

discover
Darien – McIntosh County
“Where Georgia Began”

Darien-McIntosh County Chamber & Regional Visitor Information Center
1111 Magnolia Bluff Way SW Suite 255
Darien, GA 31305
(912) 437-4837
www.VisitDarien.com

Darien, Georgia & McIntosh County, centrally located on Georgia's coastline and on the Altamaha River Delta

Fisherman's Paradise & Artists' Paradise, McIntosh County is available for your next great adventure

Offering various outdoor, historical and cultural activities, McIntosh County and Darien are true gems nestled on the coast of Georgia. This is the site of Georgia's first fort built by the Carolina Rangers and later re-garrisoned by Scottish highlanders as defense against the Spanish, French and native Indians population. Pristine rivers and salt water marshes provide perfect habitat for all manner of fish and fowl, as well as wild game and give perfect opportunities to sight see by canoe or kayak. Located along the Coastal Birding Trail, birders can find opportunities for locating all types from bald eagles to painted buntings. This county also can boast of a number of writers, both of fiction and non-fiction and a home-grown humorist and song writer.

Attractions:

Old Jail Art Center & Museum with Art Gallery & Studio

Ashantilly Center has educational events such as Lime Burns, and talks by Buddy Sullivan, State Historian.

Waterfront Shopping District offers a variety of specialty shops, gourmet foods, restaurants and a unique B & B

Fort King George

Butler Island and the Altamaha National Wildlife Refuge

Festivals:

Shellman Bluff's St. Patrick's Day Celebration – First Saturday AFTER March 17 (2012 will be on March 24)

Scottish Heritage Day @ Fort King George – was 3-19-2011, call 912-437-4770 for 2012 date

Blessing of the Fleet – April 1, 2, 3, 2011 (2012 will be April 20, 21, 22)

Red, White & Blues on the Bluff – July 2, 2011

Sapelo Cultural Day – October 15, 2011

Darien Fall Fest – November 5, 2011

The Lighting of the Luminaries on Vernon Square – December 1 or 8, 2011

Story Ideas:

Searching for Darien's River Monster, The Altamahaha

Local Dining

Sapelo Island's Gullah Geechee Culture

McIntosh Shouters

Kayaking from The Georgia Coast Mothership

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Smallest Church in America
Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge
Annual Blessing of the Fleet
Ashantilly, Thomas Spalding’s mainland home & oldest example of tabby construction in Georgia
Blackbeard Island National Wildlife refuge
Fishing - Inshore and Offshore, as well as crabbing, shrimping and fly-fishing
Historic Churches and Cemeteries
Historic Markers of substantial national history sites
Kings Grants, Doboy Island and shipping chandlery
Fort King George-a pre-revolutionary fort (first fort on GA soil) built by Carolina Rangers
Scottish Heritage and the founding of Darien
Colonel John McIntosh, the Scotsman who wouldn’t stay buried
Darien-Historic Port of the Timber Days
Catching, processing and exporting wild Georgia jellyfish and fresh water eel for export
Harris Neck Historic Land/Plantation Tours
Altamaha River and its estuarine system
Sapelo Island National Marine Estuarine Research Center

Annual Events:

February

Darien Lions Club Oyster Roast <http://galions.org/18b/DarienLionsClub.htm>
Dinner with General James Oglethorpe www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge;
ftkgeo@dariantel.net
Valentine Tea at Ashantilly www.ashantilly.org

March

St. Patrick’s Day Parade & Celebration www.friendsofshellmanbluff.org
Scottish Heritage Day www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge; ftkgeo@dariantel.net

April (or March depending on the tide)

Annual Blessing of the Fleet Festival www.blessingofthefleet.com

July

Red, White & Blues on the Bluff www.visitdarien.com
Cannons Across the Marsh www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge; ftkgeo@dariantel.net
Cap’n Hap’s Kingfish Bash www.bashonthebluff.com/
Sapelo Open Kingfish Tournament www.sapelosaltwaterfishingclub.com

August

Darien Lions Club Low Country Boil <http://galions.org/18b/DarienLionsClub.htm>

September

Ashantilly Ice Cream Churn-Off www.ashantilly.org
Chamber of Commerce Auction www.visitdarien.com
“A Murder Mystery in Colonial Darien” at Fort King George
www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge; ftkgeo@dariantel.net

October

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Sapelo Island Cultural Day www.sapeloislandgeorgia.org

Colonial Coast Birding Festival <http://www.coastalgeorgiabirding.org/>

Altamaha Riverkeeper CLAM JAM www.altamahariverkeeper.org

November

Darien Fall Fest www.DarienFallFest.com

The Debatable Land www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge; ftkgeo@dariantel.net

December

Christmas at the Reynolds Mansion on Sapelo Island sapelovc@dariantel.net 912-437-3224

Darien Christmas Parade <http://mcintoshchristmasparade.com/history.htm>

Colonial Christmas at Fort King George www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge;
ftkgeo@dariantel.net

Media services: Stock Photos, FAM Tours, Contact Resources