

Discover Atlanta

Atlanta gleams amid glass and steel towers, but the heart of the South's largest city is its people. Visitors are likely to be greeted with a big helping of "How y'all doing" hospitality. Atlanta may have birthed "Gone with the Wind," yet today's big, bustling city is more New South than old.

Centennial Olympic Park, the heart of downtown's convention hub, is marked by playful fountains that draw visitors to its core. The Atlanta streetcar glides by, carrying passengers on this modern-day trolley. Attractions abound at Pemberton Place with the popular Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca-Cola and the Center for Civil and Human Rights. Sports fans congregate here to visit the College Football Hall of Fame and to 'Rise Up' for the NFL Falcons at the Georgia Dome, NBA Hawks and WNBA Dream at Philips Arena, and the MLB Braves at Turner Field.

Beyond the city's core, Atlanta's in-town neighborhoods are packed with personality. Midtown melds in-town glitz with the culture. The Westside has become a magnet for foodies, design enthusiasts and shoppers. Buckhead blends boutiques and galleries with fabulous dining, while Little Five Points lives on the edge of bohemian grunge paired with solid live theatre and music scenes.

Discover What Makes Atlanta Unique With These Places to Visit That Are Only in Atlanta

Georgia Aquarium

The Georgia Aquarium is home to more than 100,000 animals of varying species. From whale sharks to seahorses, visitors stand in awe of the marine life behind the huge picture window. Fun fact: Georgia Aquarium has more than 10 million gallons of water pumping through its exhibits.

Atlanta History Center

One of the nation's largest collections of Civil War memorabilia can be found at the Atlanta History Center. Also at the Atlanta History Center is the Swan House, which was showcased in "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" as President Snow's mansion. You can take a tour and even sit behind his desk.

Inside CNN Studio Tour

In addition to a tour of CNN's Atlanta headquarters, guests are treated to a ride on the world's tallest free-standing escalator. Step on and get carried up, up and away eight stories to begin your CNN tour.

Zoo Atlanta

Zoo Atlanta is one of only four zoos in the United States with Giant Pandas. And—wait for it—we have Giant Panda twin cubs. Twice the fun in Atlanta!

Nobel Peace Prize ... Times Two

Atlanta is one of only two cities in the world to lay claim to two Nobel Peace Prize winners—Martin Luther King Jr. and President Jimmy Carter. See the medals on display and learn about their legacies at the **Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site** and **Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum**.

Coca-Cola

This global brand started where? You guessed it, Atlanta. Born and raised in Atlanta, Coca-Cola is synonymous with the city. Visit the World of Coca-Cola to learn the story of the famous soft drink, which dates back more than 125 years.

Stone Mountain Park

Get active during your Atlanta visit with a trip to Stone Mountain Park where you can see and walk across the world's largest exposed mass of granite. Take a 1.3-mile hike to the top of the mountain for breathtaking panoramic views of the Atlanta skyline.

Discover Atlanta Neighborhoods

Look beyond the city's gleaming high rises to discover Atlanta's soul. Interstate 285 forms a perimeter around the city, and just inside (known to locals as "inside the perimeter" or "ITP") visitors will find several distinct Atlanta neighborhoods. Each in-town neighborhood brings a unique flavor to the residential streets, 'got to find it' boutiques and chef-owned eateries of its community.

Discover Atlanta (continued)

Just southwest of downtown, **Castleberry Hill** etches out a space among former warehouses. Today, the community is made up of local artists and entrepreneurs, including the successful Atlanta Movie Tours, which offers tours of locales from *The Walking Dead*, *The Hunger Games* and other popular films. Here, art galleries mix with organic garden spas, wine bars and tapas lounges. Locals and visitors enjoy lively Second Friday Art Walks, where local businesses open their doors for wine, music and fun.

Style and substance take center stage in **Midtown** along Peachtree Street. The famed boulevard connects three major neighborhoods while cutting a swath of culture through this district that's known as Atlanta's 'heart of the arts.' Midtown boasts the largest concentration of arts facilities and organizations in the Southeast with 25 different arts and cultural venues, more than 30 permanent performing arts groups and 22 various entertainment facilities. Locals thrive on the tree-lined lanes just beyond Peachtree Street, and they congregate to play at Piedmont Park.

Bold and brazen **Buckhead** cradles the bedroom communities of the up-and-coming as well as the city's Fortune 500 families. A shopping mecca for fashionistas across the South, this upscale neighborhood is the 'Beverly Hills of the East.' The new, ultra-lux shopping district of Buckhead Atlanta combines the walkable, tree-lined streets of Paris with the haute shops of Rodeo Drive. From just about any point in Buckhead, you're within shouting distance of a memorable four-star restaurant where foodies get their kicks.

On the **Westside**, a blending of Georgia Tech culture with nearby loft communities has sprung into a focal point for a new design district in old industrial spaces. It's the go-to-place for interior design mavens looking for lighting, textiles, fabric and furniture. Like other Atlanta neighborhoods, the dining scene is thriving here. Long-time homesteaders Anne Quatrano and Clifford Harrison's famous Bacchanalia restaurant begat the city's best kitchen shop, Star Provisions, plus two other restaurants: Quinones and Abattoir. Nearby top-rated JCT. Kitchen & Bar, The Optimist, Miller Union and Antico Pizza Napoletana join the throngs of eateries catering to the city's sophisticated palate.

The Atlanta BeltLine Eastside Trail, a multi-use trail and greenspace, runs 2.25 miles from Piedmont Park to Irwin Street, connecting neighborhoods on Atlanta's **Eastside**. Tattooed locals, creative street art and historic homes come together on this side of town. Locals stop for a pastry at Alon's in **Virginia-Highland**; dawdle in Highland Woodworking; or try on the latest fashion statements in Bill Hallman. **Poncey-Highland** is the corridor that bridges between Midtown and Virginia-Highland and provides a perfect blend of these distinct neighborhoods. Off Ponce de Leon Avenue, the historic Sears, Roebuck & Co. is now Ponce City Market (PCM), which rivals New York City's Chelsea Market. PCM will house various shops, flats and offices. Its food hall showcases a renewed energy trending through Atlanta's dining scene. Head down North Highland Avenue to Manuel's Tavern, a presidential favorite and Atlanta's 'quintessential' neighborhood bar. End your exploration of the neighborhood with a movie at the Plaza Theatre, Atlanta's oldest operating cinema.

Inman Park combines small urban green spaces with winding boulevards lined with colorful Queen Annes and Victorians in the city's first planned suburb. The classic architecture and landscape designs jut up against the skyscraper backdrop. The scene edges into a Bohemian style in **Little Five Points**, where vintage dress matches the creativity of tattoos. While spots like Junkman's Daughter have become de rigueur for the young, others can't resist the kitschy places like Star Community Bar and Vinyl Lounge, with a shrine to Elvis. But all is not grunge here. Performing arts venues such as 7 Stages, Dad's Garage and Variety Playhouse lend artistic authenticity to Little Five Points.

What's old is new again in **Old Fourth Ward**, where this neighborhood continues to redefine itself. Edgewood Avenue has experienced a resurgence, transforming into a hotspot for nightlife. This street has several options for enjoying the night, including Joystick Gamebar, Sister Louisa's Church of the Living Room and Ping Pong Emporium, and The Sound Table. Once considered an epicenter of African-American commerce, the **Sweet Auburn District** continues to flourish on the city's southeast side. Auburn Avenue, known in the 1950s as the nation's most affluent African-American street, houses a curb market, bakeries and clubs near the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and Ebenezer Baptist Church.