

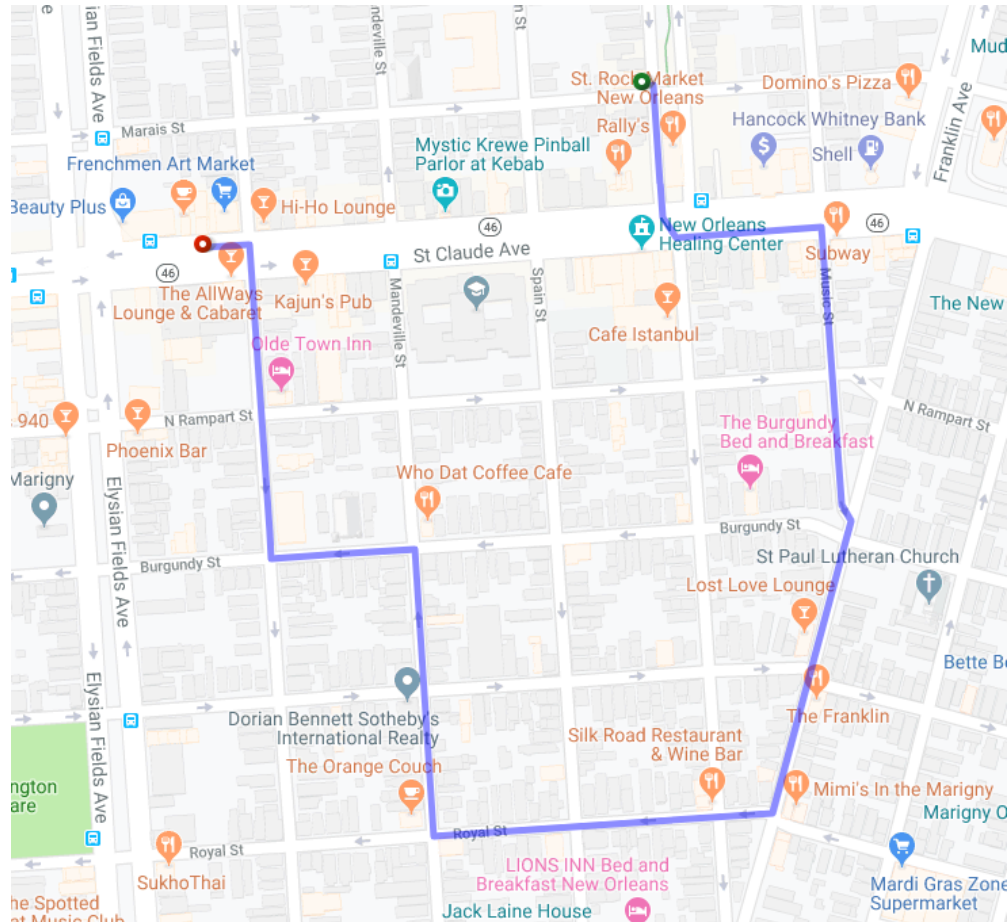


## Krewe of Tit Rax

*New Orleans' Original Microkrewe*

Feb 9, 2020 4:30pm in the Marigny. (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Mardi Gras)

### Route:



**Origins:** 'tit Rex was founded by a group of artists, business owners, and friends in 2009, in part as a tongue-in-cheek taunt to the big, bland superkrewes that seemed to dominate Mardi Gras at the moment, constantly setting records for floats, throws and extravagance.. Small was subversive.

'tit Rex was named for the meat-eating mega dinosaur Tyrannosaurus Rex, aka T Rex. In Cajun parlance, 'tit is short for petit, which means small. So 'tit Rex is like ... a darling little vicious apex predator.

Taking their cue from the generations-old, grade-school tradition of decorating shoeboxes to look like Mardi Gras floats, 'tit Rex members use shoeboxes as the foundation of their floats. 'tit Rex floats might be little and cute, but they have smart, adult, sometimes gnarly themes.

This mini parade is a creative way to celebrate Mardi Gras each year. Inspired by the super krewe of Bacchus, the founder thought taking the opposite approach could be fun too-- creating a micro krewe.

Each year we put on a Mardi Gras parade consisting of around 30 shoebox floats. The floats are pulled by their artist handlers, and up to two additional 'riders' may accompany to hand out 'throws'.

**Pro:** We've also become one of the kid-friendliest of the parades during Mardi Gras, not only because of our scale, but also our time, location and overall size. And while we're not exactly as bawdy as Krewe du Vieux we're also not as G-rated as Elmo.

**Controversy:** 'tit Rex roared into the headlines in 2011, when the real Rex organization, the oldest and arguably most renowned Mardi Gras krewe of all, demonstrated a royal dearth of public relation savvy, when the management dispatched a lawyer to threaten poor little 'tit Rex for infringing on the mighty Rex's trade name.

'tit Rex avoided court by immediately turning their e upside down, AKA: a schwa.

'tit Rex later had a territorial social media squabble with another New Mardi Gras upstart, the Intergalactic Krewe of Chewbacchus, which rolled nearby on the same night at 7.

**Funny story:** 'tit Rex captain Caesar Meadows said that the mini krewe's 2017 theme is "'tit Rex Takes a Nap," which is meant as a sarcastic echo of the dreamy, sometimes vapid themes of bigger parades. Meadows, an artist known for his mini comic books, had personally proposed the theme "'tit Rex Orders a Side Salad," but he was voted down.

**Royalty:** Much like a large scale parade we have royalty (a king and a queen) with the difference being that royalty are represented by inanimate objects and are not actual people. We also have a different theme each year. Floats are constructed with the theme in mind.

**Music:** 'tit Ræx incorporates four brass bands in their parade so there is always a lot of dancing and revelry.

**Throws:** Members also construct all throws which are small scale and very unique. I read a note that one member decorates mini coconuts and Barbie shoes and purses ala Zulu/Muses/Nyx. Another member and one of the founders makes mini comic Books that he hands out.

**Post Parade party:** At the end of the parade we host Gallier Small and the Ping Pong Ball. You can learn about the floats at our viewing stage (Gallier Small) and dance into the night at the ball.

**Membership:** Many people ask, "Hey that's really great, can I sign up?" And while we don't discourage participation, keep in mind that the very basis of the parade is to do things \*small\* We can't have a small parade that stretches a mile long, and that's why we cap the number of floats that roll each year to a manageable number of 30. "That's not very inclusive," you might criticize... but remember the parade isn't just the people marching down the middle of the street!

Although rolling in the main parade is reserved for krewe members, and even then there are precious few slots available, we have seen something crop up over the past few years: micro displays of 'tit lovin'. Some of these tiny scenes are just as elaborate as the floats, sometimes MORE so.

We encourage the artistic, the innovative, the crazy and the clever to make their own 'tit-sized crowd scenes and other parade related paraphernalia. We may be marching, but YOU are also part of the spectacle. Just remember, keep it small!

And yes, people set up crowds and such on the parade using dolls and smaller figures.

Outside of the parade day they set up the, floats for display at Jazz Fest.

Where to follow:

www: [titrexparade.com](http://titrexparade.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/titR3x/>

Twitter: @KreweoftitRex

Instagram: @tit\_r3x