

THE BEST IN
CULTURE / SIGHTS / EVENTS
RESTAURANTS and MORE

Come See AUGUSTA

VISITAUGUSTA.COM

#### **PRIDE AND SOUL**

Mark your calendars for Augusta Pride, taking place June 24–25. As one of the largest festivals of its kind in Georgia, this year's theme is Pride and Soul, celebrating the movement and the city of Augusta as the home of James Brown.

The festival kicks off Friday with the Beats on Broad dance party at The Augusta Common, with revelers bringing and wearing purple for pride. Saturday is the highly anticipated parade along Broad Street.



prideaugusta.com **f** augustapride



















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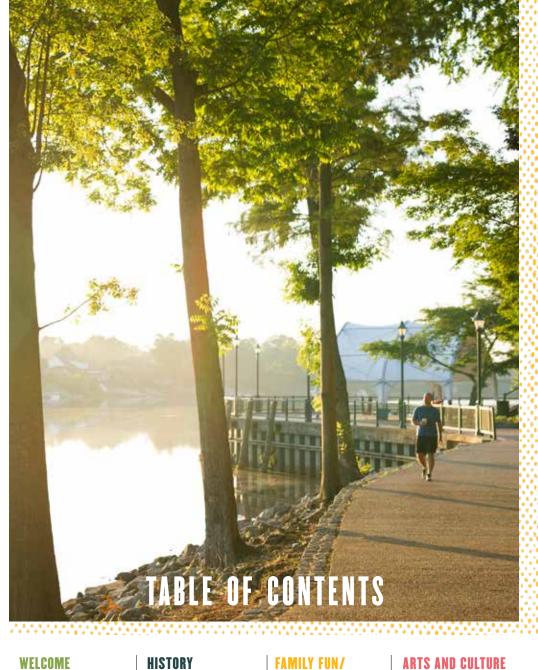
#### DESTINATION

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DINING









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### AUGUSTA MARRIOTT AT THE CONVENTION CENTER

With stunning views of the Savannah River, the **Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center** features sleek, new accommodations that raise the bar on comfort and style. Guests can enjoy an updated fitness center, indoor and outdoor pools, and on-site restaurant, Augustino's Italian Eatery and Prime Steaks — plus 100,000 square feet of event space and an ideal location for exploring the city. **706.722.8900** 





#### **WELCOME TO AUGUSTA!**

We are a **soulful**, **funky**, **artistic**, and **historic** destination adorned with natural beauty that beckons you to come and explore. You'll find a mosaic of cultures here along with legendary **Southern hospitality** all blended together to create incredible authentic experiences for you to enjoy.

During your visit to Augusta, you'll see that we've already anticipated your needs and interests. We have the ideal spot to launch your exploration at **Augusta & Co.**, our city experience center. Augusta & Co. is a one-of-a-kind space that adds a fresh new vibe to Augusta's energetic downtown. Inside, you'll meet our "Augusta Experts," who will help you

navigate the city, and local goods and unique gifts to commemorate your visit. It's the perfect first stop before venturing out on your own.

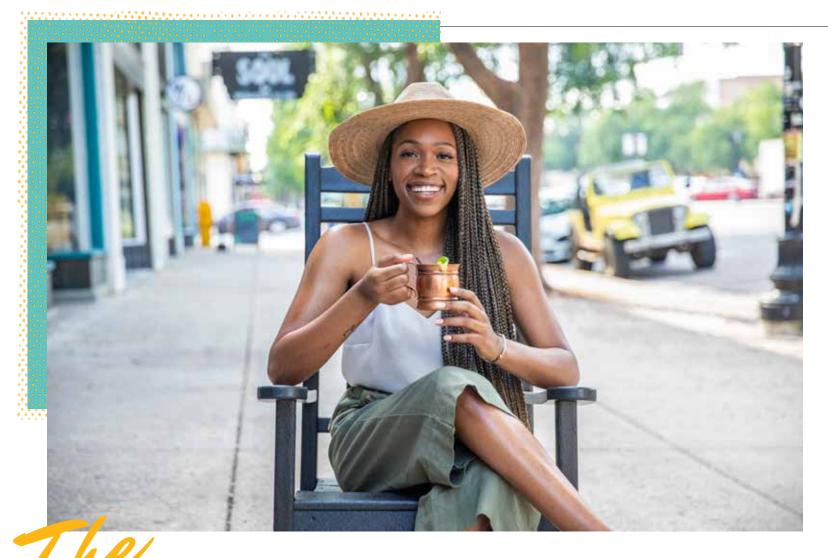
Whether old or young, museum enthusiast or trail trekker, music lover or foodie, the fabric of our thriving community is richly designed to welcome you and empower you to seek new experiences and share unforgettable memories.

We're always delighted to have you Come See Augusta!

Bennish D. Brown, President/CEO Destination Augusta







### NEIGHBORHOODS

DISCOVER HISTORY, CULTURE, AND REAL GOOD FOOD

#### Downtown

Augusta's dynamic downtown is animated by a number of different neighborhoods, each with its own unique character and vibe.

A stroll through Olde Town, Augusta's very first neighborhood, will find you marveling at gorgeous historic homes dating back to the 19th century. History buffs will find much to explore from the Cedar Grove and Magnolia Cemeteries to the Amanda America Dickson Toomer Historic Home & Marker and the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area. Book an excursion with Petersburg Boat Tours to discover the scenic canal and the rich history behind it.

Affectionately referred to as the "Pinched Gut" neighborhood — possibly a reference to women's fashion at the time — Olde Town today caters to a more modern sensibility. Indulge in decadent cupcakes from the bubblegum pink **Dolce Darlin'** before taking a

And what's a neighborhood without a brewery?

Savannah River Brewing Co.
is the place to be in this corner of downtown.

relaxing stroll on the **Riverwalk**.

In Harrisburg, continue your architecture education at Ezekiel Harris House — a fully restored Federal-style home on the National Register of Historic Places. And don't miss the Mill Village Trailhead — once a trading post, then a textile mill town — now a charming nature walk.

Two historic neighborhoods come together to form the Laney-Walker and Bethlehem Historic District. Black

history is at the heart of Augusta
— and you can learn all about it
at the Lucy Craft Laney Museum
of Black History and the Golden
Blocks Walking Tour. Plus, history
meets the vibrant present at
the Tabernacle Baptist Church,
established in 1885.

Check out even more downtown highlights on pages 8–9!

#### **Summerville**

Commonly called "The Hill," Summerville is home to an array of historic estates dating back to the 18th century. It's also a destination for shopping and dining — between Surrey Center's trendy boutiques, Daniel Village Shopping Center (and the delightful Cantina Locale & Village Deli therein), and the cozy ambience of The Indian Queen, Beck's, and Sheehan's. Local roaster Buona Caffe - Artisan Roasted Coffee makes an unparalleled cup, and Arsenal Tap Room serves craft beers from around the globe. Plus, there's Forest Hills Golf Club and disc golf at Pendleton King Park. A great neighborhood to stay in as well as play, Summerville's The Partridge Inn is part of the Hilton's unique Curio collection.



#### **North Augusta**

SRP Park and Riverside Village are a major draw of North Augusta. The Augusta Green Jackets play minor league ball in the park, which sits adjacent to great eater ies like Drift Raw Bar, Southbound Smokehouse, and Crowne Plaza's Salt & Marrow Kitchen and Jackson's Bluff rooftop bar. Enjoy the outdoors at Riverview Park or the North Augusta Greeneway trail. The arts are also thriving here — between the galleries at North Augusta Arts & Heritage Center and concerts and events at The Sharon Jones Amphitheater. Plus, Hammond's Ferry, a cozy riverfront neighborhood, is home to beloved restaurants Manuel's Bread Café and The Hammond's Ferry Larder. But save room for dessert — at Pink Dipper or Sno-Cap Drive-In.



#### **South Augusta**

In South Augusta, bring your clubs to Goshen Plantation Golf Club or Pointe South Golf Club. And Diamond Lakes Regional Park has recreation in spades — offering boating, camping, fishing, hiking, and a range of sports fields, among other activities. For natural splendor — and gorgeous photos — visit the cypress trees and Spanish moss at Phinizy Swamp Nature Park. Get your fill of tasty Southern eats at Sconyers Bar-B-Que. And convenient for travelers, the Augusta Regional Airport can have you from terminal to tee box in minutes.



#### **We**st Augusta

There's something for everyone in West Augusta. There's the Village at Riverwatch, featuring Topgolf, Riverwatch Cinemas, and Dave & Busters. Shopping highlights include malls and centers like Augusta Exchange, Augusta Mall, and Crane Creek Shopping Center — plus Good Earth Produce & Garden Center, an indoor farmer's market and greenhouse.



#### **Fort Gordon**

Formerly known as Camp Gordon, Fort Gordon is a United States Army installation stretching more than 55 thousand acres. Here, troops train in military occupational specialties and support the U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence. At the same time, Fort Gordon is a welcoming community center with numerous opportunities for recreation and entertainment. Hilltop Riding Stable offers horseback riding on more than 250 acres of trails. Gordon Lakes Golf Club is a gorgeously constructed public course. And Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre brings to life Broadway-style musicals, comedies, and mysteries for audiences of all ages. Fort Gordon also hosts festivals and attractions like carnivals, live music, and an annual Fourth of July Celebration. Learn more about this impressive site on page 63.













### Destination

### **DOWNTOWN**

DINE, SHOP, AND PLAY IN THIS VIBRANT CENTER OF CULTURE



#### **FUN TIMES**

For concerts, touring broadway shows, and other exciting events yearround, get your tickets at Bell Auditorium and the James Brown Arena.

You can also catch outdoor shows or simply enjoy the sunshine at the Augusta Common. an oasis

of manicured green space in the middle of downtown. While you're there, snap your picture with the Godfather of Soul at the city's James Brown Statue. And if you're a music buff, you'll love the selection of classic vinyl at **Psychotronic Records** — just a block from the park.

Wet your whistle at **Draft Society** Taproom, which serves craft beer, wine, and kombucha. And get your fill of comfort food at Broad Street Bullie's Grill.



**LIVE SHOWS** 

Cultural events are omnipresent here. The historic Imperial Theatre and Miller Theater host an array of concerts, plays, and other live engagements. Le Chat Noir hosts film festivals and comedy shows in its

intimate space with full-service bar.

#### CULTURAL HERITAGE

You can also explore the Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson, a museum to the 28th U.S. president, who spent his childhood in Augusta. Learn more about the city's rich heritage at the Augusta Museum of **History**, or wander through the artwork at Westobou Gallery.

#### GOOD EATS

For a bite and some bocce, check out Edgar's Above Broad — an indoor-outdoor space with a playful atmosphere and wide-ranging menu. The Brunch House's heaping breakfasts are hard to beat, though their lunch menu is just as good. Café 209 is known for soulful southern food. And long-time family-owned restaurants Hildebrandt's, a German-inspired delicatessen, and Luigi's, a Greek-Italian collaboration, are not to be missed.

For an evening out, grab some pub grub and watch the game at **Sports** Center Grill. Or, stop by Joe's Underground Café for lunch, dinner, drinks, and even karaoke. And for something sweet, try Shake City's heavenly milkshakes or Humanitree House's wholesome smoothies.



#### CASUAL AND FUN

When you've worked up an appetite, there are dozens of decadent restaurants to try. For a low-key atmosphere with high-key taste, tr∨ Farmhaus Burger. Knuckle Sandwiches, or The Pizza Joint. Southern Salad offers build-your-

own bowls with fresh, local ingredients.

#### **GLOBAL CUISINE**

If you're craving global cuisine, try the wraps and bowls at Laziza Mediterranean Grill, eclectic Asian fare at Soy **Noodle House.** or unparalleled burritos at Nacho Mama's. And at Solé. the menu spans from sushi to grit fritters to Brazilian street tacos.

#### **GET INTRODUCED**

Pop into Augusta & Co. for a fun and flavorful orientation to the city. Browse the rotating art gallery and curated local merchandise — and don't miss food and drink samples at the tasting bar.

#### OUT ON THE TOWN

There are many options for a fun-filled night out. The Soul Bar is James Brown-themed and promises a funky evening communing with Augusta's music culture. Craft + Vine is known for its farm-to-table platters and luxurious libations. Whiskey lovers can choose from American and Japanese styles at Whiskey Bar Kitchen. For a different kind of evening entirely, test out your aim at Broad Axe Throwing Club. Vance's Bakery Bar is unbeatable for dessert and cocktail pairings — open to those 21 and up.

#### COFFEE CULTURE

Augusta's coffee culture is positively buzzing. Highlights include local roasters like Buona Caffe and Ubora Coffee Roasters, both served all around the city. New Moon Café roasts in small batches and serves their brews with comfort food. For seasonal fare with your cup, try Bee's Knees Coffee and Curios. Plus. catch live music at Metro Coffeehouse and Pub, a beloved landmark downtown.

#### LOCAL FINDS

Need some self-care? Browse indie skin and makeup products at Field Botanicals, or pour your own wax at Augusta Candle Company. For an even more hands-on experience, learn to throw your own pottery at Tire City Potters. Or, get happily lost in the shelves at The Book Tavern.



#### LETS MEET

Conferences and events shine at the Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center. The hotel's upscale Italian restaurant, Augustino's Italian Eatery and Prime Steaks, is the perfect place to entertain clients.

The Morris Museum of Art is another unique venue, with an auditorium and board room well-suited for events.

Nearby, the Boll Weevil Café and **Sweetery** is renowned for its giant and delicious — cake slices. Beamie's At the River serves seafood dishes in a laid-back atmosphere. And Noble Jones brings modern twists to Southern classics.







#### **CROWNE PLAZA NORTH AUGUSTA**

**The Crowne Plaza** opened in 2019 featuring a new modern design for guest comfort. Features include 180 premium rooms, an upscale restaurant, a rooftop bar, and over 10,000 sq. ft. of meeting and banquet space.

The hotel is located adjacent to the Savannah River across the 13th street bridge from Broad Street, downtown Augusta's dining, and entertainment district. Walk to a variety of restaurants and bars and the SRP stadium, home to the Augusta GreenJackets baseball team. The paved 12-mile Greeneway Trail runs next to the hotel, offering picturesque river views for bikers and joggers.

Enjoy breakfast and dinner in our upscale restaurant Salt and Marrow Kitchen with a wood-fired grill offering a delicious selection of steaks, seafood, and small-plate appetizers. Enjoy your favorite beers, cocktails, and wines by the glass in our Lobby Bar, or experience beautiful sunsets and spectacular views of the river from our rooftop bar Jackon's Bluff.

For an enjoyable and productive stay for business or leisure, choose the Crowne Plaza North August, a where you will find gracious hospitality at its best.

1060 Center Street, North Augusta S.C. 29841

#### **GETTING HERE**

AUGUSTA IS EASY TO FIND AND THE WEATHER IS JUST FINE.

#### DRIVE HERE

About 140 miles east of Atlanta, just west of the South Carolina border, Augusta is accessible to most of the Southeast via Interstate 20. Once you're here, our downtown is easily walkable and attractions throughout Augusta's River Region are a short drive away. For a ride elsewhere, Uber and Lyft drivers operate across the area, and there are also several taxi services available in Augusta.

#### **FLY HERE**

Augusta Regional Airport has terminals for Delta and American Airlines flights. Or, Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is about a two-hour drive away.

#### THE FORECAST

Augusta boasts characteristically mild, Southern weather. In the summer, expect highs around 90 degrees and lows around 68. In the winter, expect highs around 59 degrees and lows around 34. Spring and fall are gloriously in-between: The average high-low in April is 79-47, and in October, 77-50.

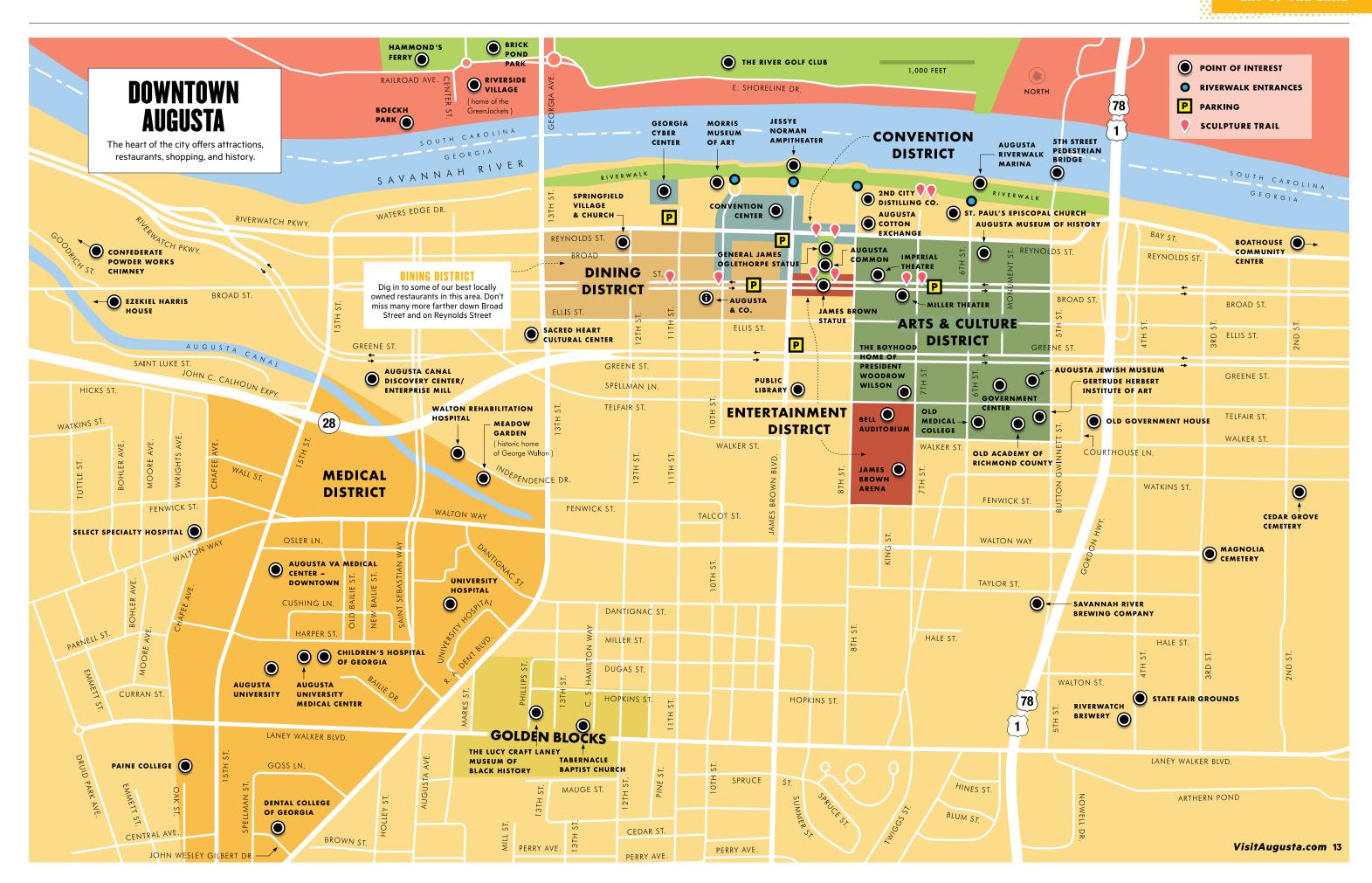
#### **GETTING AROUND**

Once you're here, turn to the helpful maps on the following pages to guide you around town.

#### NEED MORE INFO?

Your first stop in town should be to chat with the friendly experts at **Augusta & Co.**, full of city information, Southern goods, handcrafted Augusta gifts, and more; 1010 Broad St.

### **GREATER** GEORGIA SOUTH CAROLINA The city's surrounding river region offers attractions, golf, and outdoor adventure. Augusta SOUTH CAROLINA



### EXPERIENCE STARTS HERE

DESTINATION AUGUSTA IS YOUR PASSPORT TO THE CITY.

Whether you're traveling for business, pleasure, or a combination of the two, there's a lot to plan. Where will you eat, stay, and explore? How will you ensure everyone in your party is not only accommodated but enjoying themselves? **Destination Augusta**, a not-for-profit organization committed to promoting tourism in the Augusta area, is your answer to all of the above.

With more than a dozen creative itineraries on their website — ranging in theme from Kid Friendly to Arts & Culture to Pride and Active Lifestyle — Augusta has just the plan for any type of traveler. **visitaugusta.com** 

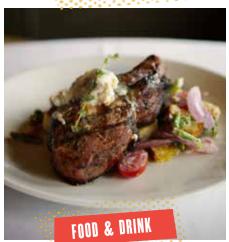


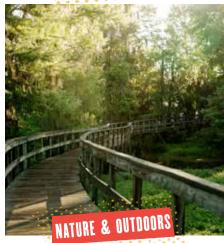
Scan to explore itineraries.















#### COME SEE US.

Your first stop is **Augusta & Co.**, Augusta's Experience Center, a delight for your senses and a preview of the fun that's to come. Discover the work of local creatives in their rotating art gallery and curated shop of Augusta-made wares. There's also a tasting bar for sampling local food and drink — all while gathering ideas for your perfect stay in Augusta.

Whether you're planning months in advance or on a spontaneous getaway, **Augusta & Co.** is your guide to an unforgettable experience.



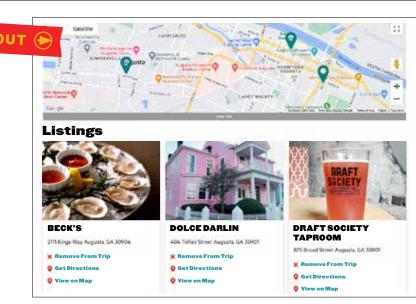
#### TRIP BUILDER

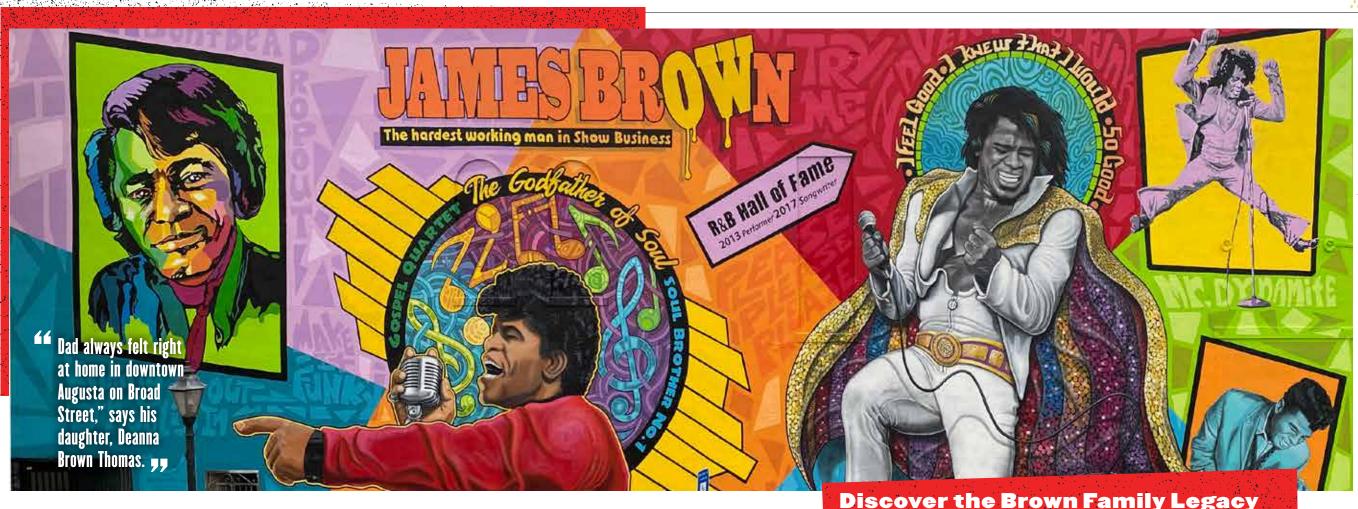
Don't miss the **Trip Builder Tool**, which lets you select individual items from a range of itineraries and thematic lists to create a plan that's perfectly, uniquely you. Simply click "**Add to Trip Builder**" or the heart icon to start collecting your favorite things to do. The Trip Builder creates a unique link with your selected attractions and even auto-generates an interactive map of their locations. From there, it's easy to share the URL with your fellow travelers and stay on the same



Scan to start building your trip now!

page throughout your trip.







#### ART AROUND **EVERY CORNER**

Augusta is brimming with public artworks that will surprise and delight when you spot them. It's part of what makes Augusta such a fun city to wander through and explore. As you page through this magazine, keep an eye out for pops of public art just as you would in Augusta.

## HEART OF AUGUSTA

JAMES BROWN'S SOUL STILL RESONATES



In 1993. The Godfather of Soul, James Brown.

recorded a mid-tempo single titled Georgia-Lina. It expressed the love Mr. Brown had for the city just across the state line: "I tasted the soil on both sides of the line." He would carry that sentiment throughout his life.

Born in Barnwell, S.C., Brown moved to Augusta in the early 1940s. Although he was poverty-stricken as a child, Brown went on to achieve worldwide stardom as a singer, songwriter, and show-stopping performer — thanks to a God-given gift and an incredible work ethic. He was dubbed "The Hardest Working Man in Show Business," and today he remains one of Augusta's most beloved sons.

James Brown and his family have left their imprint all across Augusta. Explore our top picks for experiencing the music, the history, and the soul.

#### THE JAMES BROWN FAMILY FOUNDATION TOUR

James Brown's daughter, Deanna Brown Thomas, is the president of the James Brown Family Foundation, a charity whose work includes the James Brown Turkey and Toy Giveaways, started by her father in the 1990s. **The James Brown Family Tour** highlights landmarks from Brown's early life — such as his elementary school, childhood home, and his namesake, the James Brown Arena. Tours take place every Saturday at 11 a.m. Book online at jamesbrownfamilyfdn.org.

#### JAMES BROWN MURALS

The city has memorialized James Brown in many ways, including a vibrant mural dubbed by creator Cole Phail, "The Spirit of Funk." Find it at 879 Broad St. (above)

#### **AUGUSTA MUSEUM OF HISTORY'S** JAMES BROWN EXHIBIT

Go in-depth and get to know the man behind the legend at the Augusta Museum of History's incredible James Brown Exhibit — the largest collection of memorabilia anywhere. Learn more at augustamuseum.org.

#### J.A.M.P., JAMES BROWN **ACADEMY OF MUSIK PUPILS**

James Brown's legacy is best

appreciated through J.A.M.P., James Brown Academy of Musik Pupils. Daughter Deanna Brown Thomas founded the nonprofit youth music school in 2011 to keep the music going for generations to come. Check visitaugusta.com's calendar of events for J.A.M.P performances.

#### THE JAMES BROWN JOURNEY WALKING TOUR

Walk the same streets James Brown walked to explore historic locations such as his childhood home, his church, plus iconic theaters and the live music hotspot, Soul Bar. Learn more at soulstartshere.com.



### **OUR HISTORY**

INNOVATION AND REINVENTION STAND THE TEST OF TIME.



Britain establishes Augusta as a trading post in the Creek Nation, a Native American community, through the efforts of James Oglethorpe.



Augusta is

the official

of Georgia.

state capital

Jesse Peters, who successfully escaped from slavery during the Revolution, establishes Springfield Baptist Church, the oldest Black congregation in the nation.

Industrial development attracts Irish and Chinese immigrants, who become the nucleus of communities that continue to this day.

#### It was the mild Southern weather that first drew them.

U.S. presidents, industrialists, and socialites came to Augusta — named after Princess Augusta of Wales in the late 1800s to escape the cold winters elsewhere. Moderate temperatures also allowed equestrians to house their horses, and polo matches became places to see and be seen.

Today, more than 100 restaurants, dozens of galleries and museums, and a plethora of live music and performing arts venues — not to mention a pioneering tech scene — make this a place of both charm and opportunity, no matter the weather. The best way to know is to visit; learn about our storied past for yourself at the Augusta Museum of History, the city's largest collection of historical information, and then feel it all around as you experience authentic Augusta.



Dubbed the "Golden Blocks" for its concentrated wealth, Augusta's Black business district flourishes, with pillars like the Penny Savings Bank and Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance.

The establishment of Fort Gordon. the Savannah River Plant, and national industries like Continental Can Company bring thousands of jobs and spur dramatic growth.



Lawyer John H. Ruffin, Jr. becomes the first Black person to serve on the judicial circuit's **Superior Court** when he is appointed judge.



As the temporary state capital, Augusta is a principal site of conflict during the Revolutionary War. It is occupied by British forces and becomes the site of two battles.



Augusta expands as a market center for cotton and the domestic slave trade.



Augusta develops rapidly as an emblematic New South city with expanded rail lines, a burgeoning textile industry, recognition as a winter colony.



Prominent golfer **Bobby Jones** helps to develop the Augusta **National Golf** Course, where the Masters® has been held ever since.



Realizing gains of the Civil Rights Movement. mortician Carrie Mays becomes the first Black woman in the Southeast to hold citywide office when she is elected to the City Council.



The US Army's decision to concentrate its Cyber Command at Fort Gordon — and the state's investment in a Georgia Cyber Center — spur a new wave of reinvestment and growth.



Keep these fun when you visit historic sites.



You can visit the home of George Walton, one of the youngest signers of the Declaration of Independence at Meadow Garden.



Look closely at the bedroom window in The Boyhood Home of **President Woodrow** Wilson to see the letters "TOM," etched by the young boy.



Paranormal activity investigators believe there are at least five ghosts living in the **Gertrude Herbert** Institute of Art.



The Lucy Craft Laney **Museum of Black History** is the region's only African American-focused museum and an absolute









#### A FESTIVAL OF FLORA

The Garden City Festival at Sacred Heart, an annual two-day festival, is a delight for all your senses. Wander through elaborate garden and floral exhibits, peruse dozens of eco-friendly wares, and learn from compelling speakers about topics from beekeeping to vegetable gardening to cooking with homegrown herbs. Families will love getting their hands dirty together with hands-on gardening activities, and kids will marvel at a dazzling butterfly habitat on display. Two soirees promise musical entertainment and delicious cuisine alongside the floral fun, and mini pop-up demos are sure to inspire you to try something new. Don't miss this vibrant celebration in April.

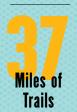
sacredheartgardencityfestival.com **6** Sacred Heart Cultural Center SacredHeart5



#### XQ:RI:VG:TH

F.A.T.S. Facts The Forks Area Trail System, or F.A.T.S., offers a series of loops through a thickly forested area perfect for hiking or mountain biking.





Whoop-de-doos The mountainbiker term for mounds of earth in a trail, sort of like a speed bump. Going over the ripples makes riding the trail feel like a roller coaster -F.A.T.S. is full of them.





#### **ADVENTURE AWAITS**

By Brian Panowich

**GET YOUR FIX OF FUN IN THE SUN** 

Augusta is rich with celebrated sporting history — you know about the Masters® Golf Tournament and maybe even the annual IRONMAN 70.3 Augusta competition. But this isn't a place just for professional athletes. Everyday active people have plenty of options all year round. Whether you want a simple dose of fresh air or a heart-pumping challenge, there are tons of things to do outside in Augusta.

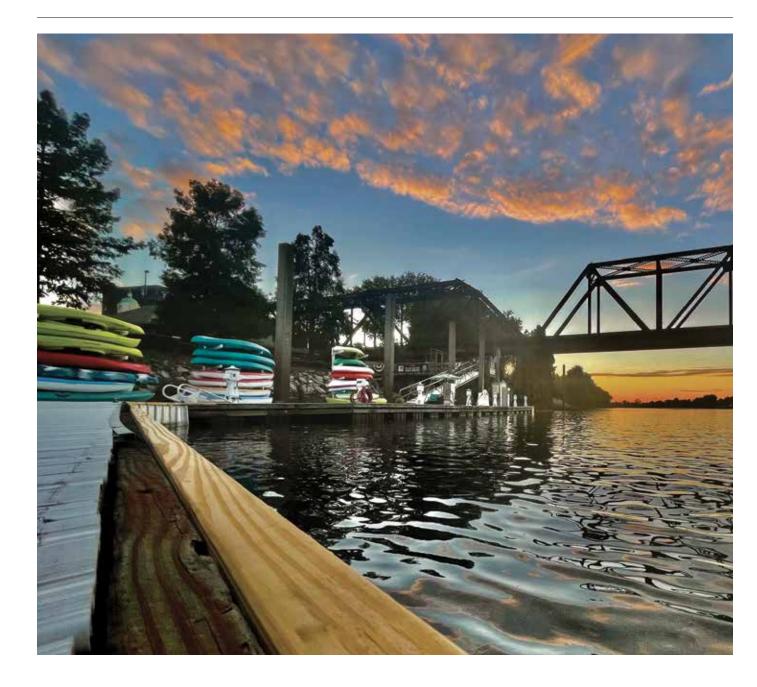
drive from downtown. Cruise down the nearby red-dirt-packed trails: Bicycle rentals are available from The Bicycle Peddler, Outspokin' Bicycles, and Andy Jordan's Bicycle Warehouse. But if you really want to get your feet wet, you'll need a kayak. You can't go wrong with these local operators: Cole Watkins RAILHEAD Tours, Two Dudes and a Boat Kayak Rentals, Outdoor Augusta Riverside Kayak Rentals, and Savannah Rapids Kayak

Enjoy the scenery of the Augusta Canal, a short

Rental. They're all experts at helping locals and visitors alike experience the unique wild of the Savannah River.

Kayaking sound a little less extreme than what you're looking for? Take it up a notch by renting a jet ski from Reserve and Ride Water **Sports**. Expert equipment and a trained crew can get you cutting a wake in no time.

And we know that Augustans really love golf...disc golf, that is. Augusta's River Region is home to the **Professional Disc Golf Association** headquarters, where you'll find three courses. There are also excellent courses at Lake Olmstead Park, Pendleton King Park, Riverview Park, and The Levee Disc Golf Course. Go on now, get a move on!



#### **ROW YOUR BOAT**

Two Dudes and a Boat Kayak Rentals has an adventure for anyone, regardless of kayaking experience. Nestled under the 1912 Southern Railroad Bridge at the 5th Street Marina, their location on the Savannah River in downtown serves as part of Augusta's "front porch," providing stunning city views, observations of wildlife, and the opportunity to kayak along the South Carolina-Georgia border. Two Dudes offers kayak rentals along with five different guided tours that will leave you with lasting memories. In the summer, the popular Sunset Tour includes views of the Saturday night fireworks display. Make Two Dudes part of your Augusta itinerary this season.

twodudesandaboat.com 706.668.1155

② 2dudesandaboat

### Best Tours of the outdoors

FIND YOUR PATH TO EXPLORATION





### For Soulful Cyclists

#### **Bike Bike Baby**

Hop on a bike and experience the city through new eyes. Bike Bike Baby offers three unique tours: the Black History Tour, the Soul Tour — focused on soul music and James Brown's legacy — and the Rolling Art Tour, featuring the city's public artworks. Bring your own bike or rent one for an unforgettable ride.



#### For Music History Buffs

#### The James Brown Journey Walking Tour

Consider this funky self-guided walking tour to discover the sites where it all began for the "Godfather of Soul" — his childhood home, iconic theaters and auditoriums, among other legendary stops. The James Brown Journey Walking Tour is your passport to a music education only Augusta can provide.



#### For Kayak Connoisseurs

#### Two Dudes and a Boat and Cole Watkins Tours

Both operators are a portal to exploring the Savannah River up close. Two Dudes has a range of tours — through rapids, at nightfall, and during sunrise are just a few. Cole Watkins' most popular tour is through Betty Branch — a tributary teeming with exciting wildlife. And the route to Stallings Island is a fan favorite for spotting wild goats and donkeys.



#### **For Thrill-Seekers**

#### Haunted Augusta Tours

Join tour organizer Michael Wolff — all decked out in period costume — to see downtown like you've never seen it before. Learn exciting stories and legends as you view architectural landmarks from the 18th and 19th centuries in a whole new light — twilight. The eerie side of history is on full display in this spooky and spirited adventure by foot.

#### HOW TO CELEBRATE MASTERS® WEEK, OFF THE COURSE



#### **BECOME A PIMENTO** CHEESE CONNOISSEUR.

Pimento cheese is a tradition in the South, but it's perfection in Augusta. Here's where to find it:

- Abel Brown Southern Kitchen & Ovster Bar
- Craft & Vine
- Fat Man's Mill Cafe
- Finch & Fifth • Frog & the Hen
- New Moon Cafe
- Wifesaver

#### **BOOK YOUR TEE TIME AT** LOCAL GOLF COURSES AND **ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS.**

Tucked away like a well-placed hole on a green, you'll find both public and semi-private courses all around Augusta's River Region. Book your spot and practice your swing:

- The River Golf Club
- Forest Hills Golf Club

WATCH THE

• Topgolf, includes minigolf and a gamified driving range

#### TOURNAMENT OFFSITE. It's great to be a patron, in-person at the Masters®, but anyone in Augusta during this

week can be soaking it all up. Try these lively spots for watching the tournament offsite:

- Solé Grill & Sushi Bar
- Farmhaus Burgers
- Southbound Smokehouse
- Soul City Pizza









### THE MASTERS® By Jessie Rumbley

#### MAKE THE MOST OF THIS RENOWNED ANNUAL EVENT.

#### Around here, it's not officially spring until the Masters® Golf Tournament.

Millions of people around the world have watched the story unfold on television during Augusta's most famous, prestigious sporting event, but far fewer have entered the gates of the Augusta National Golf Club to see the course and the players firsthand. If you're one of those lucky few to get up close and personal, master your experience with these tips and tidbits.

#### Don't worry: You have a parking spot.

It's true, the Masters® offers ample free parking for badge-holders. You'll see prominent traffic signs posted all along major roadways. Don't try to get clever here; these signs direct you efficiently to the right place.

#### Soak in the scenery.

Pristine, beautiful, astoundingly silent — the Augusta National course really is more striking in person than imagined. Phones are not allowed anywhere on the course; leave them in your car or check

them at the entry gate. Meanwhile, make your way to the clubhouse to get a complimentary photo taken in front of the famous yellow flowers.

#### Embrace the title.

**Pro tip:** TV Commentators aren't allowed to call you a "fan" or a "spectator." You, lucky golf fan, are called a "patron.

#### Get the gear.

The Augusta National pro shop is the only place to buy Masters® gear, and

they stock it in abundance. There are more than 100 styles of hats alone! Still, some of the most coveted souvenirs are the green or clear cups with the distinctive Masters® logo that come with any drink ordered there.

The joy of the tournament never gets old. Welcome to April in Augusta — we're glad you're here.

Find more helpful information at visitaugusta.com/the-masters.



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# LADIES ON THE GREEN

By Emilia Migliaccio

In April of 2018, Chairman of Augusta National and the Masters Tournament® Fred Ridley announced the establishment of the Augusta National Women's Amateur. The three-day tournament was historic, gathering the top 72 women amateur players to compete for the ANWA title. The first 36 holes were held at nearby Champions Retreat Golf Club, and after a cut to 30 players, the final round was played at Augusta National — on the Saturday before the Masters. The creation of the event, the televised broadcast, and the dates the event was held, demonstrated Augusta National's mission to give back to the game of golf and moreover, to promote the women's amateur game.



Everyone who has ever played Augusta National remembers their first moment. Mine was in 2019 at the inaugural Augusta National Women's Amateur.

It's still hard for me to grasp that I was a part of that history. As a shuttle bus drove 21 of us down Magnolia Lane, we all scrambled to the windows, pressing our noses against the glass. A wave of adrenaline rushed through my body. This is really happening. I had only experienced Augusta National on TV and through other people's stories. Never did I think I would one day have an opportunity to travel to Augusta to watch the Masters, let alone play the course. But now I was going to step on the legendary course as one of 72 women to play the Augusta National, the first 72 women to be part of this historic event. As I stood behind the clubhouse looking out towards the course, it looked so different than I had imagined: It was open and green — there were no crowds of people blanketing the grass.

Between a professional make-up artist, fancy dinners with pristine food and LPGA guests, exclusive activities just for players, and two immaculate golf courses, the 2019 Augusta National Women's Amateur made me feel like a movie star. The tournament empowered me as a woman, making me believe I could do anything I set my mind to.

In my second year at the Augusta National Women's Amateur in 2021, I was able to relive all my emotions from 2019, in addition to one more — I wanted more than anything to be one of the exclusive 30 that got to compete in the final round of the event.

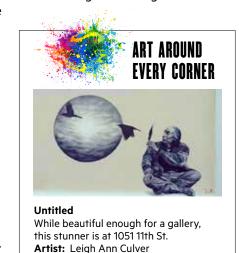
On the second day at Champion's Retreat, I two-putted for par on the 18th hole to finish inside the cut line. My mom, who was my caddie, my coach, and my best friend, embraced me. We did it. We were going to play Augusta National.

The night before the final round, I spent the evening in a whirlwind at the party "A Night at Berckmans Place." I never laughed so much with friends and ate great food as much as I did that night. In my hotel bed I lay awake, adrenaline already pumping for the next day.

April 2, the day I played Augusta
National in a competitive setting for the
first time, felt surreal. I grew giddy
every time I glanced at my mom in her
white jumpsuit, the traditional attire for
an Augusta caddie. Even though
excitement and anticipation consumed
me as I waited to tee off, I wasn't
nervous — which surprised me. I was
enraptured by the scene and just
grateful to be a part of it.

When I think back to the 2021
Augusta National Women's Amateur,
I don't think of the playoff, which I lost.
I remember sitting with Chairmen Fred
Ridley at the Champion's dinner. I
remember "A Night at Berckmans Place."

I remember standing on the first tee with my mom. I remember walking across the Hogan Bridge. I remember Bubba Watson shaking my hand after I finished my round. I remember my friend Rachel Heck rushing to hug me when the playoff ended. I remember feeling proud of myself. Proud that I gave myself a chance. And finally, I remember the crowds. The crowds of people that came to support women's golf — and I have everyone behind the creation of the Augusta National Women's Amateur to thank for that. Thank you for demonstrating to girls the ideal of women's golf. Thank you for giving girls the opportunity to dream. And thank you for giving me a dream I never thought I would get.













#### AUGUSTA SPORTS COUNCIL CELEBRATES 30-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Augusta Sports Council was established in 1991 by a group of sports-minded volunteers with the goal of recruiting sporting events to the community. Prior to 1991, Augusta only operated nationally in a couple of sports markets. Today, the team is nationally recognized for its partnerships in more than a dozen niche sports.

Since those early years, more than 800 events have been created, recruited, or supported by the **Augusta Sports Council**. From the small to the multi-sport, these events have attracted 450,000 athletes to the area, generating more than \$200 million in economic impact. A couple of stand-out opportunities include the 1996 Olympic Box-Offs, the 1999 and 2002 Georgia Games Championships, NIKE Peach Jam Basketball (1996-present), ESPN Bassmaster Tournament and, more recently, IRONMAN® 70.3® Augusta (North America's largest IRONMAN® 70.3® event) and GHSA Boys & Girls State Golf Championships.

See what's next for #AUGUSTASPORTS. augustasportscouncil.org









### **FAMILY FUN**

#### MAKE MEMORIES TOGETHER

Modern meets Southern tradition to create the perfect pace for families in **Augusta's River Region**. Families looking to slow down, relax, and enjoy a more rural setting will enjoy camping and exploring the 1,200 miles of shoreline on **Clarks Hill Lake**. The **Phinizy Center & Nature Park** maintains beautiful trails

and offers abundant opportunities to learn about the region's natural heritage. Other delightful options include bowling at either Bowlero Augusta or Stars & Strikes, or adrenaline-pumping play at Augusta Paintball.

The Augusta Canal National Heritage Area provides lots of active adventures to keep the family moving. Take a guided boat tour, or explore by foot on the Augusta Canal Trail. Rae's Creek Aqueduct, a remarkable pre-Civil War structure, is also part of the heritage area and well-worth a visit.

Swing your clubs toward giant outfield targets at **Topgolf** — a hightech golf experience plus a sports bar

and restaurant. Bounce 'til you drop at Urban Air Adventure Park, a large-scale trampoline center offering fitness classes, games, and children's parties. Test your aim and boost your adrenaline by throwing axes at targets with Broad Axe Throwing Club. (ages 16+) And Dave & Busters, the popular arcade and eatery, is fun for all ages.





#### **PET-FRIENDLY AUGUSTA**

TAILS WILL BE WAGGING THANKS TO THESE TIPS FOR EXPERIENCING AUGUSTA WITH PETS.

#### WHERE TO BRING YOUR BUD

Stay out of the doghouse by bringing your furry friend along on an adventure.

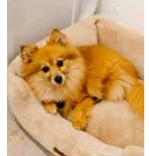
- Stay at Augusta Marriott, Partridge Inn, or Hyatt House Augusta Downtown.
- Hike at Phinizy Swamp Nature Park.
- Camp or explore at **Mistletoe** State Park.
- Roam Rae's Creek Aqueduct Park.
- Stand-up paddleboard at the Augusta Canal.
- Grab dinner and a dog treat at The Pizza Joint.
- Stroll The Augusta Market at the **River**, March - November.
- Shop local goods and pick up information at Augusta & Co.
- Grab a beer at River Watch Brewery or Savannah River Brewing Co.

#### STAY COOL

Here's where to find a water bowl for your panting pal on a hot spring or summer day.

- Whiskey Bar Kitchen
- Nacho Mamas
- Grantski Records
- Augusta & Co.
- New Moon Cafe

#### LOCAL PET CELEBRITIES Keep an eye out for these charmers, who frequent these beloved businesses.



**Hoss** from **Freshwater** Design Co. Studio & Shop



Orry from Buona Caffe - Artisan **Roasted Coffee** 



Otis & Onyx from Grantski Records



Jöla from Le Chat Noir Ash from Bodega Ultima







#### **SPOTLIGHT:**

#### **IRONMAN 70.3**

Augusta is home to one of the largest Ironman 70.3 competitions in North America. Each year, participants complete an incredible feat — and their energy and determination energize the city all week long. Score a primo sideline seat with this handy list:

**THE SWIM:** Athletes swim for **1.2 miles** with the current in the Savannah River. Get a scenic view of the water and the swimmers at the 5th Street Bridge.

**THE BIKE:** Competitors bike a whopping **56 miles** from the Augusta Rowing Complex, through South Augusta, and back. The best viewing places are along **East Boundary** and Greene streets.

**THE RUN:** The half-marathon-length run — that's **13.1** miles — ends at the Augusta Common downtown. We suggest staying on **9th Street**; from there, you can walk over a few blocks in many directions while runners loop through downtown, and you're close to the finish line.



#### A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Choose From 3 Hotels!

### Residence INI

- Kitchens in every suite
- · Five Miles from Ft. Gordon
- Pet Friendly (Residence Inn Only)
- Complimentary Breakfast & Internet
- Fitness Center & Business Center
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Meeting Space Available

706.288.1900 | 1116 Marks Church Rd. Augusta, GA 30909





#### SPRINGHILL SUITES®

- · Five Miles to Ft. Gordon
- Complimentary Breakfast
- · Complimentary Hi-Speed WiFi
- Fitness Center
- Business Center
- · Indoor Swimming Pool
- · Meeting Space Available

Ask about our Group Rates for 10 or More Rooms!

706.396.6600 1110 Marks Church Rd. Augusta, GA 30909

#### AUGUSTA'S NEWEST HOTEL!

- Nine Miles to Ft. Gordon
- Complimentary Breakfast
- Complimentary Hi-Speed WiFi
- Fitness Center
- Business Center
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- · Meeting Space Available

706.922.3211 3023 1/2 Washington Rd. Augusta, GA 30907

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE!

Book today at: www.Marriott.com





#### **UNIQUELY HISTORIC MEADOW GARDEN**

Step back into history at the home of George Walton, the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence. Orphaned at a young age, he was just 26 years old when he signed the Declaration.

Meadow Garden has been open to the public since 1901. For more than 120 years, visitors have been touring the historic house museum. As preservation efforts continue, guests can see inside history with peeks behind the walls into the structure of the house.

Guided tours are available Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; the last tour begins at 3:15. Saturday tours are available but must be scheduled during normal business hours.

706.724.4174 historicmeadowgarden.org

f land historic meadow garden







### & Co. to pick up your Passport to Augusta's Global Dining. It's your trusted guide to traveling the world through your tastebuds. Find recommendations

### GLOBAL CUISINE FOODIES, LOOK NO FURTHER. MEETS SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

### A TOUR FOR Your tastebuds

#### EUROPE

Hildebrandt's (Germany) This family-owned delicatessen is known for its sandwiches and bratwursts. 226 6th St #1416, Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 722-7756 hildebrandtsaugusta.com

#### Luigi's Family Italian Restaurant

(Italy and Greece) This beloved family-owned restaurant brings together both Mediterranean flavors. 590 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 722-4056 luigisinc.com

#### Edgar's Bakehouse

(France) The staff here are experts at whipping up authentic French-style bread and pastries.

3179 Washington Rd suite b, Augusta, GA 30907 (706) 863-3669 edgarsbakehouse.com

#### ASIA

#### Pho-Ramen'L

(Korea and Japan) This hip spot serves noodles, dim sum, bao buns, and cocktails. 990 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 842-7800 Phoramenl.com

#### **Soy Noodle House**

(Korea, Vietnam, China, Thailand, and Japan) Bringing together a variety of Asian favorites, Soy Noodle House offers the best of all worlds. 1032 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 364-3116 soynoodlehouse.com

#### Solé Augusta

(Japan) With a menu ranging from jerk shrimp tacos to specialty sushi rolls, Solé Augusta takes fusion cuisine to a whole new level. 1033 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 432-9898 soleaugusta.com

#### THE AMERICAN SOUTH

#### The SolFood Kitchen

A wellness cafe. The SolFood Kitchen offers salads, bowls. and sandwiches with options for carnivores and vegetarians alike. 471 Highland Ave. Augusta, GA 30904 (762) 333-8832 thesolfoodkitchen.com

#### **Edgar's Above Broad**

What's more fun than a restaurant with bocce ball, a putting green, and signature cocktails? 699 Broad St Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30901 (762) 320-4320 edgarsabovebroad.com

**Brunch House of Augusta** 

On Yelp's Top 100 list of U.S. restaurants. Brunch House has a robust breakfast and lunch menu — plus chicken and waffles to die for. 573 Greene St, Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 305-1508 Brunchhouseofaug.com

#### **Knuckle Sandwiches**

Pulled pork, cheeseburgers, and chicken wings: come and get a Southern-style barbecue. 1149 Broad St, Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 828-4700 facebook.com/ **Knuckle-Sandwiches** 

#### THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Augusta's food scene is booming and wide-ranging, a beautiful representation of the global community that lives there. And despite all the prestige on the plate, there's not a touch of

snobbery in the Garden City. You're sure to be met with a warm Southern welcome, whether at a white tablecloth or a backyard barbecue. That special combination is what makes Augustan fare shine: diverse flavors, creative fusions, and a family-style reception.

#### Laziza Mediterranean Grill

(Lebanon) Kebabs, falafel, and shawarma are the satisfying comfort foods of the Mediterranean. 901 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 814-7710

#### **Ephesus Restaurant**

lazizagrill.com

(Greece and Turkey) Authentic flavors from Greece and Turkey include grape leaves, doner kebab, and grilled platters. 3102 Washington Rd, Augusta, GA 30907 (762) 994-0180 ephesusgreekturkishga.com

#### LATIN AMERICA

#### Nacho Mama's (Mexico)

Burritos are the main event here, but the tacos, nachos, and margaritas are worth a trip themselves.

976 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 724-0501 nachomamasaugusta.com

#### La Casa Latina

(Puerto Rico) The first Latin grocery store in Augusta is also a restaurant with amazing seafood, plantains, and empanadillas. 2310 Lumpkin Rd B, Augusta, GA 30906 (706) 798-4646 lacasalatinaonline.com

#### SAY "CHEERS" IN ANY LANGUAGE

#### Vance's Bakery Bar

This mid-century modern bakery and cocktail lounge is best known for its boozy desserts and craft cocktails. 123 James Brown Blvd, Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 250-3936 vancesbakerybar.com

#### **Draft Society Taproom**

taproom.com/

A self-serve taproom, Draft Society offers a massive selection of beer, wine, and kombucha. 875 Broad St, Augusta, GA 30901 (706) 305-1152 https://www.draftsociety







### **SCHEFS TO KNOW**

GET TO KNOW THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE AUGUSTA'S FOOD SCENE SO SPECIAL.



"What makes my food so unique is the combination of two different cultures: urban food, which is soul food, infused with a hint of Asia." - Reggie White, **Black Lotus Cuisine** 



from New York to

Augusta.

"Consumption of Michael Romano, a five-star chef and Food Network champion, crafts decadent pastries from scratch at **Edgar's** Bakehouse. "Southern hospitality is a thing," experience." he told WRDW-TV, of – Melanie Harvey, his decision to relocate



• food is one of the only activities in which we use all of our senses — and I try to touch on every single one to create an overall

The SolFood Kitchen



Sean Wight owns five local eateries: Frog Hollow Tavern, Craft & Vine, Frog & the Hen, and two Farmhaus Burgers. To Forbes Travel Guide, he said: "We're just real fortunate to live where we live, with the proximity to some great farms and dairies."



We combine Iflavors of Southern cooking and traditional breakfast to create an amazing taste. Augusta has so many diverse local options, and we all bring something unique to the city!" - Asian Brown, **Brunch House** 

#### **WAKE ME UP BEFORE YOU GO-GO**

TRY THESE COFFEESHOPS AND CAFÉS.

You can learn a lot about a city from its coffee shops.

After all, they're where people gather — whether to connect, relax, or jump-start their day. Augusta has a vibrant coffee scene, with a number of roasters, plus speciality shops and cafés.







#### **NEW MOON CAFÉ**

New Moon serves comfort food made from fresh and local ingredients, as well as house-roasted coffee, American-grown teas, and pastries from scratch.

#### METRO A COFFEEHOUSE AND PUB

A landmark in downtown. Metro has a long list of coffee cocktails, plus non-alcoholic cups.

#### **UBORA COFFEE ROASTERS**

A beloved roaster of beans, Ubora also serves espresso drinks and drip coffee in its charming café.

#### THE BEE'S KNEES **COFFEE & CURIOS**

This unique spot offers coffee, baked goods, and vegetarian comfort foods as well as a vintage store, featuring clothes and vinyl records.

#### INNER BEAN CAFÉ

Inner Bean has a robust menu of breakfast and lunch items, plus coffee, tea, and smoothies.

#### **BUONA CAFFE -**ARTISAN ROASTED COFFEE

Buona's beans are served widely throughout the city, and their coffee shop is a cozy place to catch your breath.

#### CAVALIER'S COFFEEHOUSE

With a charming outdoor patio and cozy indoor space, Cav's serves delicious coffee and a rotating selection of wines and regional beers.

#### INNER BEAN CAFÉ BEACON STATION

In addition to coffee, breakfast, and lunch, Inner Bean also hosts monthly art shows and rotating displays of local artists' work.

#### **BODEGA ULTIMA**

Father and son restaurateurs run Bodega Ultima, where you can grab a coffee in the morning and return for a beer later on.





events.augustaarts.com artsintheheart.com

augustaarts

**1** The Greater Augusta Arts Council



#### **LOVE AUGUSTA ARTS!**

Augusta is an amazing arts destination. Visitors can experience concerts, galleries, live theater, open mics, and museums, plus the hottest bars and finest restaurants. Our growing assortment of public art includes murals, painted traffic boxes, historic sculptures, and the popular Augusta Sculpture Trail. One of the South's largest arts festivals, **Arts in the Heart of Augusta** on September 16–18, celebrates the city's artistic and cultural diversity in the heart of our downtown. Our many annual festivals feature art, music, culture, food, literature, and more,





HOP TO THE BREWERY SCENE IN AUGUSTA.

### WHAT'S BREWIN

There's something special about a local brew. When locally grown ingredients are brought together by local brewers and distillers, they create something completely unique. It's the essence of the community in a glass. It's your tastebuds' introduction to Augusta. And with a number of cool spots to choose from, you're sure to find your match made in hop heaven.

#### SAVANNAH RIVER BREWING CO.

With a brewhouse of more than 16,000 square feet, containing eight fermenters working 450 barrels at a time, this impressive operation churns out nearly two million cans of beer annually. From flagships to seasonals and small batches, they have it all — plus beer yoga and a running club.

#### 2ND CITY DISTILLING CO.

**2nd City**'s team strives to reclaim the craft and culture of small-scale distilling. They are proud to use quality corn and fresh, local ingredients to create delicious vodka, gin, rum, bourbon, and specialty liqueurs.

#### RIVER WATCH BREWERY

Located in a renovated warehouse space, River Watch has revitalized a piece of Augusta's history with a lot of

love and elbow grease. Brewers Brey and Anne Sloane offer up three core drafts plus limited releases and experimental recipes.

#### DRAFT SOCIETY TAPROOM

**Draft Society Taproom** has 43 rotating taps including beer, wine, cider, kombucha, and soda. Guests get set up with a bracelet that allows them to serve them-

selves from the expansive beer wall. With a setup like this, the choosing is almost as fun as the tasting.

#### **ARSENAL TAP ROOM**

Serving more than 150 craft beers from around the globe plus gourmet grilled cheese and tater tots — **Arsenal Tap Room** has something for everyone. Their charming beer garden and cozy interior offer comfort and style wherever you sit.

Mix up this easy, refreshing cocktail featuring local spirits.

When Prosper K. Berckmans arrived in Augusta from Belgium in the mid-1800s, he began planting peach trees on his Fruitland Nurseries farm. He ended up planting more than three million peach trees on his property and came to be known as the "Father of Georgia Peaches." His former farmland is now the **Augusta** National Golf Course, and his original residence today serves as the course's clubhouse. Berckmans' legacy lives on in our Fruitland Augusta peach and Peach Tea Vodka. Fruitland Augusta is only available in Georgia, and it's the only vodka made with real Georgia peaches. "We're an Augusta-based company because Augusta is the birthplace of Georgia peaches. This recipe is our version of an Arnold Palmer — a peachy, boozy version." — Yuri Kato, founder, Fruitland Augusta

Augusta Lemonade Combine equal parts Fruitland Augusta Peach Tea Vodka and your favorite lemonade. Serve over ice. (Best enjoyed with company on the front porch.)

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#### **SALT + MARROW**

Located inside **Crowne Plaza** North Augusta, **Salt + Marrow Kitchen** prepares its signature entrees on a wood-fired grill that infuses a deliciously unique flavor. Start with a selection of small plate appetizers, and savor mouth-watering steaks, seafood, lobster, pork chops, and other entrees. Enjoy your favorite cocktails or their selection of fine wines. The restaurant offers a private dining room that seats up to 20 guests. Reservations recommended; visit OpenTable at **opentable.com/r/salt-and-marrow-kitchen-north-augusta.** 

crowneplazanorthaugusta.com

- **6** saltandmarrowkitchen
- saltmarrowkitchen









### **HYATT HOUSE ROOFTOP BAR 111**

You've found the perfect setting for afternoon drinks and evening sunsets framed with unmatched panoramic views of Downtown Augusta and Savannah River. Set on the 8th floor of **Hyatt House Downtown Augusta**, **Hyatt House's Bar 111**serves handcrafted cocktails and beer, with indoor and outdoor seating from 5 p.m. – 11 p.m. daily.

706.922.3150 hyatthouseaugusta.com (f) hyatthouseaugusta





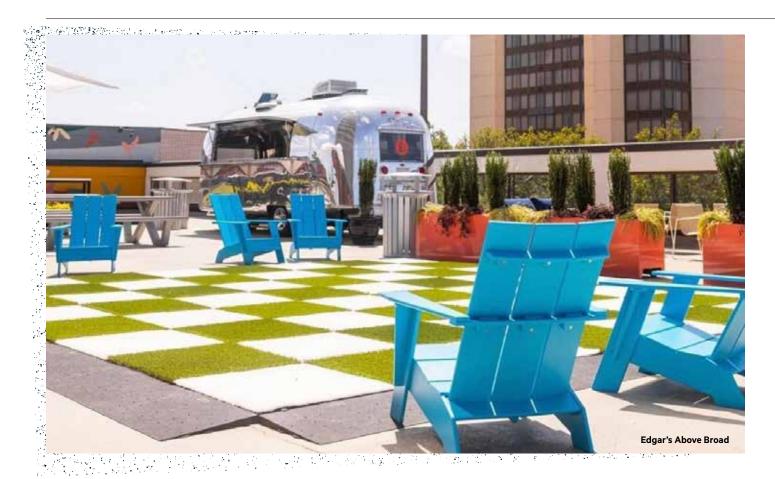


#### LAZIZA MEDITERRANEAN GRILL

For more than a decade, **Laziza Mediterranean Grill** has been flavor to the Augusta dining scene. The family-owned restaurant is making a name for itself with its extensive menu of freshly prepared Mediterranean meals and specialties, many made using family recipes that have passed down generations. Choose a kebab or shawarma wrap or platter with perfectly seasoned and grilled meats. Try a signature Laziza Bowl or their flavorful take on their house-made hummus, baba ghanoush, or falafel. Find Laziza on Broad Street in Downtown or in nearby Evans.

Iazizagrill.com 706.814.7710 (Downtown) 706.504.4303 (Evans) ① azizagrill





#### **NIGHT AND DAY**

**CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE.** 

From rooftop bars to improv shows, concerts, and axe throwing, Augusta's nightlife is always exciting. Whether you're craving a booze-filled dessert or a game of bocce ball, the night is yours.



#### **BROAD STREET AXE THROWING**

What's all this about axe throwing? This unconventional "sport" has you hurling axes at wooden targets to earn points — and it is a *blast*. It's great for team building events, birthday parties, or any old night when you're in the mood for something different.

#### LE CHAT NOIR

This intimate theater and cocktail lounge takes inspiration from 19thcentury cabarets. It's a great place to catch a comedy show, film festival, or burlesque performance — or to simply enjoy a beverage in a unique and charming environment.

#### **VANCE'S BAKERY BAR**

A mid-century modern bakery and cocktail lounge, this is not your typical bar. Offerings include lemon pound cake bites with Limoncello and vodka inside, brownies infused with Gran Marnier, and cinnamon whiskey cherries atop cheesecake in a shot glass.

#### **ROOFTOP BARS**

#### **HYATT HOUSE AUGUSTA DOWNTOWN**

From the eighth floor's glamorous outdoor lounge, you can watch the sun set over the skyline with a cocktail or craft beer in hand.

#### JACKSON'S BLUFF

The rooftop bar of Crowne Plaza North Augusta, Jackson's Bluff offers panoramic views of the city and the Savannah River — and of course cocktails, wine, beer, and small plates.

#### **EDGAR'S ABOVE BROAD**

Edgar's Above Broad promises a fun and laid-back vibe, with a putting green and bocce ball court, plus a diverse menu with tapas, sliders, and dozens of drink options.



#### THE LIVE MUSIC GUIDE

#### **SMALL VENUES**

- StillWater Taproom
- The Soul Bar
- Metro
- The Loft • Humanitree House
- Fox's Lair (at Olde Town Inn)
- Imperial Theatre
- Miller Theater
- Augusta Entertainment Complex (James Brown

- Soul City Pizza Doc's Porchside
- Capri Lounge
- Studio Neighbor hood Bar

#### LARGE VENUES

- Arena & Bell Auditorium)
- The Jessye Norma Ampitheatre
- The Sharon Jones **Amphitheater** (North Augusta, SC







Please, Please, Please Find these and other James Brown lyrics painted on the 800 block of Ellis St. Artists: Leonard Zimmerman , Jay Jacobs

### STILL STANDING

**Miller Theater** is a testament to how much the arts matter to Augusta and to the power of entertainment to draw fans together.

The original downtown landmark, built in 1939, was celebrated as an Art Moderne masterpiece. Audiences came to watch movies and live musical acts of the day.

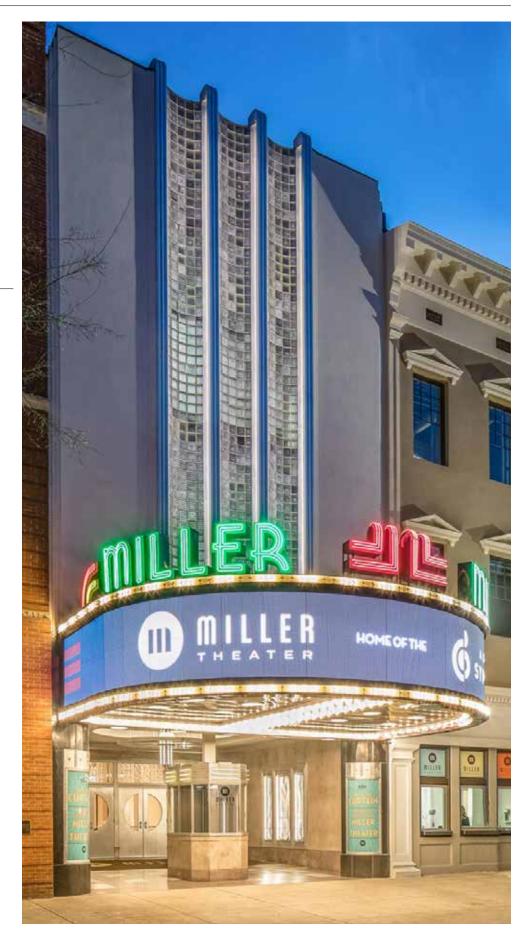
In 2018, the Miller Theater reopened as a state-of-the art venue and home to the Augusta Symphony. The 1,300-seat theater hosts an array of concerts and theatrical performances featuring renowned pop, rock, jazz, and comedy performers.

In addition to hosting diverse programs and entertainment, the Miller Theater is also available for private and corporate rentals. Three unique event spaces under one roof — the Brian J. Marks Hall, Founders Room, and Knox Music Institute — make the theater a perfect venue for a variety of events. Historic charm and modern amenities make the Miller Theater a true gem in downtown Augusta.

Visit **millertheateraugusta.com** for upcoming shows, tickets, and membership information.

Box Office: 706.842.4080

millertheater





# Get ULT URED

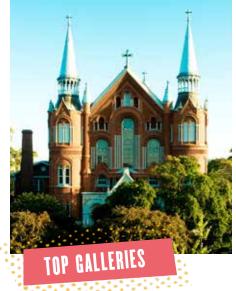
THE ARTS ARE ALIVE AND WELL IN AUGUSTA. HERE, CULTURE LOVER, IS YOUR OFFICIAL AUGUSTA CHECKLIST. By Jessie Rumbley

Calling all culture enthusiasts, art history buffs, and clever creativity fanatics: Augusta is the place for you. Whether you love a classic museum experience or unexpected public art, you'll find it here. Catch a show. Happen upon a mural. Spend a day with Southern masterworks. Hit the theater for a comedy show. Even take a class for yourself. Augusta's arts community has funky flair and formal roots — there's something for every creative soul. Find all the details and addresses at visitaugusta.com.



Nowhere is Augusta's commitment to the arts clearer than in the city's abundant public art.

- 1. Murals all around
- 2. Art the Box decorated traffic signal control cabinets, a collaboration between City of Augusta, the Downtown Development Authority, and the Greater Augusta Arts Council
- **3. Painted Pianos** by the Jessye Norman School of the Arts
- 4. Augusta Sculpture Trail
- **5.** James Brown Journey Walking Tour, a fun-filled lesson in music history



Gallery-hopping in Augusta is one-of-a-kind.

- **1. Sacred Heart Cultural Center**, a community gathering place
- **2.** Morris Museum of Art, a celebrated collection of Southern works
- **3.** Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art, contemporary art in an historic setting
- **4. Tire City Potters**, where pottery meets punk
- **5. Arts and Heritage Center of North Augusta**, with both art and history exhibits
- **6.** Art on Broad, for blown glass, local pottery, and more
- 7. Augusta & Co., for hyperlocal specialties
- **8. 523 Gallery**, where every piece has an inspiring maker story
- Westobou, rotating emerging and mid-century contemporary and experimental art
- **10.** Ann and Ellis Johnson Gallery of Art, showcasing work from students at the Jessye Norman School of the Arts



Immerse yourself in the spirit of Augusta at some of our favorite festivals.

- 1. The Augusta Market at the Riverwalk, every Saturday, where you'll find food, art, and more (Open Mar.–Nov.)
- **2. Augusta Craft Beer Festival**, a city-wide cheers (May)
- **3.** Garden City Festival at Sacred Heart, where stunning private garden tours are just the beginning (April)
- Augusta Pride, applauding our LGBTQA community (June)
- **5.** Arts in the Heart of Augusta, awardwinning and one of the biggest festivals in the South! (September)
- **6.** Augusta Greek Festival
  Seriously, save your appetite for this one. (Fall, Spring)

Performance art is thriving; many of our local companies have been around for decades. Join in the encore at the 6 Augusta signatures.

- 1. Symphony Orchestra Augusta
- 2. Augusta Ballet
- 3. Colton Ballet Company of Augusta
- 4. Augusta Choral Society
- **5**. The Augusta Chorale
- **6**. The Augusta Players



Scan to discover more arts and entertainment opportunities.



Treat yourself to the drama of live theatre.

- **1. Miller Theater**, home of the Augusta Symphony and recently restored to its Art Moderne glory
- **2.** The Imperial Theatre, home to some of the city's most distinguished acts
- **3. Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre**, starring military and civilian volunteer cast and crew members, and serving a buffet meal
- **4.** Le Chat Noir, where you'll find standup comedy, improv, plays, burlesque, and more.
- **5. Enopion Theatre Co.**, which brings Bible stories to life
- **6.** Aiken Community Theater, showcasing drama and musicals
- Grover C. Maxwell Performing Arts
   Center, the performing arts center
   of Augusta University



For star-studded performances and the city's most diverse lineup, head to James Brown Arena & Bell Auditorium, a.k.a the Augusta Entertainment Complex. You can catch everything from a home-and-garden expo to hip-hop concerts and comedy to Christian rock shows. Just like James Brown, this place embraces all kinds of music and entertainment.





#### MEET AN AUGUSTAN



"I am grateful to the arts and cultural community in Augusta for continuing to demand excellence and for pushing the needle forward... The community keeps me inspired, always looking for something different, unusual, inspiring, thought-provoking, surprising."

—Kristi Jilson Sykes, executive director, Westobou art gallery.



Discover ten beautiful sculptures by renowned artists as you walk along a peaceful trail.

#### **SEE YOU AT THE GALLERY**

MUSEUMS, GALLERIES, AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES MAKE ART COME ALIVE.

#### The Morris Museum of Art

The Morris Museum of Art is the oldest museum in the country devoted to the art and artists of the American South. Stroll through its rich permanent collection of more than 5,000 works, or explore continually changing special exhibitions and public programming.

#### **Westobou Gallery**

Westobou Gallery, a contemporary art venue, showcases innovative and experimental works by national, regional, and local artists. They also host unique events such as film screenings and competitions. With a focus on emerging and mid-career artists, this gallery is a must-see for fans of new and cutting edge art.

#### The Augusta Sculpture Trail

The Augusta Sculpture
Trail makes the great
outdoors its gallery space.
Discover ten sculptures
created by nationally-renowned artists as you walk
along a peaceful trail. A
free audio tour, accessible
by mobile device, shares
detail about each work of
art as you come upon it.











Image: Morris Museum of Art # Courtesy of The Scout Guide Augusta + RWI Photography.



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#### JESSYE NORMAN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

The residents and visitors of Augusta's River Region have more cultural options than ever, as the school bearing the name of international opera star Jessye Norman continues to attract a high caliber of artistic talent to the area. The Jessye Norman School of the Arts hosts classes, concerts, and workshops for the public throughout the year, while maintaining a free multidisciplinary art and academic enrichment program for children.

jessyenormanschool.org | thejnsa.org

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booktavern.com

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#### THE BOOK TAVERN

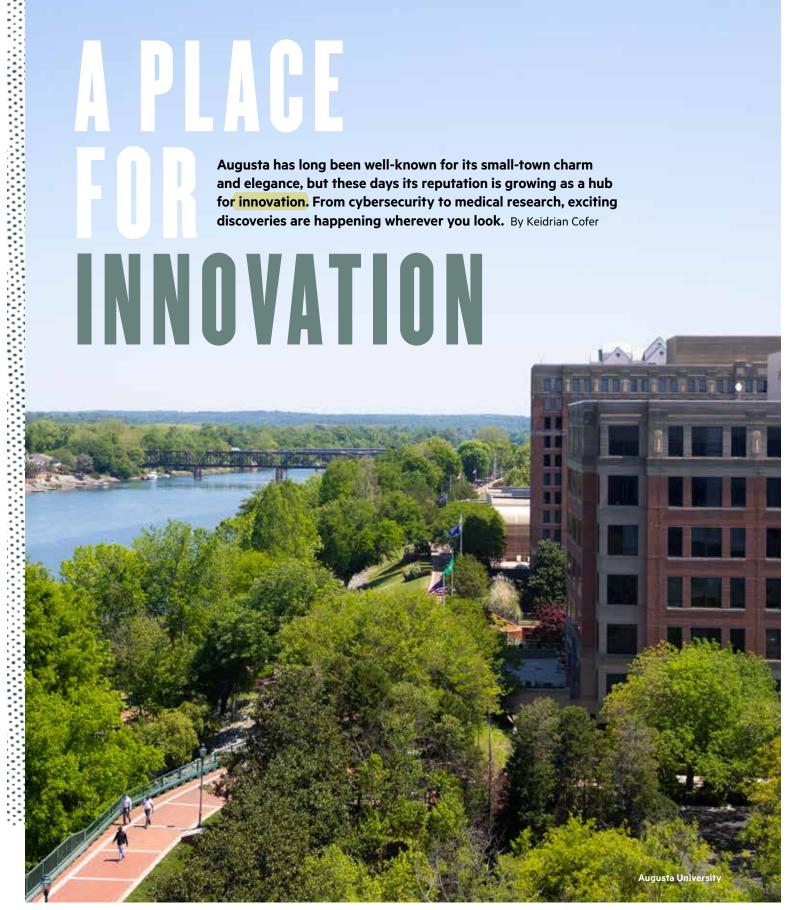
**The Book Tavern** is Augusta's local, independently owned bookstore. Browse their shelves lined with an extensive collection of new, used, and rare books. They also offer a collection of journals, puzzles, games, and other ephemera. From their humble beginnings in 2004 as a flea market booth to their new home at 978 Broad Street, The Book Tavern is a proud part of Augusta's community.

Open seven days a week, The Book Tavern hosts regular events and programming with a focus on local authors and artists. Whether you know exactly what's going on your "to-read" shelf, need a great recommendation, or you're looking for a great literary gift, The Book Tavern's staff is always happy to help.

\*

Augusta has long been well-known for its small-town charm and elegance, but these days its reputation is growing as a hub for innovation. From cybersecurity to medical research, exciting discoveries are happening wherever you look. By Keidrian Cofer

INNOVATION









#### AUGUSTA IS MAKING A NAME FOR ITSELF AS A TECH, RESEARCH, AND BUSINESS HUB.

#### **High Tech Haven**

Tech companies and new start-ups are increasingly setting up shop in downtown Augusta's posh office spaces, inspiring others to follow their lead. But the premier influencer in Augusta's tech space is the Army Cyber Command, which moved to **Fort Gordon** in 2020. There, cyber soldiers work on the cutting edge of cybersecurity, continuously upgrading their systems as the field evolves.

The Georgia Cyber Center is another huge tech entity, dynamically serving the community by hosting government, academic opportunities, and private industry all in one place.

#### **Research & Development**

Augusta University, one of Georgia's four major research universities, is at the forefront of medical research at the Medical College of Georgia. The university is involved in nearly 300 funded research activities that work to improve health outcomes in myriad ways.



#### Find Your Innovation

It's inspiring to live in a city where so many people are working together across fields and industries to help others. And it's inspiring to visit. Many companies choose Augusta for conferences and events because of its spirited atmosphere, affordable options, and luxury accommodations. Popular spots include the Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center and Crowne Plaza North Augusta.

We hope you join us for your next event and help further the story of innovation, discovery, and the future we're creating together.



#### **Unparalleled attention to detail**

**Destination Augusta** — the city's not-for-profit tourism organization — works tirelessly to support unforgettable events. The team provides trusted insight and knowledge from their perspective as locals. And since every event is unique, they create customized resources like group-specific culinary guides and landing pages.

Location, location, location

Whether you're coming from another state or within Georgia, Augusta is easy to access from Interstate 20 or Highway 25. The city is centrally located — within 2.5 hours of Atlanta, Charlotte, Savannah, and Charleston. Plus, Augusta Regional Airport welcomes folks comfortably from all around.

#### Get your money's worth

Augusta is dedicated to delivering the highest quality at nominal cost, so you can savor instead of stress. You'll find lodging and event spaces are affordable and elegant — plus, they're a stone's throw away from unique and wide-ranging dining options.

#### Come hungry

Augusta's thriving culinary scene uses locally sourced ingredients to deliver exciting twists on Southern favorites — and dishes inspired by global cuisines. From the best traditional Southern barbeque to the latest modern fare, this chef-driven city has it all.

#### Downtown walkability

While in Augusta, there's rarely a need to hail a ride. Augusta's walkability and mild climate allow for quick transportation by foot from meeting space to restaurants, museums, shopping, and nightlife.

#### WHERE TO STAY AND MEET

- Augusta Marriott at the Convention
- Hyatt House
   Augusta Downtow
- Crowne Plaza North Augusta
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Augusta
- Courtyard by Marriott Augusta
- Sheraton Augusta Hotel
- Hilton Garden Inn Augusta
- The Partridge Inn Augusta, Curio Collection by Hilton



#### **LET'S TALK BUSINESS**

FIND YOUR TEAM'S HOME BASE.

Augusta's River Region is a thriving business and cultural center, with ample opportunity for hosting conferences and gatherings of all kinds. Choose your home base from dozens of world-class hotels that provide elegant spaces to convene.

The Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, which overlooks the scenic Savannah River, offers the perfect mix of southern tradition and upscale sophistication — plus dozens of meeting rooms and 40,000 square-feet of exhibition space.

Another excellent option is the **Hyatt House Augusta Downtown**, which provides a range of event spaces to suit both intimate and large-scale gatherings. And with sweeping views of the city, its rooftop lounge is sure to impress.





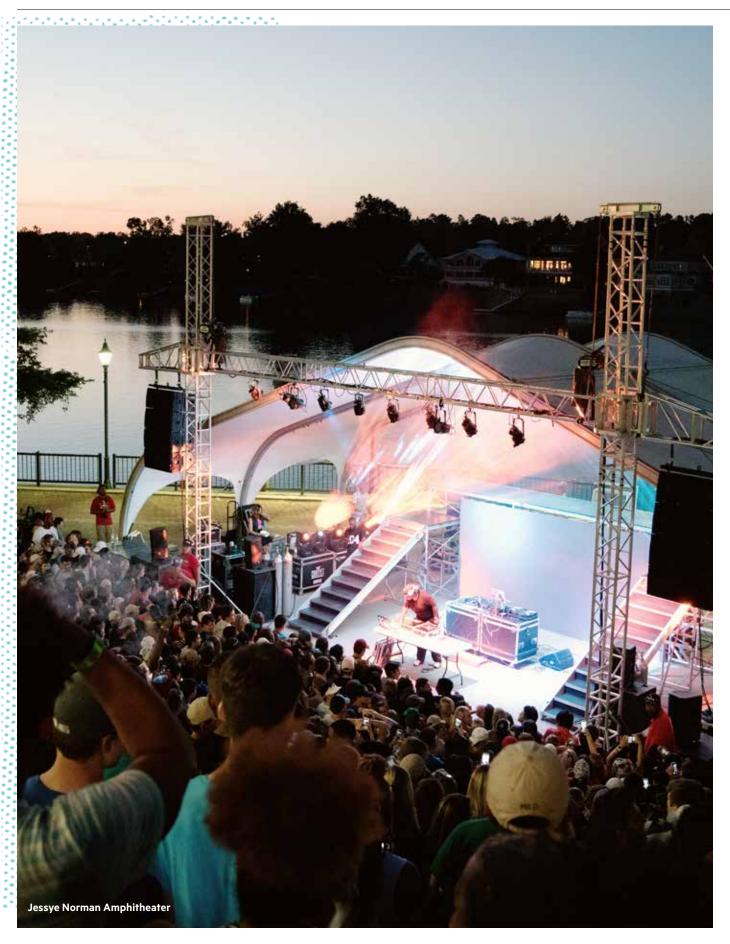
CONVENE &
COLLABORATE

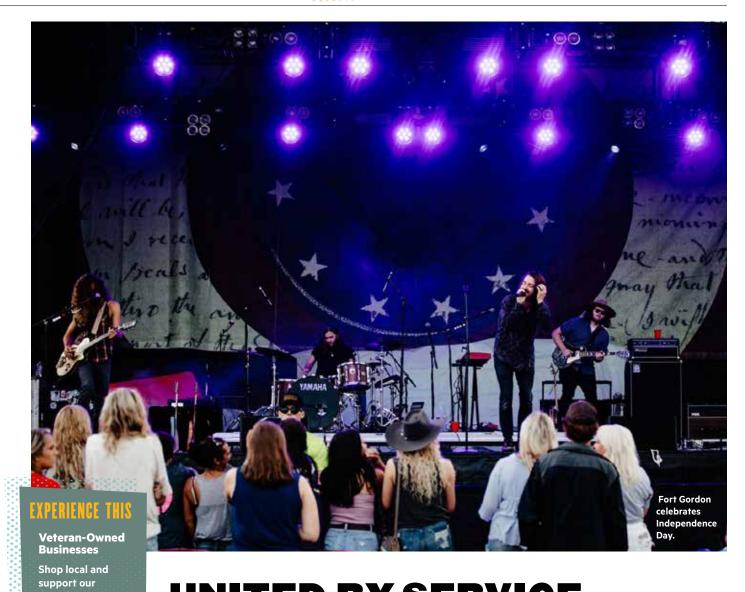
Meetings in August
by the numbers

100,000

6,20 Hotel 7

special events





#### **UNITED BY SERVICE**

AUGUSTA'S FLOURISHING MILITARY COMMUNITY INVITES EVERYONE TO BE A PART.

By Jessie Rumbley

The U.S. Army's Fort Gordon is a beloved fixture in Augusta, fostering culture, recreation, and community. Annual events include a carnival with rides, food, and a flea market, as well as their Independence Day Celebration, featuring live music, good eats, and fireworks. Plus, there's fun to be had all year round: Fort Gordon hosts smaller events like races as well as fishing and shooting tournaments. And they offer horseback riding, golf and disc golf courses, and the award-winning Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre.



"The Fort Gordon Community is a very important asset to Augusta. As the largest employer in the region, its economic impact is more than \$2 billion, with service members, retirees, contractors, and their families investing and spending in the community."

-Cathy Shaw, Family and MWR Sponsorship and Advertising Manager

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veterans in one fell swoop at these top five:

River Watch BreweryUbora Coffee

• The Broad Axe

Throwing Club

• Vance's Bakery

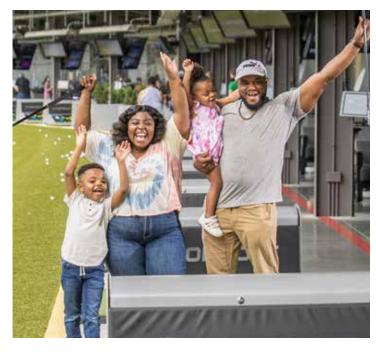
#### **MEET THE LOCALS**

**EXPERT ADVICE FROM AUGUSTA'S COOLEST RESIDENTS** 









#### ARTS AND CULTURE

Meet Katie Brooks, a colorful marketing professional and your guide to an unforgettable weekend of arts and culture in the Garden City.

#### **KATIE'S TOP PICKS**

**Miller Theater:** A cultural epicenter, this historic theater is home to the Augusta Symphony and hosts a wide range of music and entertainment events.

**Vintage Ooollee:** This shop is a veritable wonderland, with clothes and accessories from the 1880s through the 1980s.

**Morris Museum of Art:** The oldest museum in the country specifically devoted to the art and artists of the American South, the Morris Museum hosts a rich variety.

**Bedford Greenhouse:** Shrubs, trees, and expertise: That's what's on offer at Bedford. Both novice and expert gardeners will find themselves leveling up.





Scan for the

#### HISTORY

Meet Bonita Jenkins, an education professional and your guide to a weekend exploring Augusta's history and heritage.

#### **BONITA'S TOP PICKS**

**Augusta Museum of History:** Permanent exhibitions showcase Augusta's history as a transportation corridor, a hub for golf enthusiasts, a cultivator of legendary individuals.

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History
Explore both permanent and rotating exhibitions that
showcase Black history and artworks from well-known
and emerging artists.

Canal Trail along the Savannah River: In 1736, founder James Oglethorpe was drawn to the opportunities afforded by the river. Today, its recreational activities are a chance to explore nature and history together.





Scan for the full itinerary.

#### **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

Meet Bethany Smith, a yogi influencer and your guide to health and wellness throughout your trip.

#### **BETHANY'S TOP PICKS**

**The Southern Salad:** This is the spot for "clean greens in the dirty South," including delicious salads, rice bowls, and smoothies.

**Augusta Riverwalk:** Affectionately called the "front porch of the city," the Riverwalk has playgrounds, a weekend market, and even hosts live concerts.

**Savannah Rapids Kayak Rental**: There's no better way to both exercise and explore than by kayak. Tours are available to see wildlife, sunsets, and more.





Scan for the full itinerary.

#### KID FRIENDLY

**Augusta is a rare gem,** as rich in arts and culture as it is in nightlife, natural beauty, and family activities. There's no one right way to do Augusta. But local experts can point you in all the right directions.

Meet the Osborne Family, your guides to an adventure-packed weekend with your crew.

#### THE OSBORNE'S TOP PICKS

**Topgolf:** Whether celebrating a birthday or simply a Tuesday, it's always the right time for food and games at Topgolf.

**The Big Mo:** Drive-in theaters are timeless, and The Big Mo offers double features plus snacks and a kids' play area.

**Pink Dipper:** An old-fashioned ice cream parlor, Pink Dipper serves sweet nostalgia on a cone.





full itinerary.

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### IKE MONDAY MORNING

GO AHEAD, MAKE IT A THREE-DAY WEEKEND.

#### TO DO

- 1. Take a stroll along the Augusta Riverwalk.
- 2. Jam to soul music at the James Brown Statue.
- **3.** Explore Augusta's many murals.
- **4.** Experience history at **Meadow Garden**, the home of George Walton, the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- **5.** Hike and bird-watch at **Phinizy Center 8.** Rhinehart's **Oyster Bar** is the spot for & Nature Park.
- **6.** Discover public artworks on **The** Augusta Sculpture Trail.
- **1.** Learn about the legacy of America's oldest Black church at Springfield Village Park.
- **8.** Get your paddling on with **Two Dudes** & A Boat Kayak Rentals.
- **9.** Hike, cycle, or jog through the Augusta Canal Trails.

#### TO EAT

- 1. Finch & 5th is known for its craft cocktails and creative twists on Southern classics.
- **2.** Oliviana's Italian serves classics like pizza, pasta, wine, and cocktails.
- 3. Whiskey Bar Kitchen has unforgettable burgers and Asian cuisine, plus much more.

- **4. Solé Augusta** dishes out tapas, craft cocktails, and sushi.
- 5. Laziza Mediterranean Grill has authentic cuisine built upon family recipes.
- **6. Edgar's Grille** offers American cuisine with a Southern flair, including steaks and seafood.
- **7.** Curry Hut, an Indian eatery, serves curries, birvani, and tandoori breads.
- seafood, including shrimp and grits, po'boys, and catfish chowder.
- **9.** Top Dawg Tavern, a family-owned sports bar, has burgers and wings to die for.
- **10.** World of Beer has drool-worthy German pretzels, loaded tater tots, and, of course, beer.

#### TO DRINK (AM AND PM!)

- 1. New Moon Café serves delicious coffee, smoothies, and fizzy lemonade.
- **2.** Metro Coffeehouse is a downtown landmark, offering hot drinks and cool company.
- **3.** Stillwater Taproom, a neighborhood tavern, has rotating drafts and rocking chairs out front.
- **4.** The Soul Bar is like a night out with James Brown — soulful and unforgettable.

- **5.** The Indian Queen offers both experimental and classic cocktails to match vour mood.
- **6. Bee's Knees Coffee and Curios** fosters a welcoming and eclectic atmosphere, serving coffee, tea, and food, plus vintage curios to browse and buy.

#### TO PUT A CHERRY ON TOP

- **1.** Boll Weevil is known for its decadent cakes, cheesecakes, and pies.
- **2.** The Pink Dipper, an old-fashioned ice cream parlor, serves generous scoops and cones.



**Innovation Mural of Augusta** This tribute to innovation is at 100 Grace Hopper Lane. Artist: Aort Reed



# NOWOPEN AUGUSTA

### LOCATED AT THE VILLAGE AT RIVERWATCH





EAT. DRINK. PLAY. WATCH.



# Plan your visits with the TRIP BUILDER TOOL

visitaugusta.com/tripbuilder

Discover great restaurants, attractions, sightseeing, and more—then build a custom itinerary for a unique and memorable Augusta experience!

