

# THE GEORGIA COAST



Georgia's Coast stretches approximately 100 miles between the **Savannah** and **St. Marys** Rivers. In this unique region you can wander isolated beaches, tranquil marshes and cobblestone streets. Sample lowcountry delicacies like Wild Georgia Shrimp and **Brunswick** stew, or sway to the soulful beat of a Gullah-Geechee song. **Barrier islands**, **mysterious swamps**, and the easy rhythm of the coastal culture make Georgia's coast an unforgettable experience.

A stroll in historic **Savannah**, "Georgia's First City," uncovers magnificent live oak trees draped in Spanish moss, antebellum mansions overlooking picturesque squares, art galleries and unique "lowcountry" restaurants including Paula Deen's world famous The Lady & Sons. After touring the nooks and crannies of the city's famous historic district, including the Broughton Street shopping district including the Savannah Bee Company and Shop SCAD, head to **Tybee Island**, Savannah's Beach, for a climb up the lighthouse and a casual beach visit. With something happening almost every weekend on Savannah's Beach you will want to be sure and check out Tybee's events calendar.

[visitsavannah.com](http://visitsavannah.com)  
[ladyandsons.com](http://ladyandsons.com)  
[tybeevisit.com](http://tybeevisit.com)  
[savannahbee.com](http://savannahbee.com)  
[shopscadonline.com](http://shopscadonline.com)

South of Savannah lie **The Golden Isles** of Georgia: St. Simons Island, Sea Island, Little St. Simons Island and Jekyll Island. On **Brunswick's** waterfront, you'll see fleets of shrimp boats that work the local waters. Nearby **St. Simons Island** offers historic sites like the St. Simons Lighthouse and Maritime Center at Historic Coast Guard Station. Just across the sound, **Jekyll Island** offers a wealth of activities including beautiful beaches and golf. Step back in time in the **Jekyll Island National Historic Landmark District** for a look at the lifestyle of America's wealthiest families in the Victorian era. **Sea Island** is home to The Cloister, a world-class resort renowned for luxury and gracious service, while private **Little St. Simons Island** offers nature-based activities, gourmet meals and what can only be called Rustic Luxury.

[goldenisles.com](http://goldenisles.com)

**African American Heritage Sites** in the region abound, from the Hog Hammock Community on Sapelo Island to the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum and First African Baptist Church in Savannah; from Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation in Brunswick to Dorchester Academy in Liberty County.

- [gastateparks.org/SapeloReynolds](http://gastateparks.org/SapeloReynolds)
- [visit-historic-savannah.com/ralph-mark-gilbert-civil-rights-museum.html](http://visit-historic-savannah.com/ralph-mark-gilbert-civil-rights-museum.html)
- [theoldestblackchurch.org](http://theoldestblackchurch.org)
- [gastateparks.org/HofwylBroadfield](http://gastateparks.org/HofwylBroadfield)
- [dorchesteracademy.com](http://dorchesteracademy.com)

More than 300 species of birds have been sighted along the **Colonial Coast Birding Trail** at 18 unique sites, including shorelines, salt marshes, old rice fields, woodlands, tidal rivers and wetlands.

[georgiawildlife.com/node/1356](http://georgiawildlife.com/node/1356)

Experience the pristine environment of **Cumberland Island National Seashore**, accessible only by ferry from the charming town of St. Marys. This 17.5 mile-long island is well known for its wild horses, birding, remote beaches, salt marshes, historic structures and The Greyfield Inn.

[nps.gov/cuis](http://nps.gov/cuis)  
[greyfieldinn.com](http://greyfieldinn.com)

The **Georgia Sea Turtle Center**, located on Jekyll Island, is dedicated to the rehabilitation and preservation of endangered sea turtles. It is the only sea turtle rehabilitation center of its kind between coastal South Carolina and Florida.

[georgiaseaturtlecenter.org](http://georgiaseaturtlecenter.org)



**The Woodbine Opry** is an open-mic jam session with some of the best musicians in the Deep South! Listen to acoustic bluegrass and gospel on Friday, and amplified country on Saturday. No night at the Opry would be complete without a fabulous country dinner, a 50/50 drawing and a dessert raffle.  
[woodbineopry.com](http://woodbineopry.com)

**Kingsland** is a city rich in history and natural beauty. Visitors come here to enjoy the pristine wilderness of Cumberland Island, breathtaking coastal golf, and to begin their adventures on the Okefenokee Trail.  
[visitkingsland.com](http://visitkingsland.com)

**Darien**, founded in 1736 on the banks of the Darien River by Scottish Highlanders, is the second oldest planned city in the state of Georgia. Today, picturesque shrimp boats line the river near the waterfront park. Darien's walking and bike paths, lined with live oak trees draped with Spanish moss, connect the downtown waterfront park with Ft. King George and other historic sites. Darien is the perfect place to find sumptuous Wild Georgia Shrimp and unique bed and breakfast inns.  
[mcintoshcounty.com](http://mcintoshcounty.com)

Wind your way down the **Liberty Trail** through Hinesville, Midway, Riceboro and Flemington, which features African-American, military and colonial history as well as hiking and biking.  
[discoverlibertyga.com/libertytrail.asp](http://discoverlibertyga.com/libertytrail.asp)

Climb aboard the **Lady Jane Shrimp Boat** as Captain Larry Credle drops the nets and brings the bounty of the coastal waters on deck. From ancient horseshoe crabs to small sharks and rays, you're bound to see something exciting and learn a little too. A unique experience not to be missed!  
[shrimpcruise.com](http://shrimpcruise.com)

The **Mighty 8th Air Force Museum** in Pooler is a powerful testament to the dedication of the men and women who helped defeat Nazi aggression. Fifteen permanent exhibits, including the newly restored B-17 Bomber exhibit, honor the courage and commitment of the 8th Air Force.  
[mightyeighth.org](http://mightyeighth.org)

The **Okefenokee Swamp** is abundant with wildlife and central to the culture and heritage of southeast Georgia. Take a guided boat tour, or paddle your own canoe through this easily accessible wilderness full of extraordinary plant life, alligators and birds. Three entrances (at Folkston, Fargo and Waycross) offer a variety of ways to experience this natural wonder. While in Folkston, don't miss the opportunity to visit the Folkston Funnel train viewing platform where more than 60 trains pass each day, including the Amtrak and the Tropicana Juice Train, it's a train lover's paradise!  
[folkston.com](http://folkston.com)  
[swampgeorgia.com](http://swampgeorgia.com)  
[gastateparks.org/SCFoster](http://gastateparks.org/SCFoster)

**Richmond Hill's** natural beauty is what brought **Henry and Clara Ford** to this small town in 1925 to build their winter retreat. They also constructed a saw mill, drained the swamps, and subsidized health care. He started the first kindergarten in Bryan County and began building schools that helped set the standard in education throughout Georgia. Eventually, Ford bought 85,000 acres, including Fort McAllister (still an attraction today), saving the old fort from demise. He built a church, commissary, trade school, community house and homes for his 600 employees.  
[richmondhillvisit.com](http://richmondhillvisit.com)



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