



# Atlanta, GA



Situated at the end of the Western & Atlantic Railroad line, Atlanta, Georgia, was founded in 1837 and named Marthasville for the governor's daughter. In 1845, the Chief Engineer of the Georgia Railroad suggested that Marthasville be renamed to "Atlantica-Pacifica," which was shortened to Atlanta.

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library & Museum is located in Atlanta's Freedom Park and contains photographs and historical memorabilia from the Carter presidency, including an exact replica of the Oval Office. The park is also home to The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, which features photographic exhibits and artifacts that honor the lives of Dr. King and Coretta Scott King, as well as Rosa Parks and Mahatma Gandhi.

The Atlanta History Center comprises the Atlanta History Museum; the Centennial Olympic Games Museum; the Swan House and Smith Family Farm, which explore the lifestyles of Atlantans from the 1860s through the 1930s; 6 historic gardens; the Kenan Research Center; and the Margaret Mitchell House, where she wrote *Gone with the Wind*.

The APEX Museum offers 2 permanent exhibits (Africa: The Untold Story and Sweet Auburn: Street of Pride) and several rotating exhibits. Hammonds House Museum boasts a permanent collection of over 350 mid-19th century works by artists of African descent.

The Atlanta Cyclorama & Civil War Museum is noted for its large cylindrical painting of the Civil War Battle of Atlanta and the historic Civil War locomotive, "Texas." The Worlds of Puppetry Museum features collections from Jim Henson and other artists around the world. Other local attractions include the High Museum of Art, Fernbank Museum of Natural History, World of Coca-Cola, CNN Center, Breman Jewish Museum, Robert C. Williams Paper Museum, Children's Museum of Atlanta, Georgia Capitol Museum, National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Bulloch Hall, and the NAMES Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The Woodruff Arts Center is home to the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Alliance Theatre, and the High Museum of Art. The historic Fox Theatre hosts the Atlanta Ballet, Broadway shows, rock concerts, comedy performances, and films. The Balzer Theater at Herren's produces independent plays from Theatrical Outfit. The Center for Puppetry presents adaptations of classic stories and new works. Atlanta has many music venues, including the Masquerade, Tabernacle, Terminal West, Variety Playhouse, Aaron's Amphitheatre, and Chastain Park Amphitheatre. Philips Arena hosts sporting events and concerts.

Georgia State University's Rialto Center for the Arts presents the Rialto Series, which features jazz, world music, and dance.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Atlanta offers over 120 apartment, loft, and condominium options located in new and renovated buildings. In the Castleberry Hill neighborhood, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, historic warehouses have been converted into residential lofts. South of North Avenue (SoNo) offers a mix of single-family homes, townhomes, apartments, and high-rise and garden-style condominiums. Centennial Hill has new residential condominiums.

The historic Grant Park neighborhood features Victorian, four-square, and 1920s Craftsman bungalow homes and some newer construction.

North of the downtown, the Midtown area has many high-rise condominiums as well as suburban housing built along winding roads. Further north of Midtown is Buckhead, a large district that includes more than 40 distinct neighborhoods, many featuring single-family residences in forested areas. Peachtree Road has become a major focus of high-rise construction.

Although most of Atlanta is located in Fulton County, some neighborhoods are located just inside the eastern border of the city in DeKalb County.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Atlanta operates 248 parks with amenities that include 33 recreation centers, 22 swimming pools, 85 ball fields, 182 tennis courts, 5 tennis centers, a softball complex, 108 playgrounds, 6 golf courses, and 3 neighborhood centers.

The centerpiece of Centennial Olympic Park, the site of the 1996 Olympic Games, is the Fountain of Rings with its lights and music show. The Quilt of Remembrance memorializes the victims of the bombing that occurred during the games. The park also contains the Children's Garden and Playground, a large amphitheater, and other tributes to the Olympic Games. The Georgia Aquarium, CNN Center, and World of Coca-Cola are adjacent to the park.

Piedmont Park has many amenities, including an aquatic center, dog park, tennis courts, playgrounds, a running track, soccer and softball fields, sand volleyball courts, and fishing in Lake Clara Meer. The Atlantic Botanical Gardens is adjacent to the park.

Grant Park is home to Zoo Atlanta, the Atlanta Cyclorama & Civil War Museum, historical structures, athletic fields, children's play areas, and landscaped and natural areas. Grant Park also hosts several of Atlanta's famed festivals.

Stone Mountain is located near Atlanta and offers many attractions.

Atlanta has many professional sports teams, such as the Atlanta Braves (men's baseball), Atlanta Dream (women's basketball), Atlanta Hawks (men's basketball), Atlanta Gladiators (men's hockey), Atlanta Falcons (men's football), Atlanta Phoenix (women's football), and Atlanta Silverbacks (men's and women's soccer clubs).

## EDUCATION

Atlanta Public Schools educate approximately 51,120 students in 52 elementary schools, 11 middle schools, and 11 high schools. In addition, the city has 2 single-gender schools for grades 6 through 12, and 6 nontraditional and evening programs. Beginning July 1, 2016, Atlanta Public Schools will become a Charter System.

Atlanta has many opportunities for undergraduate and graduate degree programs in public universities (Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University), private universities (Emory University, Oglethorpe University, Holy Spirit College, and Savannah College of Art and Design), and historically black private universities (Spelman College, Morehouse College, Clark Atlanta University, and Morris Brown College). Interdenominational Theological Center is a consortium of six predominantly African-American denominational Christian seminaries.

Perimeter College, Atlanta Technical College, and Atlanta Metropolitan State College are public colleges that offer various associate's degree programs.

Emory University and Morehouse College have schools of medicine.

## HEALTH CARE

Atlanta is served by the following acute care hospitals:

- Atlanta Medical Center: 762 licensed beds
- Emory University Hospital: 571 licensed beds
- Emory University Hospital Midtown: 475 licensed bed
- Grady Memorial Hospital: 953 licensed beds
- Northside Hospital: 537 licensed beds
- Piedmont Hospital: 488 licensed beds
- Saint Joseph's Hospital: 410 licensed beds
- Wesley Woods Geriatric Hospital: 82 licensed beds

The city also has 3 pediatric hospitals:

- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston: 258 licensed beds
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite: 250 licensed beds
- Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital: 24 licensed beds

The city also has 4 long-term care hospitals and a psychiatric hospital.

## CITY STATS

2014

City Population	456,002
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	5,614,323
Per Capita Personal Income,	\$43,472
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA, MSA	