

15 REASONS TO MOVE TO SAVANNAH

There's no place like Savannah—and nobody knows it better than the people who live here.

MORE THAN 13.7 MILLION VISITORS come to this city each year—and many leave wishing they could turn their weekend stay into a lifetime commitment. Residents of Savannah love the art, history, ambiance, proximity to water, architecture and many quirks of the coastal town that is Georgia's first city. Here are 15 reasons why we love living here:

1 OUR BEAUTY'S WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS.

We may be biased, but Savannah's aesthetics are impressive. Natural archways created by moss-draped live oak trees line many streets, and azalea and magnolia blooms place pops of color and contrast throughout 22 scenic squares. Living in Savannah is like being on vacation every day.

2 SAVANNAH'S FOOD HAS SOUL.

We've got the standard fixin's—crisp fried chicken, Georgia shrimp smothered in grits and gravy—but we're so much more. Search our farmers' and seafood markets for our bountiful year-round harvest. Throw a backyard barbecue with local pasture-raised pork. Pull your chair up to a white or red-checkered tablecloth.

Our welcome table is set for fine diners, celebrity chefs and foodies, alike.

3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IS KEY.

Bolstered by its tourism industry and a growing port, Savannah benefits from an economy that's greatly diversified in its industries, including small businesses, health care, large-scale manufacturing and military operations.

4 THERE'S ADVENTURE IN OUR BACKYARD.

Savannah offers many opportunities to enjoy life on the water, from fishing to sailing the Intracoastal Waterway. Best of all, Tybee



Island—just 20 minutes from downtown Savannah—offers paddle boarding, kayaking, dolphin tours and relaxation in the sand.

5 YOU CAN SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.

Whether it's fashion-forward Broughton Street,

"Top 10 Overall Vacation Destination" (No. 7) ★ Family Fun Magazine, March 2015

the décor houses of the Downtown Design District, the antique and art boutiques that line our squares, or the shopping centers beyond the National Landmark Historic District—such as Abercorn Walk, Sandfly, and Tanger Outlets in Pooler—Chatham County offers plenty of opportunities for retail therapy.

6 HEALTH IS A TOP PRIORITY.

Residents of Savannah are in the right spot when it comes to health care. The city is the site of Georgia’s first hospital and is now home to two major medical centers, St. Joseph’s/Candler Health System and Memorial University Medical Center—site of Mercer University School of Medicine’s Savannah campus. Whole-patient health centers, 24-hour urgent care facilities and holistic wellness programs abound.

7 GIRL SCOUTS RULE.

Savannah native Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girl Scouts here in 1912. Nearly 14,000 Girl Scouts visit her birthplace each year. And during cookie season, you don’t have to look far to find a box of your favorite treats.

8 YOU CAN ORDER ANOTHER—TO GO.

Savannah is one of a select few cities that allow alfresco cocktails in to-go cups. Ready to stroll around the Historic District but haven’t finished your libation? Ask your barkeep to pour you a “traveler”—a 16-ounce or smaller paper or plastic cup you can take with you. Your bartender

can also advise you on the boundaries of the downtown zone where to-go cups are allowed.

9 FESTIVALS ARE A WAY OF LIFE.

There is always something to do in Savannah, and festivals of all types happen every month of the year. Celebrate film, literature, art, food and heritage by stepping out for seasonal celebrations like the world-class Savannah Music Festival—an easy feat when you live just minutes away.

10 SOUTHERNISMS ARE EVERYDAY JARGON.

Savannahians love ordering our iced tea sweet, saying “bless your heart” when we’d rather say something worse, and using “y’all” as a bona fide pronoun. When you catch yourself speaking Southern, you know you’re truly starting to settle in.

11 LOCAL IS BEST.

With loads of unique boutiques, artsy galleries, farm-to-table dining establishments and farmers’ markets, our abundance of homegrown products and services is a point of pride—and they help our economy thrive.

12 HOUSE HUNTING IS A DREAM COME TRUE.

Savannah definitely has it all when it comes to places to live. With a cost of living below the national average, you can choose between surrounding yourself with history, stepping back into small-town America, enjoying the security and luxury of a gated community or lazing the day away in a

laid-back bungalow overlooking the marsh.

13 SAVANNAH IS HIP AND HISTORIC.

Mixing the old with the new, we’re serious about preserving our historic architecture. Locals know what squares and buildings have been around since our founding in 1733—and we have successfully introduced modern comforts to these historic settings. To get acclimated, make the rounds on a few of our historic tours.

14 ART IS EVERYWHERE.

Check out our museums, home to pieces like the famous Bird Girl statue, or step into the Savannah College of Art and Design’s many galleries to appreciate the works of students who help populate this city. Savannah homes are decorated with unique works of art from galleries throughout the coastal region.

15 A GOOD EDUCATION ISN’T HARD TO FIND.

Learning opportunities abound in Savannah, site of an award-winning public school system, a multitude of private schools, 19 area colleges, including a technical college—and home to more than 60,000 students pursuing a post-secondary education.



By the Numbers

912

= our area code.

22

= our lush, lovely historic squares.

500+

= restaurants in the Savannah area.

1733

= the year we were founded by Gen. James Oglethorpe as the 13th American colony.

380,232

= residents living in the Savannah MSA.

2.2

= the size of our Historic District in square miles.

2,842

= hours of Savannah sunshine per year.

34.9

= median age of work force.

67%

= percent of commuters that are less than 30 minutes.

800,000

= population within one hour’s drive.

AVERAGE SEASONAL TEMPERATURES:

Spring	66.0°
Summer	81.3°
Autumn	68.0°
Winter	51.4°

Source: Savannah 2016 Economic Trends, Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, Savannah Economic Development Authority