

## *Edible New Orleans Writers' Guidelines*

**Thank you for your interest in writing for Edible New Orleans.** We welcome submissions, pitches and story ideas, especially those that dig into what this city eats and why. We are not interested in restaurant openings for the print magazine. Rather, we hunger for bits of forgotten food history; a pho that is worth the trip; an artisan, cook, or chef who makes his/her bitters or boudin; a factory or store with culinary specialty, big or small; a trend that is making a difference in the way the city thinks about food; or an essay on a revelatory culinary experience. We take pitches for both features and department stories.

To pitch to us, send one or two well-thought out paragraphs describing your idea, along with two or three clips of the tone you would write in. These can be links to previously published work. Not that Edible New Orleans's style is high-energy with a strong sense of humor, so please send writing samples that show you are capable of going beyond the straight news story. Send both your

We are a member of Edible Communities, a growing, award-winning, nationwide network of community-based food publications whose mission is to transform the way communities shop for, cook, eat, and think about the food that is grown and produced in their area. To read more about Edible Communities, go to [www.ediblecommunities.com](http://www.ediblecommunities.com).

Edible New Orleans is a quarterly magazine celebrating the abundance of the local food and drink throughout the New Orleans area. Edible New Orleans readers are interested in: eating delicious locally grown seasonal food; getting to know the people who grow, produce, cook and sell those foods; and learning what's available in and near our city in terms of great dining, day trips, food events and festivals, great books and products to try.

### **SUBMITTING A QUERY**

We rely on freelance writers for the majority of our stories and departments. Writers generally generate their own topics, or in some cases, the editor can make assignments based on writers' interests and knowledge or based on a particular theme for that issue of Edible New Orleans. The primary qualification for contributors is an ability to write in a lively, elegant, informative, accurate and interesting manner. We are looking for tightly written articles with an original voice that will engage and inform our readers.

If you have a story idea you think would work well for Edible New Orleans, submit a query outlining the subject matter and focus of the article, citing whom you wish to interview, possibly including a sample introductory paragraph or two and listing any relevant experience you have on the subject matter. You may suggest photo ideas for the photographer. Full articles on spec are discouraged. If you have not written for us before, please attach a sample of your writing, preferable work that has been published and an unedited sample as well. We prefer queries by email. Our staff is small, so it may take up to a month to get a response. You are welcome to follow up with us. Please submit your query to [pitches@edibleneworleans.com](mailto:pitches@edibleneworleans.com), with a subject line that mentions that it is a query or story idea.

### **DEPARTMENT STORIES**

Department stories range from 500 to 900 words. Our regular departments include: Liquid Assets (exploring locally produced beverages including beer, cocktails, and coffee); Back of the House (an article written by or about a professional chef/restaurant); Profiles (interviews with local farmers, producers, cooks, as well as interviews about food and drink with non-food professionals); Articles on legal, ethical, and/or environmental issues affecting food and drink and related culture in the region; Waste Not Want Not (One dish with several incarnations, making it good for leftovers without feeling like leftovers. Also, how to get the most out of your groceries – using all of a product); Talk Dirty to Me (urban growing and gardening), Prep School (Basic cooking techniques); DIY Diary; and Essays.

### **FEATURE STORIES**

These range from 700-3000 words (they will generally run 1,500 words).

The topics of feature stories vary, though they may include: history, architecture, opinion, culture, in-season products

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Submit all articles through email ([pitches@edibleneworleans.com](mailto:pitches@edibleneworleans.com)) with a subject line that includes the word “pitch.”
- Submit all articles in Microsoft Word with a minimum of formatting and only one space following a period. Please remove all hyperlinks to websites. Include a by-line with your name, a bio of 30-50 words, and your contact information.
- Any recipes submitted with accompanying articles must be original and carefully tested. They will be retested in our test kitchen. If they are not original, permission for reprint must be obtained and (if applicable) paid for by submitter.
- All sources for information in the article should be cited, and if passages from published (including Web published) material are included, permission for use must be obtained.
- Submitting your article is only the beginning of the process. Please remain available to participate in the editorial process. It may be necessary for us to edit your piece for length and clarity. We also face check and copy edit all articles and test recipes.
- Your patience, flexibility and follow-through are greatly appreciated.

## *Edible New Orleans Writers' Calendar*

We encourage you to send your query ideas as early as possible. We are often working several issues out. We encourage you to come up with your own story ideas, though we are happy to make suggestions if necessary.

ISSUE	LAST DAY FOR STORY IDEAS	ARTICLE DEADLINE	POSSIBLE THEMES	
Issue 1 APRIL, MAY, JUNE	January 1, 2014	February 1, 2014	Food/Drink and Music, Seasonal products, Road Trips , etc	
Issue 2 The Drinks Issue JULY, AUG, SEPT	April 1, 2014	May 1, 2014	This entire issue is devoted to drinks – cocktails, beer, coffee, etc.	
Issue 3 OCT, NOV, DEC	July 1, 2014	August 1, 2014	Hunt, Fish, and Forage; Holidays , Architecture; Seasonal products, etc	
Issue 4 JAN, FEB, MARCH	October 1, 2014	November 1, 2014	Seasonal products, health, etc	