and \$35 cash. No credit cards will be accepted!

#### **DRESS CODE:**

Recommended dress code while in the convention audience and commission/committee meetings is business casual, which is defined as trousers and collared polo shirt – preferably Legion polo – for men and appropriate parallel dress for women. Comfortable shoes but no flip flops. If onstage at any point, business dress (shirt, tie, and jacket – appropriate parallel dress for women).

- All Commission and Committee Meetings: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Executive Committee Meetings, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Executive Committee Meetings, dais: Business dress
- National Convention, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Convention, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Convention, stage appearances: Business Dress

## **AIRLINES/TRANSPORTATION:**

Check your airline's website and/or download your airline mobile app to get the timeliest updates.

A good rule of thumb is to allow two (2) hours minimum for flight check-in.

Upon arrival to the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport and/or downtown New Orleans area, wait times and costs may have increased with Uber, Lyft, taxies, etc. Plan accordingly.

#### **FOOD AND BEVERAGE:**

Food and beverage options will be located throughout the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Please utilize these areas to enjoy your culinary delights and refreshing beverages. The Convention Center is a cashless food and beverage facility. The center accepts all major credit cards, Apple and Google Pay. For ticketed food & beverage events, bar services, only major credit cards are accepted.

For local menus around the New Orleans area, visit nomenu.com.

There are multiple refillable water bottle stations all throughout the Convention Center – please make sure to bring your water bottle and **HYDRATE** as much as possible.

## **EXHIBIT HALL/EMBLEM SALES:**

The Exhibit Hall/Emblem Sales will be located in Hall E, Convention Center, First Floor.

A former exhibitor is returning this year, and you may go absolutely NUTS about it! Stop by Hall E to see who it might be!!

If you do not have your own reusable water bottle, you may purchase @ Emblem Sales. <u>Hydration</u> is the name of the game at National Convention this year!!

#### **SAFETY AND SECURITY:**

**NO** weapons of **ANY** kind are allowed in the convention center.

Should an incident occur inside the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, attendees should dial 504.821.2222 from a cell phone for the New Orleans Police Department. For any medical or life-threatening emergency, always dial 911. Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and first aid stations are located throughout the center. Please be aware of these locations as well as your nearest exits.

A Medical Services letter will be included in each registration bag.

Should you become ill or experience any COVID type symptoms, please advise your Department Adjutant. Throughout the Convention Center, hand sanitizing stations are in place.

Visitors Downtown can also utilize the Downtown Development District (DDD) Public Safety Rangers, who are on duty seven (7) days a week from 6:00AM – 10:00PM. Downtown SafeWalk ambassadors are offered free of charge within the DDD boundaries. Call or text 504-415-1730 at least 20 minutes prior to check availability.

For most hotels, guestroom/floor access may only accessible for registered hotel guests via a secured key card.

If you are walking from the Hilton Riverside to the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, or anyplace, be cautious of cars entering/exiting parking garages and surface lots. Many drivers may not pay attention OR could have obstructed views.

Like any other major city, please use the buddy system and common sense when exploring Downtown New Orleans. Travel in groups, be cautious of overindulging, & stay in well-lit areas. Make sure to keep your head on a swivel so that you can continue to have an amazing time enjoying the wonderful city of New Orleans. Always be aware of your surroundings.

#### **LOST & FOUND:**

Lost and Found will be located in Legion Staff Offices – Hall C, New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

## SCOOTERS/WHEELCHAIRS/MOBILITY DEVICES:

Scootaround & Mobility City are the current, available companies offering scooter rentals. Visit Convention Information | The American Legion for available scooter rental contact information.

#### **SHUTTLES:**

A detailed schedule is currently on <u>Convention Information | The American Legion</u> and will be on the mobile app.

#### **OFF-SITE EVENTS:**

#### Saints Game:

Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> @ 1PM New Orleans Saints vs. Tennessee Titans Caesars Superdome 1500 Sugar Bowl Dr. New Orleans, LA 70112

Tickets must be purchased in advance – please see the flyer located on <u>Convention Information |</u> <u>The American Legion.</u>

## WWII American Legion Family Night at the Museum:

Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM 945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

Tickets must be purchased the day prior to the event. To purchase your tickets, please visit Convention Information | The American Legion.

Magnetometers at main entrance upon arrival. No weapons are allowed!

You must wear your National Convention credential badge and have your purchased ticket ready to be scanned upon entry.

Both special exhibits are closed. Should you choose to return, please know there are parts of the exhibits that use loud sound effects & strobe lighting.

Even with this being a private event, due to the size of the museum you will not be able to visit every part of the museum. We recommend using your time wisely to get the most out of your experience. To purchase a second day pass at the discounted rate, please use the above website.

There will be volunteers located throughout the museum to help direct.

The only smoking area is located at Founders Plaza. Please follow signs to the designated smoking areas.

#### **OTHER:**

There <u>are</u> pet/service animal relief areas – there are multiple green spaces & dog disposal bags/cans in Pedestrian Park & next to the Shuttle Hub. Smoking and the use of e-cigarettes (vaping) is not permitted within 25 feet of the building, excluding designated smoking areas. No smoking in the park as it is a continuance of the building.

With all service-related venues, wait times may have increased and amenities may have been scaled back (housekeeping limited service, etc.) Patience and flexibility are appreciated during your travel and stay experience.

In your mobile app, please complete the survey which will help with future convention planning.

The Convention/Mobile App will be the format used to reach attendees in an emergency or alert. Please ensure you have downloaded the app prior to your arrival! (Search TALNC24 into the Apple Store or Google Play Store.)

See you in New Orleans!

For the most up-to-date information while on-site in New Orleans, download the mobile app:

<u>Mobile Apps | The American Legion</u>