

Morning Links: Flushing the French Quarter, Car-Rental Madness and More

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Photo of French Quarter by respres, via Flickr (Creative Commons)

- Kurt Andersen [talked to Pico Iyer](#) about his life as an “outside man” in Japan. There’s also [video](#).
- Spud Hilton [calls place-dropping](#) a “subtle and often unnoticed art form.”
- Goodbye, street-flushing in the French Quarter of New Orleans. [Hello, toxic stench?](#)
- [Travel with Spirit](#), a new magazine for “focusing exclusively on Christian travel,” [debuted last week](#).
- Arthur Frommer has [an idea to stimulate the U.S. economy](#): Induce more foreign tourists to visit.
- Dan Bilefsky [investigates the battle](#) for the Czech Republic’s Kingdom of Wallachia.
- The [outlook for mobile-ticketing](#)—using your cell phone as a boarding pass—is strong. (via [Tripsio](#))
- One upside of the down economy for travelers: [Unexpected hotel room upgrades](#).
- Video: This guy was pushed a little too far [at the car-rental counter](#).
- [This is kind of creepy](#): Plane-crash simulation as team-building exercise.

Got a suggestion? [Send us your link](#).