

The History of Pat O'Brien's

Pat O'Brien's, San Antonio

Behind the doors of Pat O'Brien's in San Antonio you will find our world famous Hurricanes, the Piano Bar and the Flaming Fountain. The building in which Pat O'Brien's is housed was built in 1888 and was once occupied by the San Antonio Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Just one half of a block from the San Antonio Riverwalk, one block from the San Antonio Convention Center and just across the street from the Alamo, Pat O'Brien's is convenient to all downtown hotels. Charlie Cantrell, owner of the original Pat O'Brien's in New Orleans opened the San Antonio location in 2003. Eighteen months later, it was sold to the current owners as a franchise.

Pat O'Brien's, New Orleans

For more than 67 years, world-famous Pat O'Brien's has treated its customers to days and nights of merriment that have certainly upheld the establishment's motto of "Have Fun!"

During the days of Prohibition in the 1930s, B. H. "Pat" O'Brien operated "Mr. O'Brien's Club Tipperary," one of many speakeasies in New Orleans, whose doors opened only to the select few who knew the password, "Storm's Brewin." When the Prohibition Amendment was repealed in 1933, Mr. O'Brien moved his now legal drinking establishment across the street from the speakeasy to Pat O'Brien's original location in the 600 block of St. Peter. Once the Bar's name was established as the place to be, a much larger facility was needed. The present site of Pat O'Brien's now at 718 St. Peter Street was built in 1791. This location originally housed the country's first Spanish Theater, then later became the private residence of the Deflechie Family. Pat O'Brien purchased the building in 1942 and moved his establishment. Under the management of Pat O'Brien, Charlie Cantrell, and George Oechsner, Jr., the bar with the modest green-and-white sign began to flourish.

Pat O'Brien's is committed to "Have Fun!" with quality, consistency, value, and efficiency. Pat O'Brien's motto of "Have Fun!" has been a constant since its doors first opened in 1933. It remains a place for locals and tourists alike to relax and Have Fun!

The Pat O'Brien's Hurricane Specialty Drink

Served in a Pat O'Brien's logo glass and garnished with an orange slice and a cherry, the fruity red concoction was created during World War II when liquor such as whiskey was in low supply. In order to purchase just one case of these liquors, liquor salesmen forced bar owners to purchase as much as 50 cases of rum, which was plentiful. In an effort to use the abundance of rum that Pat O'Brien's acquired, the recipe for the Hurricane evolved with the help of an eager liquor salesman. The name came soon after when a glass shaped like a hurricane lamp was used to serve the fruity rum cocktail.