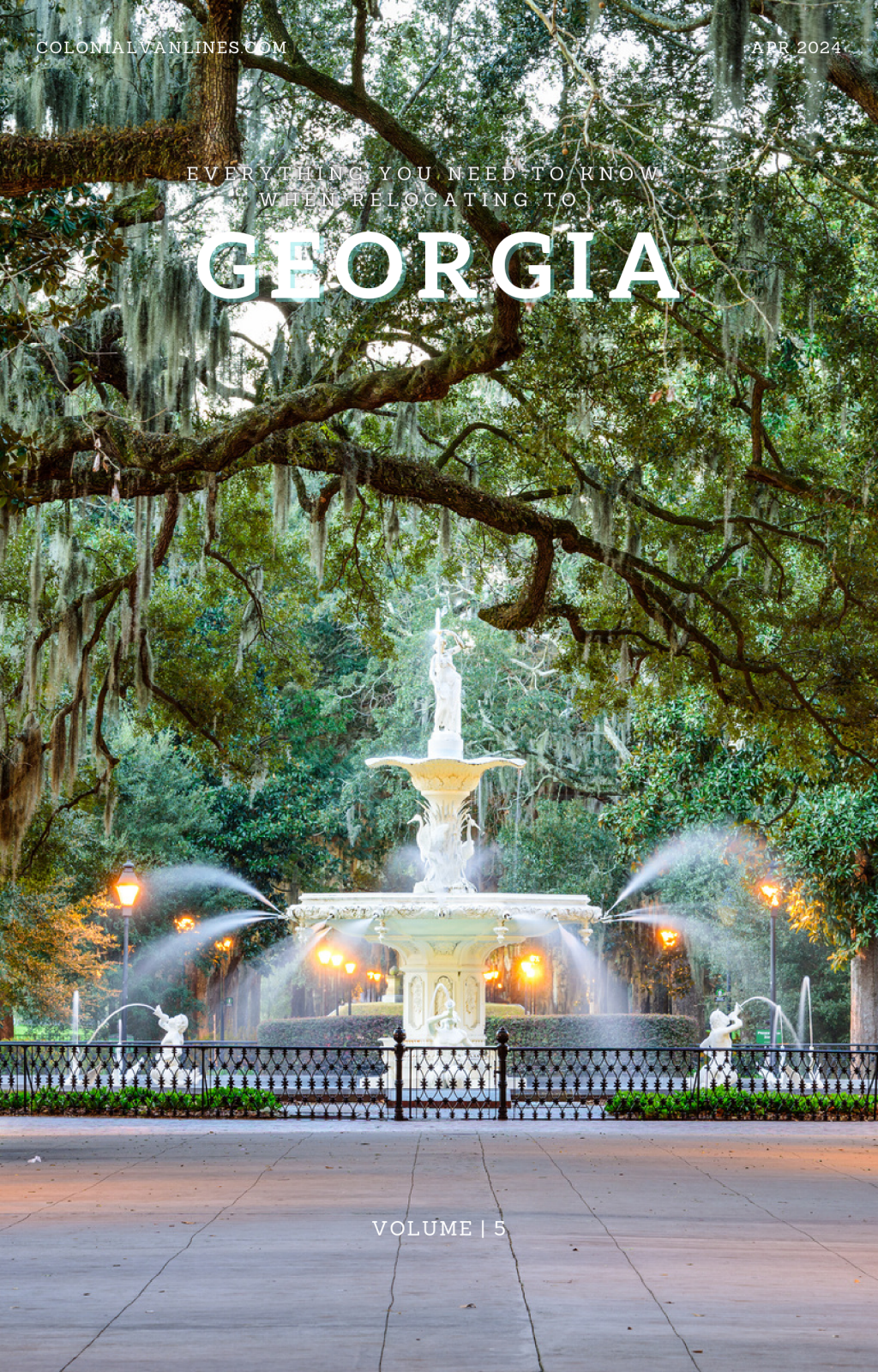


EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW
WHEN RELOCATING TO

GEORGIA



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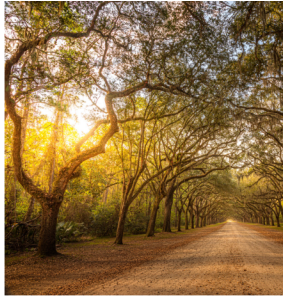
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03 | INTRODUCTION

Are you considering a move to the charming state of Georgia? Whether you're drawn to the vibrant city life of Atlanta, the picturesque coastal towns, or the peaceful countryside, making the move to Georgia can be an exciting adventure. At Colonial Van Lines, we understand that relocating can be both exhilarating and daunting, which is why we're here to make the process as smooth as possible. With our comprehensive moving and packing services, you can trust us to handle every aspect of your relocation with care and professionalism.

In this guide, we'll explore 10 compelling reasons why Georgia should be your next home, from its diverse culture and thriving economy to its stunning natural beauty and warm Southern hospitality. So, if you're considering moving to Georgia, sit back, relax, and let us show you why it's the perfect place to call home.

QUICK FACTS

1733

FOUNDED BY JAMES OGLETHORPE
WHO LANDED IN SAVANNAH.

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GEORGIA STATE PARKS &
HISTORIC SITES

#1

GEORGIA IS THE
LEADING PRODUCER OF
PEACHES, PEANUTS
AND PECANS.

1883

FIRST EVER RODEO
HELD IN PECOS, TX

#1

WESLEYAN COLLEGE IN MACON, GA WAS THE
FIRST COLLEGE IN THE WORLD THAT WAS
PERMITTED TO GRANT WOMEN COLLEGE
DEGREES.



WHERE TO EAT IN GEORGIA?

One of the many delights awaiting you after moving to Georgia, is the vibrant culinary scene. Georgia boasts a rich tapestry of flavors, from Southern classics to innovative fusion cuisine, making it a haven for food enthusiasts. Whether you're craving down-home comfort food or seeking out fine dining experiences, the Peach State offers an array of dining options to tantalize your taste buds.

- **Bacchanalia (Atlanta)** - Awarded multiple times by the James Beard Foundation for its outstanding cuisine and service.
- **Miller Union (Atlanta)** - Another James Beard award winner known for its farm-to-table Southern cuisine and welcoming atmosphere.
- **Staplehouse (Atlanta)** - Recognized by both Michelin and the James Beard Foundation, Staplehouse offers innovative American cuisine in a stylish setting.



INTRODUCTION

- **The Grey (Savannah)** - Located in a restored Greyhound bus terminal, The Grey has earned both Michelin and James Beard accolades for its inventive Southern-inspired dishes.
- **Atlas (Atlanta)** - Situated in the St. Regis Atlanta hotel, Atlas boasts a sophisticated atmosphere and has been honored by both Michelin and the James Beard Foundation for its exceptional cuisine.
- **Seabear Oyster Bar (Athens)** - A cozy oyster bar in downtown Athens, Seabear has been recognized for its fresh seafood and creative cocktails by the James Beard Foundation.
- **Aria (Atlanta)** - A longstanding fixture in the Atlanta dining scene, Aria has earned praise from both Michelin and the James Beard Foundation for its elegant ambiance and expertly crafted dishes.
- **5 & 10 (Athens)** - Led by acclaimed chef Hugh Acheson, 5 & 10 has received accolades from the James Beard Foundation for its creative Southern cuisine and commitment to locally sourced ingredients.

As you prepare to make Georgia your new home, be sure to savor the diverse culinary offerings that await you. From charming local eateries to award-winning fine dining establishments, Georgia's culinary scene is a testament to the state's rich culture and vibrant spirit. Whether you're a foodie at heart or simply enjoy exploring new flavors, Georgia promises a culinary adventure like no other. So pack your appetite along with your belongings, and get ready to experience the flavors of Georgia as you embark on your new journey in the Peach State.

08 | TOP CITIES



TOP CITIES



As you contemplate the exciting prospect of moving to Georgia, it's essential to consider which city will best suit your lifestyle and preferences. Fortunately, the Peach State boasts a plethora of vibrant and welcoming cities, each offering its own unique charm and amenities. Whether you're drawn to the cosmopolitan energy of Atlanta, the historic allure of Savannah, or the quaint charm of small-town living, Georgia has a city to suit every taste. At Colonial Van Lines, we've helped hundreds of individuals and families seamlessly transition into Georgia, ensuring that their relocation experience is smooth and stress-free.

From coordinating logistics to providing expert packing and transportation services, our team is dedicated to making your move to Georgia as effortless as possible. So, if you're ready to embark on a new adventure and make Georgia your next home, join us as we explore the top 10 best cities the state has to offer.



ATLANTA

Moving to Atlanta opens the door to a world of opportunity and excitement. As the cultural and economic hub of the Southeast, Atlanta offers a dynamic blend of urban amenities, diverse neighborhoods, and thriving industries. Whether you're drawn to the bustling streets of Midtown, the historic charm of Virginia-Highland, or the trendy vibes of East Atlanta Village, there's a neighborhood to suit every taste and lifestyle.

With a booming job market, world-class dining scene, and endless entertainment options, Atlanta has something for everyone, making it a top choice for those seeking a vibrant urban experience.

LIVING IN ATLANTA

Atlanta Astounds with History & Culture

- **Margaret Mitchell House & Museum:** Dive into the life and legacy of Margaret Mitchell, author of the iconic novel "Gone With the Wind."
- **College Football Hall of Fame:** Celebrate the rich tradition of college football with interactive exhibits and historical artifacts.
- **Fernbank Museum of Natural History:** Discover the wonders of the natural world through dinosaur exhibits, dioramas, and interactive experiences.

Atlanta's Buzzing Culture

- **Alliance Theatre:** Enjoy a diverse range of productions from classic plays to contemporary works at this Tony Award-winning theatre.
- **Tabernacle:** Catch a concert or other live music performance in this historic venue known for its stunning architecture and acoustics.
- **Little Five Points:** Immerse yourself in the quirky and eclectic atmosphere of this district, known for its independent shops, street art, and vibrant nightlife.
- **SweetWater Brewing Company:** Tour the brewery, sample award-winning craft beers, and enjoy live music in a lively atmosphere.

Go Outside the Busy City

- **Atlanta BeltLine:** Explore this 22-mile multi-use trail on foot or bike, offering access to parks, neighborhoods, and art installations.
- **Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area:** Enjoy kayaking, canoeing, fishing, or hiking along the Chattahoochee River and explore its scenic beauty.
- **LEGOLAND Discovery Center Atlanta:** Build your own creations, race LEGO vehicles, and experience interactive LEGO fun for the whole family.
- **Cheetah Experience:** Get up close and personal with cheetahs at this unique wildlife encounter facility. (Consider mentioning age restrictions if any)

Day Trips for the Adventurous

- **Amicalola Falls State Park:** Hike to the top of Amicalola Falls, the tallest waterfall in Georgia, and enjoy breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains.
- **Dauphin Island:** Take a day trip to the Alabama coast, known for its beautiful beaches, birdwatching opportunities, and fresh seafood.
- **Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa:** Enjoy a scenic mountain escape, hike to the highest point in Georgia (Brasstown Bald), and relax at a luxurious spa.
- **Barnsley Gardens:** Explore stunning formal gardens, historic ruins, and scenic hiking trails at this beautiful estate.



ATHENS

Nestled in the heart of Georgia's rolling hills, [Athens](#) exudes a youthful energy and small-town charm that's hard to resist. Home to the University of Georgia, Athens boasts a thriving arts and music scene, vibrant downtown district, and picturesque parks and gardens. Whether you're cheering on the Bulldogs at Sanford Stadium, exploring the eclectic shops and galleries of downtown, or picnicking in the shade of a historic oak tree, Athens offers a laid-back lifestyle with plenty of Southern hospitality.

LIVING INN ATHENS

Athens University Life & Culture

- **Georgia Museum of Art:** Immerse yourself in a diverse art collection featuring European, American, and African art, as well as a permanent exhibit dedicated to Southern art.
- **Morton Theatre:** Catch a performance at this historic theater, renowned for its Art Deco architecture and hosting a variety of events from concerts and plays to comedy shows and movies.
- **State Botanical Garden of Georgia:** Stroll through themed gardens, explore a captivating conservatory, and learn about native plants and ecosystems.

Thriving Music Scene

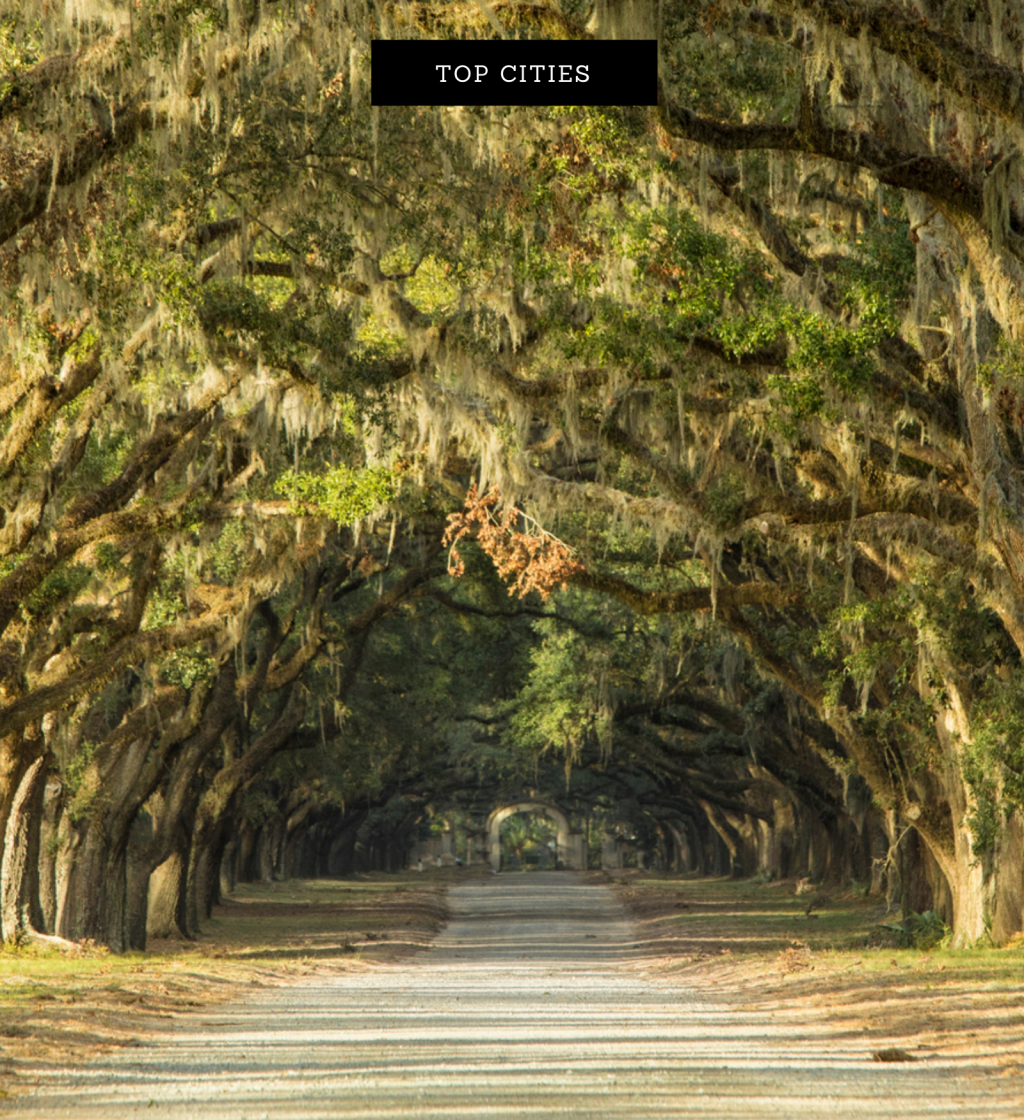
- **40 Watt Club:** Immerse yourself in the legendary live music scene of Athens at this iconic venue that has launched the careers of bands like R.E.M. and The B-52s.
- **Georgia Theatre:** Catch a concert or other live music performance in this historic theater, known for its Art Deco design and hosting a variety of musical genres.
- **The Caledonia Lounge:** Enjoy live music from local and touring artists in a more intimate setting, featuring a diverse range of genres from indie rock to jazz.
- **Flicker Theatre & Bar:** Catch independent, arthouse, and cult classic films while enjoying craft beers and cocktails in a unique setting.

Quirky Charm & Local History

- **Athens Farmers Market:** Discover locally sourced produce, artisan crafts, and delicious food at this vibrant market held every Saturday morning.
- **Hodgson Drugstore:** Step back in time at this historic soda fountain and pharmacy, offering classic milkshakes, sandwiches, and a nostalgic atmosphere.
- **Sandy Creek Park:** Relax or explore nature trails in this beautiful park, featuring a lake, dog park, and playground.

Family-Friendly Fun

- **Tree Ring Sculpture:** Take a photo with this iconic Athens landmark, a giant wooden sculpture resembling a tree ring, located on the UGA campus.
- **Sandy Creek Art Center:** Explore interactive exhibits and participate in art classes at this vibrant art center focused on children and families.
- **ATHventure Playground:** Let the kids loose at this unique playground featuring climbing structures, slides, and water features.



SAVANNAH

Steeped in history and dripping with Southern charm, [Savannah](#) is a city like no other. Moving to Savannah means immersing yourself in a tapestry of cobblestone streets, moss-draped oaks, and antebellum architecture. Take a leisurely stroll through the city's historic squares, savoring the sights and sounds of this enchanting coastal gem. With its vibrant arts scene, world-class dining, and bustling riverfront, Savannah offers a lifestyle that's both sophisticated and relaxed, making it a favorite destination for newcomers looking to embrace the finer things in life.

LIVING IN SAVANNAH

Sightseeing in Savannah's Rich History & Charm

- **Forsyth Park:** Stroll through this iconic park, a beautiful green space with Spanish moss-draped trees, a picturesque fountain, and a historic Confederate monument (understandably a subject of discussion).
- **Savannah Historic District:** Explore this sprawling district filled with charming squares, elegant antebellum architecture, and cobblestone streets. Take a guided walking tour to learn about the city's fascinating history.
- **Bonaventure Cemetery:** Embark on a unique historical tour through this sprawling cemetery, known for its gothic architecture, above-ground tombs, and scenic beauty.
- **Telfair Museums:** Explore a collection of three historic houses turned museums showcasing art, decorative arts, and Southern history (Jepson Center for the Arts, Savannah Historic House Museums, Telfair Academy).
- **First African Baptist Church:** Delve into Savannah's African American history at this historic church, one of the oldest congregations in the South.

Scenic Savannah

- **River Street:** Stroll along the scenic Savannah Riverfront, lined with shops, restaurants, bars, and offering stunning views. Enjoy a boat tour or catch a dolphin-watching excursion.
- **Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD):** Explore the vibrant art scene at SCAD, renowned for its prestigious art programs and showcasing student and faculty works through galleries and exhibitions.
- **Lucas Theatre for the Arts:** Catch a Broadway show, concert, or other live performance in this historic theater known for its Art Deco architecture and ornate details.
- **Colonial Park Cemetery:** Take a ghost tour through this historic cemetery and learn about Savannah's spooky folklore and legends.

Savannah Surprises Families with Fun & Unique Experiences

- **Forsyth Park Fountain:** Let the kids run and play around the iconic Forsyth Park fountain, a popular spot for families.
- **American Prohibition Museum:** Learn about the history of Prohibition in the United States through interactive exhibits and displays. Fun fact: Savannah played a role in rum-running during this era!
- **Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist:** Admire the stunning architecture of this historic Roman Catholic cathedral, featuring Gothic Revival style and beautiful stained glass windows.
- **Leopold's Ice Cream:** Enjoy a refreshing scoop of homemade ice cream in this iconic Savannah establishment



ROSWELL

Tucked away in the northern suburbs of Atlanta, [Roswell](#) offers a tranquil retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Moving to Roswell means enjoying a peaceful suburban lifestyle with excellent schools, abundant parks, and family-friendly amenities. Explore the city's historic downtown district, where charming shops and restaurants line the streets, or spend a day outdoors at one of Roswell's many parks and nature trails. With its strong sense of community and high quality of life, Roswell is the perfect place to put down roots and raise a family.

LIVING IN ROSWELL

Roswell's Rich History & Charm

- **Roswell Historic District:** Wander through this charming district featuring beautifully preserved 19th-century buildings, antique shops, art galleries, and restaurants. Take a self-guided walking tour or visit the Roswell Visitors Center to learn about the city's history.
- **Bulloch Hall:** Step back in time and explore the historic home of Theodore Roosevelt's mother, birthplace of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.
- **Roswell Mill:** Delve into Roswell's industrial past at this restored cotton mill complex, now featuring shops, restaurants, art studios, and a community theater.
- **Smithsonian Institution Ripley Center:** Explore the wonders of the ocean through interactive exhibits and fascinating aquariums showcasing marine life from around the world.
- **Roswell Arts Center:** Discover local and regional art through exhibitions, classes, and events at this vibrant center

Spend Time Outside

- **Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (Roswell Unit):** Enjoy kayaking, canoeing, fishing, hiking, or biking along the scenic Chattahoochee River.
- **Vickery Roswell City Park:** Relax or explore nature trails in this beautiful park, featuring a lake, playground, dog park, and a splash pad (perfect for hot summer days).
- **Arboretum at Hinton Park:** Stroll through a diverse collection of trees and plants at this picturesque arboretum, ideal for a peaceful escape.
- **Stars & Strikes Roswell:** Enjoy bowling, laser tag, arcade games, and a restaurant under one roof, perfect for family fun or a night out with friends.
- **Andretti Roswell:** Experience the thrill of go-kart racing, arcade games, and other family-friendly activities at this entertainment complex.

Unique Entertainment Districts

- **Gaslight Village:** Explore a charming shopping and dining district with a variety of boutiques, restaurants, and cafes housed in historic buildings.
- **Roswell Antique Market:** Hunt for treasures at this sprawling antique market featuring a wide variety of vendors and unique finds.
- **Canton Street:** Enjoy live music, outdoor cafes, and a vibrant atmosphere along this popular street.
- **The Mill Kitchen & Bar:** Savor delicious food and drinks in a lively atmosphere housed within the historic Roswell Mill complex.
- **Autrey's Restaurant:** Experience upscale Southern cuisine in a historic setting at this Roswell landmark.



JOHNS CREEK

Known for its top-rated schools, pristine neighborhoods, and abundant green spaces, [Johns Creek](#) is a suburban paradise for families. Moving to Johns Creek means enjoying a safe and peaceful community with easy access to Atlanta's amenities. Whether you're hitting the links at one of the city's championship golf courses, exploring the scenic trails along the Chattahoochee River, or attending a community event at Newtown Park, there's always something to see and do in Johns Creek. With its strong sense of community and high quality of life, it's no wonder Johns Creek consistently ranks among the best places to live in Georgia.

LIVING IN JOHNS CREEK

While Johns Creek itself may not have a wealth of historical landmarks or national sites within its city limits, its charm lies in its green spaces, family-friendly activities, and proximity to exciting destinations in the greater Atlanta area.

Scenic Natural Beauty Locations

- **Autrey Mill Nature Preserve & Heritage Center:** Explore this beautiful nature preserve featuring hiking trails, a historic mill complex, educational exhibits about the local ecosystem, and even wildlife rescue efforts.
- **Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (Johns Creek Unit):** Enjoy kayaking, canoeing, fishing, or picnicking along the scenic Chattahoochee River. This unit offers a peaceful escape within the city limits.
- **Newtown Park:** Relax or enjoy outdoor activities like sports fields, a playground, a dog park, and a community center at this expansive park. Perfect for spending quality time with family or friends.
- **Shakerag Park:** Explore nature trails, playgrounds, and athletic fields at this park, offering a variety of options for outdoor recreation.
- **Ocee Park:** Enjoy a scenic walk or bike ride along the Big Creek Greenway, a paved trail traversing this park.

Johns Creek's is Fit for Families

- **Andretti Indoor Karting & Games:** Get your adrenaline pumping with go-kart racing, enjoy arcade games, laser tag, and other fun activities at this popular entertainment complex.
- **Altitude Trampoline Park Johns Creek:** Jump, bounce, and have a blast at this trampoline park featuring trampolines, climbing walls, and obstacle courses. Perfect for a fun family outing.
- **AMC Johns Creek Town Center 10:** Catch the latest movies in a comfortable and modern theater setting. Great for a relaxing evening.
- **Main Event Johns Creek:** Enjoy bowling, laser tag, arcade games, and a restaurant under one roof, offering a variety of entertainment options for all ages.

Explore Johns Creek's Shopping & Dining

- **Avalon:** Take a short trip to nearby Alpharetta to experience this upscale outdoor shopping, dining, and entertainment destination.
- **Perimeter Mall:** Head to Dunwoody for a wider selection of stores and brands at this popular shopping mall.



SUWANEЕ

With its small-town charm and big-city amenities, Suwanee offers the best of both worlds for residents seeking a relaxed yet vibrant lifestyle. Moving to Suwanee means discovering a tight-knit community with top-notch schools, scenic parks, and a bustling downtown district. Whether you're enjoying a concert in Town Center Park, exploring the trails along the Suwanee Greenway, or grabbing a bite to eat at one of the local eateries, there's always something to see and do in Suwanee. With its friendly atmosphere and strong sense of community, Suwanee is the perfect place to call home for families, professionals, and retirees alike.

LIVING IN SUWANEЕ

Suwanee offers a charming blend of parks, family-friendly activities, and historical nods, making it a great place to call home.

Suwanee's Parks & Green Spaces

- **Sims Lake Park:** Enjoy a variety of outdoor activities at this expansive park featuring a lake, walking trails, a dog park, a playground, a splash pad (perfect for summer!), and even a miniature golf course.
- **Suwanee Creek Greenway:** Hike, bike, or jog along this scenic multi-use greenway that winds through the city for over four miles, connecting parks and neighborhoods.
- **George Pierce Park:** Relax or enjoy sports fields, a playground, and a fitness trail at this park, offering a green escape within the city.
- **Settles Bridge Park:** Explore nature trails and a scenic overlook of the Chattahoochee River at this park, perfect for a peaceful escape.
- **Town Center Park:** Stroll through this charming park located in the heart of Suwanee Town Center, featuring a large interactive water fountain, green space, and a stage for community events.

Have Fun in Suwanee

- **Main Event Entertainment Suwanee:** Enjoy bowling, laser tag, arcade games, and a restaurant under one roof, offering a variety of entertainment options for all ages.
- **Kids Up Indoor Playground & Party Center:** Let the little ones loose at this indoor playground featuring slides, climbing structures, and a variety of play areas.
- **Everett's Music Barn:** Enjoy live music performances in a historic setting at this restored barn turned music venue.
- **Creative ClayHouse:** Unleash your creativity with pottery painting, clay classes, and other art activities for all ages

Explore Suwanee's Historical Sites & Local Charm

- **Old Town Suwanee:** Step back in time and explore this charming district featuring historic homes, churches, and storefronts dating back to the 1870s. Enjoy local shops, restaurants, and a community atmosphere.
- **Burnette-Rogers Pavilion:** Learn about Suwanee's history at this restored pavilion, originally built in 1912 and now serving as a community center.
- **PlayTown Suwanee:** Let the kids explore this beloved community-built playground with climbing structures, slides, and swings.
- **Monkey Wrench Brewing:** Enjoy a locally crafted beer and a casual atmosphere at this Suwanee brewery.



MILTON

Nestled amidst the rolling hills of North Fulton County, [Milton](#) offers a serene escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. Moving to Milton means embracing a tranquil lifestyle surrounded by nature, with acres of green space, equestrian estates, and scenic trails to explore. Whether you're horseback riding along the Big Creek Greenway, picnicking in one of the city's parks, or attending a community event at Friendship Community Park, there's no shortage of outdoor adventures to enjoy in Milton. With its strong sense of community and high quality of life, Milton is the perfect place to put down roots and enjoy the best that Georgia has to offer.

LIVING IN MILTON

Milton, GA offers a blend of natural beauty, historical charm, and family-friendly fun. Here's a list of attractions to explore within the city limits.

Milton's Natural Beauty

- **Milton Country Club Park:** Enjoy a variety of outdoor activities at this expansive park featuring a lake, walking trails, a dog park, a playground, a splash pad, and even a disc golf course.
- **Allatoona Creek Park:** Explore nature trails, picnic areas, and scenic overlooks at this park located nearby, offering a peaceful escape.
- **Alpharetta Roswell Nature Center (located in Alpharetta):** Learn about the local ecosystem through interactive exhibits and explore nature trails at this nature center.

The City's Historical Charm

- **Milton Historical Society & Museum:** Delve into Milton's rich history through exhibits, artifacts, and a restored 1880s farmhouse.
- **Bethany United Methodist Church:** Admire the architecture of this historic church, built in 1839 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- **Freeman's Mill Park:** Explore the ruins of an 1860s gristmill and learn about Milton's industrial past at this park.

Family-Friendly Activities

- **Andretti Indoor Karting & Games Alpharetta (located in Alpharetta):** Get your adrenaline pumping with go-kart racing, arcade games, laser tag, and other activities at this entertainment complex.
- **Trapeze School New York Atlanta (Milton location):** Learn the art of aerial acrobatics or simply enjoy watching a thrilling performance at this unique facility.
- **Milton Farmers Market (seasonal):** Enjoy fresh produce, local crafts, and a vibrant community atmosphere at this weekly market.

Shopping & Dining

- **Crabapple Market:** Explore a charming mix of shops, restaurants, and cafes housed in historic buildings.
- **Avalon (located nearby in Alpharetta):** Experience this upscale outdoor shopping, dining, and entertainment destination.
- **North Point Mall (located nearby in Alpharetta):** Discover a wide selection of stores and brands at this popular shopping mall.



AUGUSTA

Situated along the banks of the Savannah River, Augusta is a city steeped in history and Southern charm. Moving to Augusta means immersing yourself in a vibrant cultural scene, with world-class golf courses, historic landmarks, and lively festivals throughout the year. Explore the picturesque streets of downtown Augusta, where historic buildings mingle with modern amenities, or spend a day outdoors at the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, where you can hike, bike, or paddle along the scenic waterway. With its rich history, natural beauty, and warm hospitality, Augusta offers a lifestyle that's both relaxed and refined, making it a favorite destination for newcomers to Georgia.

LIVING IN AUGUSTA

Augusta Showcases it's History

- **Augusta Canal Discovery Center:** Delve into the history of the Augusta Canal, a National Historic Landmark Engineering District. Learn about its construction, importance to the city's development, and take a scenic boat tour (seasonal) for a unique perspective.
- **Augusta Museum of History:** Explore Augusta's rich past through permanent and temporary exhibits featuring artifacts, photographs, and interactive displays. Learn about the city's role in the Civil War and its cultural heritage.
- **Morris Museum of Art:** Immerse yourself in a diverse collection of art spanning centuries and cultures. Explore American and European paintings, decorative arts, and contemporary works.
- **Sacred Heart Cultural Center:** Discover the history and heritage of Augusta's African American community through exhibits, programs, and events.
- **Augusta Historic Districts:** Wander through charming historic neighborhoods like Summerville and Shandon, known for their antebellum architecture, tree-lined streets, and beautiful homes.

Outdoor Activities & Family Fun

- **Augusta Canal National Heritage Area:** Explore the Augusta Canal by renting a kayak or canoe and paddling along its calm waters. Enjoy the natural beauty and historic sites along the way.
- **Meadow Garden:** Relax or explore this beautiful public garden featuring a variety of plants, flowers, and walking paths. Perfect for a peaceful escape within the city.
- **The Savannah Rapids Park:** Enjoy scenic views of the Savannah River rapids, explore nature trails, and have a picnic at this park.
- **Children's Discovery Museum of Augusta:** Let the kids explore interactive exhibits, play areas, and educational activities designed to spark curiosity and creativity

Explore Augusta's Entertainment & Culture

- **Miller Theater:** Catch a Broadway show, concert, or other live performance in this historic theater known for its Art Deco architecture.
- **Le Chat Noir:** Enjoy live music performances in a variety of genres at this intimate and historic jazz club.
- **Augusta GreenJackets (Minor League Baseball):** Cheer on the local minor league baseball team, the Augusta GreenJackets, at their stadium, SRP Park, and experience the excitement of America's favorite pastime.
- **Augusta Craft Beer Scene:** Explore Augusta's growing craft beer scene by visiting local breweries like Riverwatch Brewery or SRP Park Brewing Co. Sample unique brews and enjoy a casual atmosphere.



MACON

Known as the "Heart of Georgia," Macon is a city rich in history, culture, and Southern charm. Moving to Macon means stepping back in time as you explore the city's historic districts, antebellum homes, and storied landmarks. Take a stroll along the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, where you can admire the beauty of the river and learn about Macon's Native American heritage, or immerse yourself in the city's vibrant arts scene at the Macon Arts Alliance or the Tubman Museum. With its warm climate, friendly atmosphere, and affordable cost of living, Macon offers a laid-back lifestyle that's perfect for families, retirees, and young professionals alike.

LIVING IN MACON

Macon offers a vibrant mix of Southern charm, musical heritage, and historical significance. Here's a list of attractions to explore within the city limits:

Majestic Macon's History

- **The Allman Brothers Band Museum at the Big House:** Step back in time and explore the legacy of the iconic Southern rock band, the Allman Brothers Band. Learn about their formation, musical influences, and impact on American music through exhibits and memorabilia.
- **The Tubman Museum:** Delve into African American art, history, and culture through an impressive collection of permanent and temporary exhibits.
- **Rose Hill Cemetery:** Embark on a historical walking tour through this beautifully landscaped cemetery, the resting place of famous figures like Little Richard and Otis Redding.
- **Hay House:** Marvel at the opulent Victorian architecture and stunning interiors of this historic mansion, a National Historic Landmark.
- **Georgia Music Hall of Fame:** Celebrate Georgia's rich musical heritage by learning about legendary musicians from Ray Charles to Gladys Knight. Explore interactive exhibits, listen to musical recordings, and discover the stories behind the stars.

Music Makers around Macon

- **Grand Opera House:** Enjoy live music, plays, and other performances in this beautifully restored historic theater.
- **Macon Film Festival (annual event):** Immerse yourself in the world of independent cinema by attending the annual Macon Film Festival, showcasing works from emerging and established filmmakers.
- **First Friday Macon:** Explore the vibrant local art scene by participating in First Friday Macon, a monthly event featuring open studios, gallery exhibitions, and street performers.
- **Macon Beer Co.:** Sample delicious craft beers and enjoy a lively atmosphere at this local brewery.

Tranquil Outdoor Activities

- **Vineville Historic District:** Wander through this charming neighborhood known for its beautifully restored Victorian homes, antique shops, and tree-lined streets.
- **Macon Arts Center:** Explore art exhibits, take art classes, or attend workshops at this vibrant arts center.
- **The Rookery:** Enjoy a relaxing afternoon at this public park featuring a rose garden, walking trails, and a playground.



BRASELTON

Tucked away in the foothills of the North Georgia mountains, [Braselton](#) offers a tranquil retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Moving to Braselton means enjoying a relaxed pace of life surrounded by natural beauty, with rolling hills, lush forests, and scenic vineyards at every turn. Explore the charming downtown district, where historic buildings house quaint shops, restaurants, and galleries, or spend a day outdoors at one of Braselton's many parks and nature preserves. With its small-town charm and close-knit community, Braselton is the perfect place to escape the stresses of modern life and embrace the beauty of the Georgia countryside.

BRASELTON THINGS TO DO

While Braselton itself might be a charming town with a small-town feel, its true strength lies in its proximity to exciting attractions and its role as a gateway to North Georgia's beauty.

Taste Braselton's Wine Country Charm

- **Chateau Elan Winery and Resort:** Escape to the rolling vineyards and indulge in wine tastings, tours, and a luxurious resort experience. Enjoy world-class dining, golf courses, a spa, and stunning scenery.
- **Braselton Antique Mall:** Hunt for treasures and unique finds at this sprawling antique mall, a great place to discover hidden gems and add character to your new home.

Experience the Thrill of Motorsports

- **Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta:** Gear up for motorsports excitement! Witness professional races or take a high-performance driving course on this world-renowned racing track

Venture Beyond the City Limits

- **Road Atlanta Motorsports Museum (located nearby):** Delve into the history of motorsports through interactive exhibits, race cars, and memorabilia. Learn about the legendary drivers and iconic races that have taken place at Road Atlanta.
- **Dahlia Aquatic Gardens (located near Pendergrass):** Immerse yourself in a vibrant display of colorful dahlias during the summer months at these expansive botanical gardens.
- **Lanier Islands (located near Buford):** Enjoy a variety of family-friendly activities at this lakefront resort destination. Explore water parks, amusement rides, concerts, and even a wildlife refuge.
- **North Georgia Mountains (within easy driving distance):** Take a scenic drive and explore the breathtaking beauty of the North Georgia mountains. Hike, camp, fish, or simply relax and enjoy the fresh mountain air.

While Braselton offers a charming small-town atmosphere, its location provides easy access to the excitement of Atlanta and the natural beauty of North Georgia. Explore the attractions mentioned above, and venture outside the city limits to discover all the region has to offer!

30 | COST OF LIVING



As for Georgia's cost of living, it generally falls below the national average, making it an attractive option for many. Housing costs, in particular, tend to be more affordable compared to other states, especially in smaller cities and rural areas. Utilities, transportation, and food expenses also tend to be reasonable in Georgia, although they can vary depending on location.

Overall, Georgia offers a relatively affordable cost of living combined with a high quality of life, making it a popular choice for individuals and families looking to relocate. However, it's essential to research specific areas within the state to get a more accurate picture of the cost of living based on your personal circumstances and preferences.

Categories for Cost of Living	Avg. Costs
Housing (Annually)	\$7,495
Home Purchase	\$263,040
Utilities (Annually)	\$1,212
Groceries (Annually)	\$3,699
Healthcare (Annually)	\$6,595

Source: <https://www.sofi.com/cost-of-living-in-georgia/>

\$42

Ticket cost for Six Flags Over Georgia adult pass in 2024

\$138

Avg. ticket cost of Fox Theatre concerts

\$32.95

Georgia Aquarium adult ticket price

1886

Coca-Cola was first invented by Dr. John S. Pemberton

33 | JOB MARKET



As you consider the prospect of moving to Georgia, one compelling reason to make the Peach State your next home is its thriving job market. Georgia's economy is booming, with a diverse range of industries fueling growth and opportunity across the state. From the bustling metropolis of Atlanta to the charming small towns dotting the landscape, Georgia offers ample employment prospects for individuals from all walks of life.

Some of the top companies headquartered in Georgia include Fortune 500 giants providing employment opportunities in sectors ranging from retail and logistics to aviation and technology.

- The Home Depot
- Coca-Cola
- UPS
- Delta Air Lines

Additionally, Georgia's economy is witnessing significant growth in industries such as film and entertainment, healthcare, manufacturing, and technology, making it an attractive destination for job seekers looking to advance their careers and pursue new opportunities. So, if you're considering moving to Georgia, rest assured that the state's growing job market offers plenty of potential for professional growth and success.

STARTING A COMPANY IN GEORGIA?

With vibrant startup communities in cities like Atlanta, Savannah, and Athens, Georgia provides fertile ground for budding entrepreneurs to thrive.

The state boasts a network of incubators, accelerators, and co-working spaces that foster collaboration, mentorship, and access to resources necessary for business success. Additionally, Georgia's strategic location, robust infrastructure, and access to top-tier talent make it an ideal destination for startups in various industries, including technology, healthcare, logistics, and manufacturing. So, if you're considering making the move to Georgia to pursue your entrepreneurial ambitions, rest assured that the state's dynamic startup environment offers ample opportunities for growth and success.

Here are a few nationally recognized startups that originated in Georgia:

- **Mailchimp** - Founded in Atlanta in 2001, Mailchimp has grown to become one of the world's leading marketing automation platforms, serving millions of customers globally.
- **The Home Depot** - While not a traditional startup, The Home Depot was founded in Atlanta in 1978 and has since become one of the largest home improvement retailers in the world.
- **Rubicon** - Founded in Atlanta in 2008, Rubicon is a software company that provides waste and recycling solutions for businesses and governments, revolutionizing the industry with its innovative technology platform.
- **Calendly** - Founded in Atlanta in 2013, Calendly offers a scheduling tool that simplifies the process of arranging meetings and appointments, earning widespread acclaim for its user-friendly interface and efficiency.
- **Greenlight Financial Technology** - Founded in Atlanta in 2014, Greenlight provides a debit card and app designed to help parents teach their children financial literacy, gaining recognition for its innovative approach to financial education.

These startups have not only made a significant impact within Georgia but have also gained national recognition for their innovative products and services.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

With vibrant startup communities in cities like Atlanta, Savannah, and Athens, Georgia provides fertile ground for budding entrepreneurs to thrive.

Here are some economic development programs, startup incubators, and small business programs offered within Georgia:

- **Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD)** - The GDEcD offers a range of programs and services to support economic development in the state, including business incentives, workforce training, and international trade assistance.
- **Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC)** - Based in Atlanta, the ATDC is a startup incubator that provides resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities to help Georgia startups accelerate their growth and success.
- **Georgia Centers of Innovation** - The Georgia Centers of Innovation, including the Centers of Innovation for Aerospace, Agribusiness, Energy Technology, Information Technology, Logistics, and Manufacturing, offer industry-specific support and resources to help businesses innovate and compete globally.
- **Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** - The Georgia SBDC provides consulting, training, and resources to help small businesses start, grow, and succeed. With offices located throughout the state, the SBDC offers personalized assistance to entrepreneurs and small business owners.
- **CREATE-X** - Based at the Georgia Institute of Technology, CREATE-X is an entrepreneurship program that provides funding, mentorship, and support to help students and faculty turn their ideas into startups. The program offers a range of initiatives, including startup accelerators, hackathons, and pitch competitions.

These programs and organizations play a vital role in supporting economic development, fostering entrepreneurship, and helping small businesses thrive in Georgia.

37 | LIVING IN GEORGIA



Georgia isn't just a state; it's a treasure trove of attractions, national treasures, and historical sites waiting to be explored. From the iconic landmarks of Atlanta, such as the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and the Georgia Aquarium, to the breathtaking beauty of the Appalachian Mountains and the coastal charm of Savannah, Georgia offers something for everyone. Whether you're a history buff eager to walk in the footsteps of Civil War soldiers or a nature enthusiast seeking adventure in the state's lush forests and pristine beaches, Georgia has it all. So, if you're considering moving to Georgia, get ready to discover a wealth of attractions that will make you fall in love with the Peach State.

From the vibrant nightlife of Atlanta's Buckhead district to the serene beauty of the Chattahoochee National Forest, Georgia offers an abundance of entertainment options that will make every day feel like a new adventure. So, if you're considering making Georgia your next home, get ready to experience entertainment like never before. Colonial Van Lines has compiled a list of the best attractions across Georgia for you to explore.

HAVING FUN IN GEORGIA

- **Atlanta's BeltLine:** The BeltLine isn't just a trail—it's a journey through Atlanta's heart and soul. Imagine strolling or biking through 22 miles of eclectic neighborhoods, each with its own vibe and personality.
- **Stone Mountain Park:** Standing tall as Georgia's natural landmark, Stone Mountain Park is more than just a massive rock—it's a playground for outdoor enthusiasts and history buffs alike. Imagine scaling the granite dome for breathtaking views or hopping on a cable car for a scenic ride to the top.
- **Georgia Aquarium:** Dive into an aquatic wonderland at the Georgia Aquarium, where you can embark on a mesmerizing journey through the depths of the ocean without leaving Atlanta.
- **Savannah Historic District:** Step back in time as you wander through the cobblestone streets and shaded squares of Savannah's Historic District. With its elegant mansions, moss-draped oaks, and centuries-old landmarks, this charming enclave invites you to explore its storied past at every corner.
- **Fort Frederica National Monument:** Journey back to the days of colonial Georgia at Fort Frederica, where history comes to life amidst the remnants of a bygone era.
- **Okefenokee Swamp:** Lose yourself in the enchanting wilderness of the Okefenokee Swamp, where the tranquil waters and lush marshes create a haven for wildlife and nature lovers alike.
- **Amicalola Falls State Park:** Prepare to be mesmerized by the majestic beauty of Amicalola Falls, Georgia's tallest waterfall cascading down a staggering 729 feet. As you embark on a hike along the park's scenic trails, the thundering roar of the falls grows louder with each step, building anticipation for the breathtaking sight that awaits.
- **Cloudland Canyon State Park:** Step into a world of wonder at Cloudland Canyon State Park, where the sweeping vistas of the canyon and surrounding mountains take center stage.
- **Cumberland Island National Seashore:** Escape to a realm of untouched beauty on Cumberland Island, a pristine barrier island accessible only by ferry. Imagine strolling along deserted beaches, where the gentle rhythm of the waves provides a soothing soundtrack to your exploration.
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park:** Pay homage to a towering figure in American history at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park, where the legacy of the civil rights icon is preserved for future generations.



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