

**Atlanta Parent's**



# **SUMMER** **Fun Guide**

**Get Wet  
Guide**

**Best Frozen  
Treats**

**Have an  
Iconic  
Atlanta  
Summer**

**Parades &  
Fireworks**

**Happenings  
at the Zoo**

**Summer  
Sounds:  
Outdoor  
Concerts**





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# SUMMER Fun Guide



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- July 4 Parades/Fireworks • Butterflies
- Berry Picking • Summer Reading



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JUNE 3 - AUGUST 11

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## GET YOUR NATURE ON

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# ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

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Scan to learn more about the challenge and see event dates for your local branch!

[gwinnettlibrary.org](https://gwinnettlibrary.org)





# 10 Ways to Beat the Summer Heat

by Emily Webb

In the summer, Georgia temperatures rise and the sun glares, but it's still possible to have fun all season long.



## Wear sunscreen daily.

Exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays happen daily during any outdoor activity. UV rays are harmful all year long, and even on an overcast or cool summer day, you should practice sun safety.

"Per the American Academy of Pediatrics, approximately 80% of sun damage happens before age 18. For us moms and dads, sunscreen helps prevent against wrinkles, premature aging and skin cancers, which approximately one-fifth of people will get within their lifetime," said Dr. Sarah Lazarus, a pediatric emergency medicine physician at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. "For the little ones — older than 6 months of age — applying sunscreen helps protect against painful burns and potential skin cancer, including potentially-fatal melanoma."

Swimming, boating, skiing and hiking increases sunburn risk, as the sun's rays reflect off water, sand and snow, and at higher altitudes, UV radiation also increases.

No matter your skin color, everyone is at risk for UV-related health problems, including skin cancer, eye cancer or cataracts. Check out Black Girl Sunscreen for products made specifically for people of color to protect their skin.

## Understand SPF.

Sun Protection Factor (SPF) is a measure of how much solar energy is required to produce sunburn on protected skin. A higher SPF value means increased sunburn protection.

"Unfortunately, SPF is not related to the amount of time required to get burnt," Lazarus said. "Therefore, layering two products does not give you more time in the sun without burning. Also, the amount of time you can be outside without burning is related to the time of day as well."

## Find the right sunscreen.

"There is a lot of debate about the 'best sunscreen' for your kiddo," Lazarus said. "Personally, I am a fan of anything with zinc oxide. It's a mineral sunscreen that is hard to apply but stays well and is the only sunscreen that has been FDA studied on infants younger than 6 months of age."

If you have sensitive skin, you may want to try the sunscreen you buy for your children. "Many of the sunscreens for kiddos have less added ingredients and scents," Lazarus said.

When shopping, choose a sunscreen with at least 30 SPF, "broad-spectrum" to protect kids from both ultraviolet A and B rays and "water-resistant." Skip the spray bottle, as aerosol sprays can be inhaled, alcohol ingredients are flammable, and it's difficult to apply spray sunscreen evenly.

Apply sunscreen 15-30 minutes before going outside and evenly cover all areas of exposed skin. Reapply every two hours and after swimming, sweating or toweling off.

## Wear the right items.

"Lightweight and light-colored clothing will help prevent your child from sun exposure, but also, make your life easier, so you don't have to chase a squirming toddler to apply sunscreen every hour," Lazarus said. "Ideally, pick clothing with an Ultraviolet Protection Factor. Hats should have a large brim that covers the face, and sunglasses should also be UV-protective."

## Stay out of the sun.

As much as possible, limit the time you are outside between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. when the rays are the strongest.

Babies younger than 6 months should be kept out of direct sunlight. Keep in mind babies don't sweat, but to cool them off, consider purchasing a handheld fan with an attached water bottle to spray mist.

"Fans can also be really helpful for keeping air circular and moving," said Dr. Ashley Brouillette, a Pediatric Sports Medicine Primary Care Physician at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. "For all kids, you want to make sure to have access to shade and hydration. You don't want to be in an environment that's going to cause rapid sweating, because you don't want to lose moisture."





### What's the difference between chemical and mineral?

Chemical and mineral sunscreens shield your skin in different ways.

"Mineral sunscreens sit on the top of the skin to block UV rays, like a shield, whereas chemical sunscreens bind with UV rays, like a sponge. Despite small amounts of chemical sunscreens being absorbed into the skin, there is no current evidence either sunscreen is unsafe," Lazarus said.

Chemical sunscreens are quick and easy to apply, and unlike mineral sunscreens, they don't leave a white film on the skin; however, they may cause skin reactions in certain people. Titanium dioxide and zinc oxide are common ingredients in mineral sunscreens and are generally recognized as safe and effective by the FDA.

Mineral sunscreens are ideal for children, people with sensitive skin and people with melasma. Unlike chemical sunscreens, they offer immediate protection. Since it sits on the top of the skin, it may contribute to acne, and it is also harder to apply, leaves a white film on the skin and needs to be applied more frequently than a chemical sunscreen.

### Drink water.

"Get your kids used to drinking water," Brouillette said. "Leave a big pitcher of water in the refrigerator, so they are used to taking that out as something to drink. Give them their own bottle or cup they're excited to drink out of. You can also try different flavored waters, but make sure they're not super sugary. If they're older, you can incentivize and make it a reward system: they can't go out and play until they drink water. For little ones, make sure they get in the habit of drinking water early. If kids grow up not drinking water, it can be a hard habit to get into. The body and hormones are sensitive to carbs and sugar, and if you get used to them, it changes what your body expects in a physiological way."

Don't wait until your child is thirsty to encourage them to hydrate. Serve water 30 minutes before an activity. Kids who weigh less than 90 pounds should aim for five ounces of water every 20 minutes, and those who weigh more than 90 pounds should aim for eight ounces every 20 minutes.

### Don't give babies water.

Ages 6 months and younger get their hydration from breast milk and/or infant formula and should not be offered water, which is too much work on your baby's kidneys. If you're breastfeeding, make sure to drink plenty of water.

"Making sure that you are keeping babies cool and they're not losing too much heat is going to be important," Brouillette said. "Make sure you are feeding and hydrating at age-appropriate times."



### Serve sports drinks only in certain situations.

Sometimes, sports drinks and energy drinks are terms used interchangeably, but these drinks are not the same.

"If your exercise is longer than an hour, you should add something with some electrolytes, rather than that's a POWERADE, Pedialyte or Gatorade," Brouillette said. "When you're sweating, you're losing salt and water. Especially if your child is a salty sweater — there is white trim around the sweat stain on the shirt — it is even more important to make sure you're replacing salts in some way. Because these drinks have a lot of calories and sugar, they should not be a primary source of hydration."

You can also serve foods containing carbohydrates and electrolytes, such as milk, a seed or nut butter sandwich, a banana or nuts and crackers.

Children should not drink energy drinks. "In general, we recommend against caffeine younger than the age of 12 and limited between the ages of 12-15," Brouillette said.

### Know the signs of health issues.

Young children are more likely than adults to suffer from heat-related health issues, like heat cramps, heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Heat stroke and heat exhaustion need immediate medical attention.

#### Signs of a heat-related problem:

- Cramps
- High body temperature
- Red, hot, dry skin (not sweating)
- Heavy sweating
- Rapid pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea/vomiting
- Confusion
- Loss of consciousness
- Paleness

#### Signs of dehydration:

- Low energy levels
- Less frequent urination
- Dry mouth
- Lack of tears when crying
- Loose stool or decreased bowel movements
- Extreme fussiness
- Excessive sleepiness
- Sunken eyes
- Cool, discolored hands and feet
- Wrinkled skin

### Practice what you preach.

Kids are more likely to take part in healthy, safe habits if they see adults doing it, too. Make sure you wear protective clothing and regularly use sunscreen, and make it a habit to drink water together.



# The Scoop on the Best Cool Treats in Atlanta

Escape the heat at these shops offering delicious ice cream, snow cones, popsicles or gelato.



## Ice Cream and Gelato

### ● **Cremalosa American Gelato**

You'll find small-batch, made-from-scratch gelato at this Decatur shop. Try their traditional Italian flavors or originals like Banana Pudding, Mango Lassi and Nutella. "Boozy" milkshakes and adult beverages make a fun grownup treat. Decatur, [cremalosa.com](http://cremalosa.com)

### ● **Butter and Cream**

This fan-favorite boasts handcrafted small-batch ice cream and frozen desserts. Kid favorites: Strawberry, Cookie Monster. Adult favorites: OG Goodness (brown sugar ice cream with butter cake) and Honeycomb Forest. Try seasonal favorites, like Margarita Sorbet, Caramel Poundcake or Lemon Custard. Decatur and Norcross, [butterandcream.com](http://butterandcream.com)

### ● **Frosty Caboose**

The "train-watching capital of Atlanta" in Chamblee boasts 36 flavors, including sugar- and gluten-free options. Kid favorites: Superman, Birthday Cake, Cookies and Cream. Adults: Mint Chocolate Chip, Chunky Salted Caramel. Chamblee, [frostycaboose.com](http://frostycaboose.com)

### ● **Jake's Ice Cream**

The old-school ice cream parlor atmosphere is the cherry on top of this flavor-packed ice cream shop. Kid favorites: Max's Magic Kisses, a blue sweet cream base with white chocolate chips and marshmallows. Don't miss Chocolate Slap Yo Mama, made with chocolate sauce, chocolate chips and Oreo cookies. Hapeville plus select shops in Atlanta, [jakesicecream.com](http://jakesicecream.com)

### ● **Jeni's Ice Creams**

Jeni's artisan ice creams are hand-crafted using whole ingredients: crave-worthy flavors include Brown Butter Almond Brittle and Darkest Chocolate. Kids love Skillet Cinnamon Roll for its breakfast-like taste. Multiple locations, [jenis.com](http://jenis.com)

### ● **Morelli's Ice Cream**

Morelli's offers an ever-changing list of flavors, from Brooklyn Cheesecake to Krispy Kreamier. Kid favorites include Vanilla with rainbow sprinkles; adults crave the Salted Caramel. Multiple locations, [morellisicecream.com](http://morellisicecream.com)

### ● **Southern Custard**

This dense, rich, creamy dessert is frozen with a special technique to give it a perfect smoothness. Try Orange Cream or Chocolate Covered Banana; kids love Birthday Cake, Bubble Gum and Cookie Monster. Check online for the flavor of the day. Brookhaven, [southerncustard.com](http://southerncustard.com)





Sweet Stack

### ● Where's the Scoop?

This rolled ice cream shop offers custom creations like Mango Tango (mango ice cream with strawberries and topped with blueberries, coconut flakes, and raspberry drizzle) and Salty Sailor (Madagascar vanilla ice cream with pretzels and topped with more pretzels, M&Ms, whipped cream, and sea salt caramel). You can also sip on a bubble tea. Alpharetta, [wheresthescoop.com](http://wheresthescoop.com)

### ● Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream

This unique ice cream is frozen using only liquid nitrogen, making it a really cool and cold treat. They have traditional and fun flavors like Cake Batter, Cinnamon, Maple and White Chocolate, or you can add mix-ins to make your own delicious combinations. Atlanta, Sandy Springs and Roswell, [subzeroicecream.com](http://subzeroicecream.com)

### ● Sweet Stack

This dessert bar features a menu of handcrafted ice creams, cookie and doughnut sandwiches for a decadent treat. Try Cuban Coffee Cream, flavored with espresso, or The Real MVP with peanut butter ice cream, chocolate ice cream and chocolate chips. They even offer a few vegan flavors. Atlanta, [sweet-stack.com](http://sweet-stack.com)

### ● Cereal and Cream

This specialty dessert shop started as a food truck, but now has a brick and mortar location. Try combos like East Atlanta, with Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Frosted Rice Krispies, Oreo and Captain Crunch or Buckhead, with white chocolate chips, honey, granola, whipped cream and vanilla wafers, or build your own dream dessert. Atlanta, [cerealncream.com](http://cerealncream.com)

### ● Honeysuckle Gelato

Enjoy creamy gelato and sorbet flavors, such as Salted Caramel Brownie, Red Velvet and Lemon Raspberry Crumble. Other treats include cookies, gelato sandwiches, slushies, floats and milkshakes. Atlanta, Ponce City Market and Fayetteville, [honeysucklegelato.com](http://honeysucklegelato.com)

### ● Big Softie

Try soft serve made from local Georgia dairy and organic cane sugar, and toppings and waffle cones are made from sister company, Little Tart Bakeshop. Flavors include Vanilla, Chocolate, Vegan Oat Vanilla and more, and toppings include Strawberry Shortcake Crumble, Cheez-It Brittle, fudge and more. Atlanta, [bigsoftieatl.com](http://bigsoftieatl.com)

### ● IScream Ice Cream Rolls

Make your own rolled ice cream concoction with Vanilla, Chocolate, Butterscotch, Birthday Cake and more flavors, along with more than 30 mix-ins. Signature bowls kids will love: Saturday Morning Cartoons with Vanilla, Froot Loops, Fruity Pebbles, Pop-Tarts and drizzle, or Fantasy Land with Cotton Candy, whipped cream, marshmallows, sprinkles and a unicorn horn. Atlanta, [iscreamroll.com](http://iscreamroll.com)

[atlantaparent.com](http://atlantaparent.com)

## Snow Cones and Frozen Pops

### ● SunO

A milky-sweet blend of shaved ice, can be topped with fruit, cookies, jelly and more in this Asian-inspired treat. Signature combinations include kids' favorite Strawberry Kat – strawberry ice, mini Kit-Kats and condensed milk. Adults can choose from adventurous blends like KoKo Coffee, with coffee jelly, caramel pudding and condensed milk. Decatur, [sunodessert.com](http://sunodessert.com)

### ● King of Pops

This favorite Atlanta frozen treat can be found around town at festivals, restaurants, grocery stores or at their shops in Ponce City Market and Colony Square. Try Cookies and Cream, Strawberry Lemonade or Peach. Produce is sourced from their own farm and flavors change depending on the season. Multiple locations, [kingofpops.com](http://kingofpops.com)

### ● Big Easy Sno-Balls

The classic New Orleans treat is taken to a new level at Big Easy. Try custom creations like Key Lime Pie, with condensed milk, whipped cream and graham cracker crumbs. Favorite kids' flavors: Cotton Candy Dream and Hawaiian Fruit Punch. Woodstock, Midtown and Marietta, [bigeasysnoballs.com](http://bigeasysnoballs.com)

### ● Pelican's SnoBalls

Fluffy "snow" topped with your choice of over 100 flavors — kids' favorites signature mixes include Super Hero and Rainbow. Adults love Georgia Peach and Cherry Margarita. Multiple locations, [pelicanssnoballs.com](http://pelicanssnoballs.com)

### ● Popbar

This delicious shop specializes in gelato, sorbet or yogurt on a stick with more than 60 flavors, including Green Tea, Birthday Cake and Cookie Butter. You can also order a Popwich, a popsicle between two cookies, or a wafflePop, a Belgium-style waffle on a stick. Alpharetta, [pop-bar.com](http://pop-bar.com)

### ● Mocha Pops

This dessert combines two great things — coffee and popsicles with Mocha and Cuban Wake-up. No problem if coffee isn't your thing! They also have Banana Pudding, Brownie, Cherry Mascarpone, Strawberry Shortcake and more. Atlanta, [mochapops.com](http://mochapops.com)



Mocha Pops



# SUMMER Fun Guide

Fountains • Splash Pads • Pools • Water Parks • Beaches



E.E. Robinson Park Fountain

## Get Wet Guide

# Summer in Atlanta is Hot!

Cool off with these exciting places to play in the water. From jumping through a fountain to soaring down a waterslide, these spots boast fun ways to beat the summer heat.

*Please call or check website before heading out to confirm the water feature is open.*

### Fountains

#### FREE:

##### ● The Battery Atlanta

This shopping, dining and sports space also features an interactive water fountain for splashing around during hot days.

**Where:** 800 Battery Ave. SE, Atlanta. [batteryatl.com](http://batteryatl.com)

##### ● Big Splash Interactive Fountain at Town Center Park

This fountain features 43 jets and uses up to 1,400 gallons of recycled water per minute.

**Where:** 330 Town Center Ave., Suwanee. 770-945-8996. [suwanee.com](http://suwanee.com)

##### ● Duluth Town Green Fountain

In the middle of the Town Green, this fountain sprays water two stories in the air.

**Where:** 3167 Main St., Duluth. 770-476-3434. [duluthga.net](http://duluthga.net)

##### ● E.E. Robinson Park Fountain

Cool off at this interactive fountain, and the amenities at this park include covered playgrounds, baseball/softball fields, a paved trail with a bridge and more.

**Where:** 855 Level Creek Rd., Sugar Hill. 678-277-0910. [gwinnettcounty.com](http://gwinnettcounty.com)

##### ● Fountain of Rings at Centennial Olympic Park

Get sprayed, surprised and chilled in these dazzling fountains featuring the Olympic Ring symbol.

**Where:** 285 Andrew Young International Blvd. NW, Atlanta. 404-223-4000. [gwcca.org](http://gwcca.org)

##### ● Graves Park

This park has an interactive fountain for visitors to play in, along with a playground, trail loop, wood bridges and a soil-based soccer field.

**Where:** 1540 Graves Rd., Norcross. 678-277-0870. [gwinnettcounty.com](http://gwinnettcounty.com)



### ● **Legacy Fountain at Piedmont Park**

Splash in this fountain that features more than 70 jets reaching up to 30 feet in the air and magnificent LED lighting.

**Where:** 1320 Monroe Dr. NE, Atlanta. 404-875-7275. [piedmontpark.org](http://piedmontpark.org)

### ● **Town Green at Alpharetta City Center**

In front of City Hall, this area features a spray fountain and seating for families.

**Where:** 2 Park Plaza, Alpharetta. 678-297-2811. [awesomealpharetta.com](http://awesomealpharetta.com)

### ● **Village Park at North Henry**

Cool off in this interactive fountain, play on the playground, and work out at the outdoor fitness circuit.

**Where:** 750 Fairview Rd., Ellenwood. 770-288-7300.

[visithenrycountygeorgia.com](http://visithenrycountygeorgia.com)

### **FOR A FEE:**

#### ● **Atlanta Botanical Garden**

Head to the Children's Garden to cool down with fountains that splash up from the ground or fall from above, and there's a kid-sized alcove behind the waterfall.

**Where:** 1345 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta. 404-876-5859. [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org)

**Cost:** \$26.95-\$29.95; ages 3-12, \$23.95-\$26.95; ages 2 and younger, free

#### ● **Geyser Towers at Stone Mountain Park**

This attraction features a trickling creek and a climbing structure with gushing geysers; you must be 32 inches tall and wear closed-toe shoes.

**Where:** 1000 Robert E. Lee Blvd., Stone Mountain. 800-401-2407. [stonemountainpark.com](http://stonemountainpark.com)

**Cost:** \$39.99+; ages 3-11, \$34.99+; ages 2 and younger, free; parking, \$20

*Planning to reopen on June 15.*

#### ● **Splash Fountain at Zoo Atlanta**

During the heat of summer, splash around at this fountain with 18 water jets for a cool down between visiting animals.

**Where:** 800 Cherokee Ave. SE, Atlanta. 404-624-9453. [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org)

**Cost:** \$26.70-\$33.45; ages 3-11, \$21.20-\$26.70; ages 2 and younger, free



Splash Fountain at Zoo Atlanta



D.H. Stanton Park

## **Splash Pads and Spraygrounds**

#### ● **Ashford Park**

Press different buttons to activate the spray features and water curtain.

**Where:** 2980 Redding Rd. NE, Brookhaven. 470-704-4774.

[brookhavenga.gov](http://brookhavenga.gov)

#### ● **Carl Miller Park**

This Coweta County park features a 2,400-square-foot splash pad, along with two playgrounds.

**Where:** 74 Sewell Rd., Newnan. 770-683-5516. [newnanutilities.org](http://newnanutilities.org)

#### ● **Center Hill Splash Pad**

Kids will love playing in a water tunnel and hurdling over in-ground spray jets to beat the heat.

**Where:** 2305 Donald Lee Hollowell Pkwy. NW, Atlanta. 404-546-6813.

[atlantaga.gov](http://atlantaga.gov)

#### ● **Cook Park Splash Pad**

This 16-acre, water-smart park features an enormous playground, splash pad, multi-purpose courts, a rock climbing wall and more.

**Where:** 616 Joseph E. Boone Blvd. NW, Atlanta. 404-546-6813.

[atlantaga.gov](http://atlantaga.gov)

#### ● **D.H. Stanton Park**

This splash pad is part of the first solar-powered park in the city and features spray jets, stationary water cannons and more.

**Where:** 213 Haygood Ave., Atlanta. 404-477-3003. [beltline.org](http://beltline.org)

#### ● **Exchange Splash Pad**

Cool off beneath the water play structures, sprinklers and fountains at this splash pad.

**Where:** 2771 Columbia Dr., Decatur. 404-687-3430. [dekalbcountyga.gov](http://dekalbcountyga.gov)

#### ● **Historic Fourth Ward Park**

This 17-acre park's splash pad has jets that stream water from all directions.

**Where:** 702 Ralph McGill Blvd., Atlanta. 404-546-7655. [beltline.org](http://beltline.org)

*Cont'd on next page*





Elizabeth Porter Park Sprayground

## ● Laurel Park Splash Pad

Run through numerous sprinklers and water sprayers.

**Where:** 3100 Old Cleveland Hwy., Gainesville.  
770-535-8280. hallcounty.org

## ● Lillian Webb Park

This splash pad features interactive fountains.

**Where:** 5 College St., Norcross.  
678-421-2069. norcrossga.net

## ● Lynwood Park

Features a zero-depth area with multiple spray features and a 1-foot-deep wading pool with a slide.

**Where:** 3360 Osborne Rd., Brookhaven.  
470-704-4774. brookhavenga.gov

## ● Milstead Park

This splash pad features colorful towers spraying down water.

**Where:** 1665 Main St. NE, Conyers.  
770-278-7529. rockdalecountyga.gov

## ● Perkerson Park

Frolic in this splash pad featuring granite sculptures from a local artist.

**Where:** 770 Deckner Ave. SW, Atlanta.  
404-546-6757. beltline.org

## ● Rev. James Orange Park

This smaller splash pad is perfect for families on the south side of Atlanta.

**Where:** 1305 Oakland Dr. SW, Atlanta.  
404-546-6813. atlantaga.gov

## ● Splash Park at Sugar Hill

Play around in the light-up fountain and water jets.

**Where:** 5009 W. Broad St., Sugar Hill.  
770-831-7413. cityofsugarhill.com

## ● Two Bridges Park

This park in Dunwoody features the city's first splash pad.

**Where:** 50 Perimeter Center E., Dunwoody. 678-382-6700.  
dunwoodyga.gov

## FOR A FEE:

### ● East Roswell Sprayground

Kids and toddlers will love the water features at this sprayground.

**Where:** 9000 Fouts Rd., Roswell. 770-594-6188.  
roswellgov.com

**Cost:** \$2; ages 11 months and younger, free

### ● Elizabeth Porter Park Sprayground

Water jets and sprinklers will lead to hours of laughter and play.

**Where:** 370 Montgomery St. NE, Marietta.  
770-794-5601. mariettaga.gov

**Cost:** \$2-\$3



Two Bridges Park



### ● McBrayer Park

Cool off with the fountains and water features; this park also has a playground.

**Where:** Central Ave., Hampton. 770-946-4306. hamptonga.gov

**Cost:** Non-Hampton resident, \$5; cash only

### ● Old Atlanta Park

This 34-acre park also has a playground, and rent it on Friday and Saturday evenings or on Sundays for an exciting private party.

**Where:** 810 Nichols Rd., Suwanee. 770-205-4646. parks.forsythco.com

**Cost:** \$2

### ● Riverside Sprayground

Play beneath a spinning mushroom and cool off with the in-ground spray jets.

**Where:** 575 Riverside Rd., Roswell. 770-594-6158. roswellgov.com

**Cost:** \$2; ages 11 months and younger, free

### ● Splash Island at Adams Park

This splash pad includes water blasters, spray tunnels and a water-pouring bucket.

**Where:** 1620 Delowe Dr. SW, Atlanta. 404-756-1827. atlantaga.gov

**Cost:** \$5

### ● Swift-Cantrell Park Splash Pad

This 3,200-square-foot splash pad has water play options controlled by motion sensors, including a fountain, ground geyser, jet stream, magic mist and sea silhouettes.

**Where:** 3140 Old 41 Hwy., Kennesaw. 470-905-9029. kennesaw-ga.gov

**Cost:** \$3; ages 2 and younger, free



Riverside Sprayground

### ● Waleska Splash Pad

Cool off under the water spray features at this splash pad; the park also has a playground, horse shoe pit, track and tennis and basketball courts. Opening in June.

**Where:** 704 Bartow St., Waleska. 770-924-7768. playcherokee.org

**Cost:** \$1-\$2

Cont'd on next page



From exciting farm-to-table dining and charming boutiques to a diverse collection of scenic outdoor activities, you'll experience the welcoming atmosphere that makes Acworth so special.

**VISITACWORTH.COM**

35 miles northwest of Atlanta,  
minutes off I-75 from Exit 277 or 278.



Lake Allatoona Cobblestone Golf Course Lake Acworth Award-Winning Restaurants Open Container District EV Charging Stations



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Pools

### ● McKoy Pool

The beach-entry access pool makes it easier and accessible, and bubbler features entertain younger swimmers. Decatur also has the Ebster Park Pool, Glenlake Pool and Oakhurst Indoor Pool.

**Where:** 534 McKoy St., Decatur. 404-377-0494. [decaturga.com](http://decaturga.com)

**Cost:** \$6-\$8; ages 2-13, \$4-\$6; ages 1 and younger, \$0-\$4

### ● Piedmont Park Aquatic Center

Enjoy beach entry with a current channel for floating and go swimming at this aquatic center.

**Where:** Monroe Dr. NE, Atlanta. 404-875-7275. [piedmontpark.org](http://piedmontpark.org)

**Cost:** \$5

### ● Roswell Area Park Pool

This park includes a 50-meter Olympic-size pool with eight lap lanes, a diving well and a children's pool with a mushroom waterfall.

**Where:** 10495 Woodstock Rd., Roswell. 770-641-3822. [roswellgov.com](http://roswellgov.com)

**Cost:** \$3-\$5; ages 1 and younger, free



Piedmont Park Aquatic Center

### ● Sewell Park Pool

This outdoor pool has a splash pad and a fountain with a palm tree.

**Where:** 2051 Lower Roswell Rd., Marietta. 770-509-2741. [cobbcounty.org](http://cobbcounty.org)

**Cost:** \$4.50-\$6.75; ages 3-17, \$3.50-\$5.25; ages 2 and younger, free

## Pools with Mini Water Parks

### ● Best Friend Park Pool

Play in the outdoor leisure pool, giant waterslide and water play structures.

**Where:** 6224 Jimmy Carter Blvd., Norcross. 678-277-0224.

[gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

### ● Bethesda Park Aquatic Center

This location features an indoor leisure pool, a giant waterslide, a river channel, water play structures and more.

**Where:** 225 Bethesda Church Rd., Lawrenceville. 678-277-0880.

[gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50



Collins Hill Park Aquatic Center

### ● Bogan Park Aquatic Center

Slide down the giant waterslide and cool off with the water play structures. Closed for renovations.

**Where:** 2723 N. Bogan Rd., Buford. 678-277-0853. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

### ● Cherokee County Aquatic Center

The Oasis, the outdoor leisure pool, features beach entry, two waterslides, a water playground and water play features.

**Where:** 1200 Wellstar Way, Canton. 678-880-4760. [playcherokee.org](http://playcherokee.org)

**Cost:** \$6-\$9

### ● Collins Hill Park Aquatic Center

Features include an indoor swimming/diving competition pool, an outdoor leisure pool with a river channel, waterslides and water play structures.

**Where:** 2200 Collins Hill Rd., Lawrenceville. 770-237-5647. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

### ● Cumming Aquatic Center

The Outdoor Leisure Pool has a waterslide, lazy river and a play structure area for cooling down during the summer season.

**Where:** 201 Aquatic Cir., Cumming. 770-781-1781. [cummingaquaticcenter.com](http://cummingaquaticcenter.com)

**Cost:** \$8; ages 2-13, \$7; ages 1 and younger, free

### ● Frances Meadows Aquatic Center

This aquatic facility features a seasonal outdoor water park with a splash zone.

**Where:** 1545 Community Way NE, Gainesville. 770-533-5850. [gainesville.org](http://gainesville.org)

**Cost:** \$9; ages 2-13, \$7; ages 1 and younger, free

### ● Lenora Park Pool

Splash around in the outdoor leisure pool, giant waterslide, river channel and water play structures.

**Where:** 4315 Lenora Church Rd., Snellville. 770-982-5309. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

Cont'd on page 20





# APOCALYPSO OPENING SPRING 2024

First Water Slide Coaster in Georgia!

For More Info Visit [MargaritavilleAtLanierIslands.com](http://MargaritavilleAtLanierIslands.com)

A promotional advertisement for Stars and Strikes Bowling Center. The background shows two young girls smiling and holding bowling balls in a bowling alley. The text "KIDS BOWL FREE" is prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow letters. Below it, it says "ALL SUMMER! REGISTER TODAY!". A QR code is provided for registration, with the text "SCAN TO REGISTER!" and the website "www.StarsAndStrikes.com". The Stars and Strikes logo, featuring a bowling ball and stars, is also present.

# KIDS BOWL FREE

**ALL SUMMER!  
REGISTER TODAY!**

**Stars AND Strikes**  
GETAWAY-n-PLAY

SCAN TO REGISTER!  
[www.StarsAndStrikes.com](http://www.StarsAndStrikes.com)





# SUMMER Fun Guide

## ● Mountain Park Aquatic Center

This center's outdoor leisure pool has zero-depth entry, waterslides, a river channel, bubble bench and more.

**Where:** 1063 Rockbridge Rd., Stone Mountain. 678-277-0870. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

## ● Rhodes Jordan Park Pool

Splash around in the outdoor leisure pool featuring a waterslide, river channel and water play structures.

**Where:** 100 E. Crogan St., Lawrenceville. 678-277-0892. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

## ● Seven Springs Water Park

This water park features two waterslides, a lazy river and a splash pad, and grab a snack at the concession stand.

**Where:** 3820 Macedonia Rd., Powder Springs. 770-528-4035. [cobbcounty.org](http://cobbcounty.org)

**Cost:** \$6-\$9; ages 3-17, \$4-\$6; ages 2 and younger, free

## ● South Cobb Aquatic Center

Splash down spiraling waterslides or float along the lazy river.

**Where:** 875 Riverside Pkwy., Austell. 770-739-3180. [cobbcounty.org](http://cobbcounty.org)

**Cost:** \$4.50-\$6.75; ages 2-17, \$3.50-\$5.25; ages 1 and younger, free



Rhodes Jordan Park Pool

## ● West Gwinnett Park Aquatic Center

Featuring indoor and outdoor pools, waterslides, a river channel, a bubble bench and water play structures, this aquatic center has something for everyone to dip their toe in.

**Where:** 4488 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Berkeley Lake. 678-407-8801. [gwinnettcountry.com](http://gwinnettcountry.com)

**Cost:** \$3.25-\$10.50

## ● Wills Park Pool

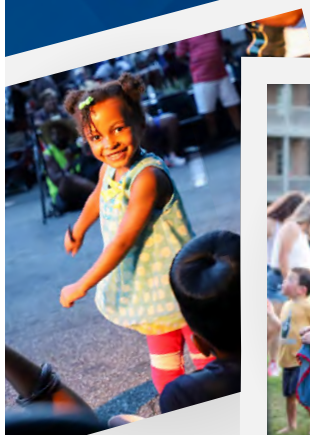
Cool off in a leisure pool, and enjoy interactive play stations, a waterslide and more.

**Where:** 1815 Old Milton Pkwy., Alpharetta. 678-297-6107. [alpharetta.ga.us](http://alpharetta.ga.us)

**Cost:** \$5-\$8; ages 3 and younger, free



# SWEET SOUNDS OF SUMMER



**JUNE 7**

Summer Concert Series:  
American Flyers

**JUNE 15**

Bluesberry Beer & Music Festival

**JUNE 21**

Summer Concert Series:  
Still Swingin'

**JUNE 22**

Jazz in the Alley

**JULY 3**

Red, White & BOOM!

**JULY 5**

Summer Concert Series:  
September in the Park



SCAN FOR A  
FULL LINEUP  
OF EVENTS!





## Water Park Attractions

### ● **Buccaneer Cove at Malibu Norcross**

This five-level water play area features more than 1,000 feet of slides, tunnels, spray loops, a huge splash bucket and a water cannon, while parents relax and supervise from a lounge chair or cabana.

**Where:** 5400 Brook Hollow Pkwy., Norcross.

770-416-7630. malibunorcross.com

**Cost:** \$15.99-\$39.99

### ● **Fins Up Water Park**

Margaritaville at Lanier Islands' new water park features Apocalypse, Georgia's first waterslide coaster, waterslides, an expanded Wibit Aquatic Adventure and more.

**Where:** 7650 Lanier Islands Pkwy., Buford.

470-323-3440. margaritavilleresorts.com/

margaritaville-at-lanier-islands

**Cost:** \$59.99; ages 4-7, \$44.99; ages 3 and younger, free; parking, \$20

### ● **Six Flags Hurricane Harbor**

Part of Six Flags Over Georgia, race down Bonzai Pipelines, test your bravery on Tsunami Surge or catch a wave in the 38,000-square-foot Calypso Bay.

**Where:** 275 Riverside Pkwy., Austell. 770-739-3400.

sixflags.com/overgeorgia

**Cost:** \$49; parking, extra

### ● **Six Flags White Water**

Float as a family on the Bahama Bob Slide and other family rides, play in the AquaPlay structure Caribbean Cove, splash in Buccaneer Bay and more at this 69-acre water park.

**Where:** 250 N. Cobb Pkwy. N, Marietta. 770-590-4067.

sixflags.com/whitewater

**Cost:** \$30+; parking, extra

### ● **Spivey Splash**

This water park in Clayton County includes a 1,279-foot-long lazy river, a splash pad, pools for different ages and more.

**Where:** 2300 Hwy. 138 SE, Jonesboro. 770-603-4000.

spiveysplash.com

**Cost:** \$20; ages 2 and younger, free

### ● **Terminus Wake Park**

Play in an aquatic amusement park with the giant inflatable water playground. Minimum age of 5.

**Where:** 171 LakePoint Pkwy., Cartersville. 470-315-0155.

terminuswakepark.com

**Cost:** \$24-\$28

### ● **Great Wolf Lodge**

Spend the night at this water park featuring waterslides, attractions and areas for all ages and thrill levels.

**Where:** 150 Tom Hall Pkwy., LaGrange. 844-473-9653.

greatwolf.com/georgia

**Cost:** Day Pass, \$45-\$100; Room prices vary

*Cont'd on next page*



Fins Up Water Park



Six Flags White Water



Terminus Wake Park



## Beaches

### ● Cauble Park Beach

Head to Lake Acworth for Cauble Park with a playground, sandy beach and paddleboarding or kayaks. The city of Acworth also has three other beaches on two lakes: South Shore Park, Dallas Landing Park and Proctor Landing Park.

**Where:** 4425 Beach St., Acworth. 770-917-1234. [acworth.org](http://acworth.org)

**Cost:** Parking, \$15

### ● Robin Lake Beach at Callaway Gardens

Enjoy the white sand beach and lake activities, as well as biking, ziplining, hiking, mini golf and more.

**Where:** 17800 US Hwy. 27, Pine Mountain. 800-225-5292. [callawaygardens.com](http://callawaygardens.com)

**Cost:** \$24.99-\$29.99; ages 3-11, \$19.99-\$24.99; ages 2 and younger, free; Aqua Island, \$15-\$20

### ● The Swimming Beach at Red Top Mountain State Park

Enjoy the swimming sand beach nestled in a cove and surrounded by trees for cooling off.

**Where:** 50 Lodge Rd. SE, Acworth. 770-975-0055. [gastateparks.org/redtopmountain](http://gastateparks.org/redtopmountain)

**Cost:** Parking, \$5



Cauble Park Beach



### Dream Friends Entertainment [dreamfriendsentertainment.com](http://dreamfriendsentertainment.com)

Birthday parties, corporate and themed entertainment. Favorite kids characters, circus, fire, holiday, DJs, dance acts and more for all ages at your location. Atlanta Based Since 2001. 275 entertainment options to choose from.



### Jason's Music Party [jasonsmusicparty.com](http://jasonsmusicparty.com)

A Birthday Concert for Your Child. Interactive live kids music for all occasions. Performing classics and new favorites, percussion jams, singing, dancing and more. Options for every budget. Easy set-up, best for ages 1-8.



### Bucks Sports and Circus Barn [bucksportsbarn.com](http://bucksportsbarn.com)

Buckhead's top spot for private parties and camps! More than 300 costumes and epic performers. Themes: Circus, Sports, Crafts, Superheroes, Princesses, American Ninja Warrior and more.



### Battle & Brew [battleandbrewbattery.com](http://battleandbrewbattery.com)

Battle & Brew is the ultimate place to embark on an unforgettable gaming adventure. Put on the greatest birthday, graduation, or team party celebration guaranteed to create unforgettable memories for years to come.



## Cool off with a Tubing Adventure

Travel down the Chattahoochee River for a relaxing and fun day on the river.

### ● DIY Tubing on the Chattahoochee

The Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area is open for rafting and tubing from dawn to dusk during the summer; all you need is a life and raft or tube. Parking is \$5 at any of the lot access points. Make sure to leave a second car where you decide to end on the river.

● **Check weather reports** and call for dam water release information. This provides recommended calm water times for floating.

● **Buford Dam:** 770-945-1466 or 1-855-326-3569. Make sure you are in a safe location when the river begins to rise.

● **If you're renting supplies** from a company, they may have a minimum age to float. If not, it is up to your parental discretion. Ages 12 and younger must wear a life vest at all times. Ages 13 and older must have one in the raft or tube.

● **Rubber-soled shoes** are a must for tackling slippery rocks.

### Where to Go:

- Abbotts Bridge to Medlock Bridge, 4 miles, 3-4 hours
- Medlock Bridge to Jones Bridge, 3 miles, 1.5-2 hours
- Morgan Falls Dam to Johnson Ferry, 2 miles, 1-2 hours
- Johnson Ferry to Powers Island, 3.5 miles, 2-4 hours
- Powers Island to Paces Mill, 3 miles, 1-3 hours

Visit [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov) for more information.



Nantahala Outdoor Center

### ● Chattahoochee River Tubing

Book your trip to enjoy a 3-4 hour float to take in the scenery and relax as you enjoy a trip down the Chattahoochee. Straps are available to tether your tubes together, or rent a four-person raft.

**Where:** 4349 Abbotts Bridge Rd., Duluth. 678-349-6880. [rivertubing.com](https://www.rivertubing.com)

**Cost:** \$27-\$29. Parking, \$5 on Sat.-Sun.

**The Details:** Bookings are first come, first serve. Arrive any time after 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Minimum tubing age is 5.

### ● Nantahala Outdoor Center

Enjoy a relaxing float trip from Johnson Ferry to Powers Island with a tube rental. Plan an outdoor adventure with NOC with whitewater rafting, tubing, ziplining, mountain biking and more. Head to Clayton for a 5-6 hour rafting trip, and kayak, canoe and paddleboard rentals and guided trips are also available.

**Where:** 5450 Interstate N Pkwy., Atlanta. 828-785-5082. [noc.com](https://www.noc.com)

**Cost:** \$35+; National Park Service fee, \$5

**The Details:** Check-in location and take-out shuttle schedules vary based on the time of year. Open through Sept. 25. Minimum tubing age is 8.



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Not-to-Miss June Events

Events may be cancelled or changed after our deadline. Please check before visiting to confirm. Full calendar online at [atlantaparent.com](http://atlantaparent.com)

### ● Butterfly Festival

Chattahoochee Nature Center  
June 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and June 2, noon-5 p.m.  
Celebrate all things butterflies with live butterflies, pollinator experts and educators, playing in the Migration Game, live entertainment and more. 9135 Willeo Rd., Roswell. 770-992-2055. \$25; ages 2 and younger, free. [chattnaturecenter.org](http://chattnaturecenter.org)

### ● Atlanta Children's Film Festival

Metro Atlanta  
June 7-23.  
See website for schedule and locations. Join in two weeks of fun and educational activities, including film screenings and workshops for kids, teens, families and industry professionals, as well as showcasing films produced by youth and adult filmmakers from around the world. Reservation required. 404-993-5696. \$0-\$25. [kidsvideoconnection.org](http://kidsvideoconnection.org)

### ● Civil War History Day

The Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History  
June 8, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
View living historians, including a beekeeper, leather stamper, soap maker and drum duo. 2829 Cherokee St. NW, Kennesaw. 770-427-2117. \$10; ages 3-17, \$5; ages 2 and younger, free. [southernmuseum.org](http://southernmuseum.org)

### ● RockFest

Tellus Science Museum  
June 8-9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
This annual rock show features geology-themed activities and experiences with beautiful jewelry, fossils and mineral specimens. 100 Tellus Dr., Cartersville. 770-606-5700. \$19; ages 3-17, \$15; ages 2 and younger, free. [tellusmuseum.org](http://tellusmuseum.org)

### ● Summerfest

Virginia-Highland  
June 8, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
and June 9, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Celebrate the season of summer with live bands, great art, delicious food and more at this neighborhood festival. Virginia Ave., Atlanta. Free admission. [vahi.org](http://vahi.org)



Summerfest

### ● Family Fun Safety Days

Cobb County Safety Village  
June 11 and 18 and July 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Wear a firefighter hat, hop into a squad car, ring the firetruck bell, tour Sparky's House and more at this event promoting safety. 1220 Al Bishop Dr., Marietta. 770-852-3270. \$5; family max, \$20. [cobbcounty.org/safety-village](http://cobbcounty.org/safety-village)

### ● Southern Surf Slam

Lake Lanier Olympic Park  
June 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; June 28, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and June 29, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.  
This fun event celebrates all things surf and sport with entertainment, a wake surfing competition, food trucks and more. 3105 Clarks Bridge Rd., Gainesville. Free admission. [surf-atl.com](http://surf-atl.com)



Butterfly Festival

Photo by Debra Thibodeaux



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Juneteenth

Short for June Nineteenth, Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Honor the holiday at these events.

### • Juneteenth Family Festival

Oakland Cemetery / June 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Tour Oakland's historic African American Burial Grounds, listen to live music, hear storytelling for children, shop a vendor market and more. Tours are free, but sign up ahead of time to save your spot. 248 Oakland Ave. SE, Atlanta. 404-688-2107. Free admission. oaklandcemetery.com

### • Juneteenth

William Root House / June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Commemorate Juneteenth with guided museum tours, living history demonstrations, storytelling and more. 80 N. Marietta Pkwy. NW, Marietta. 770-426-4982. Free admission. roothousemuseum.com

### • Juneteenth

Atlanta History Center  
June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Celebrate Black culinary history and America's pastime, baseball, with cooking demonstrations, museum theater and exhibits. Registration requested. 130 W. Paces Ferry Rd. NW, Atlanta. 404-814-4000. Free admission. atlantahistorycenter.com

### • Juneteenth Celebration

Newtown Park / June 15, 3-9 p.m.  
Enjoy this community celebration with food trucks and entertainment. 3150 Old Alabama Rd., Johns Creek. 678-512-3200. Free admission. johnscreekga.gov

### • Concert on the Green: A Juneteenth Celebration

Logan Farm Park / June 15, 5-10 p.m.  
Join this celebration of freedom and respect for all cultures. 4405 Cherokee St., Acworth. 770-974-8813. Free admission. acworthtourism.org



Atlanta History Center

### • Juneteenth Celebration

City Green at Sandy Springs / June 19, 5 p.m.  
Join in this tribute to freedom and liberty with a performing arts production, a STEAM digital art gallery, educational activities, food vendors and more. 1 Galambos Way, Sandy Springs. 770-730-5600. Free admission. sandyspringsga.gov

### • Juneteenth Atlanta Parade and Music Festival

Piedmont Park / June 21, noon-10 p.m.; June 22, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and June 23, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.  
This celebration of freedom, unity and equality features live music, handmade merchandise, immersive cultural activities and a Black History Parade with floats, fly-over jets, dance troops and more. 1322 Monroe Dr., Atlanta. 404-587-5457. Free admission. juneteenthatl.com

## SUMMER FAMILY FLICKS \$3 MOVIE TICKETS!

Every Weekday @ 10 am & 2 pm! It's a vacation for both your family and your wallet!

Sing (PG)



5/24 - 5/30

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
Mutant Mayhem (PG)



5/31 - 6/6

Lyle, Lyle  
Crocodile (PG)



6/7 - 6/13

The Land  
Before Time (G)



6/14 - 6/20

DC League  
of Superpets (PG)



6/21 - 6/27

Trolls: Band Together (PG)



6/28 - 7/4

Paw Patrol (PG)



7/5 - 7/11

Spider-Man: Into The  
Spider-Verse (PG)



7/12 - 7/18

Sonic  
The Hedgehog (PG)



7/19 - 7/25

The Boss Baby  
Family Business (PG)



7/26 - 8/1

AURORA  
CINEPLEX

and The Fringe Miniature Golf  
5100 Commerce Parkway, Roswell 30076

For Tix, Visit Us On  
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# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Red, White and Blue

Celebrate the Fourth of July at these incredible events featuring fireworks, live music and more.

### Everyone Loves a Parade

● **July 4th Parade.** Downtown Newnan. July 4, 9 a.m. A patriotic, hometown parade starts at Veteran's Memorial Park and ends at Greenville Street Park. 30 Temple Ave., Newnan. 770-253-8283. Free admission. [mainstreetnewnan.com](http://mainstreetnewnan.com)

● **Dunwoody Fourth of July Parade.**

Dunwoody Village. July 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Celebration features marching bands, floats, clowns and animal units who will march from Mount Vernon Road and Jett Ferry Road to Dunwoody Village. Dunwoody Village Pkwy., Dunwoody. Free admission. [dunwoodyga.org](http://dunwoodyga.org)

● **Peachtree City July 4th Parade &**

**Fireworks.** Drake Field. July 4, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Fourth of July parade begins at 9 a.m. on Peachtree Parkway, and fireworks begin at dark at Lake Peachtree. 155 Willowbend Rd., Peachtree City. 770-631-2542. Free admission. [peachtree-city.org](http://peachtree-city.org)

● **July Fourth Spectacular.** Woodstock. July 4, 10 a.m. Parade begins at 10 a.m. at Woodstock Elementary. Festival starts at 11 a.m. at The Park at City Center. Fireworks begin at dusk behind Lowe's shopping center at Hwy. 92 and I-595. 230 Rope Mill Rd., Woodstock. 770-517-6788. Free admission. [woodstockga.gov](http://woodstockga.gov)

● **Fourth in the Park.** Glover Park. July 4, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. A parade, free concerts, an arts and crafts show, food, carnival games and fireworks. The Let Freedom Ring Parade begins at Roswell Street Baptist Church and ends at N. Marietta Pkwy. 50 N. Park Sq., Marietta. 770-794-5606. Free admission. [mariettaga.gov](http://mariettaga.gov)

● **Pied Piper Parade, Concert and**

**Fireworks.** Downtown Decatur. July 4, 6-10 p.m. Decorate a wagon, ride your bike, skate or walk along with the parade that begins at First Baptist Church of Decatur. After the parade, head to the Concert on the Square. Fireworks display at dark. 101 E. Court Sq., Decatur. 678-615-0915. Free admission. [visitdecaturgeorgia.com](http://visitdecaturgeorgia.com)

### Fireworks, Fun and More

● **Fantastic Fourth Celebration.** Memorial Lawn at Stone Mountain Park. July 1-7. See website for schedule. Enjoy the new Music Across America Light Show followed by a patriotic fireworks finale. Reservations encouraged. 1000 Robert E. Lee Blvd., Stone Mountain. 800-401-2407. \$39.99; ages 3-11, \$34.99; ages 2 and younger, free; Light Show Only Ticket, \$10; parking, \$20. [stonemountainpark.com](http://stonemountainpark.com)



Fourth in the Park

● **Red, White & Boom!** Lillian Webb Park. July 3, 5-10 p.m. Fireworks, delicious food, face painting, live music and more. 5 College St. NW, Norcross. 770-448-2122. Free admission. [norcrossga.net](http://norcrossga.net)

● **Independence Day Celebration.** Newtown Park. July 3, 6-10 p.m. Listen to live music, enjoy activities, taste food and watch fireworks. 3150 Old Alabama Rd., Johns Creek. 678-512-3200. Free admission. [johnscreekgga.gov](http://johnscreekgga.gov)

● **Kennesaw's Salute to America.** Downtown Kennesaw and Depot Park. July 3, 6-10 p.m. Pre-Fourth celebration with street entertainment, two stages of live music, food vendors and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. 2829 Cherokee St., Kennesaw. 770-422-9714. Free admission. [kennesaw-ga.gov/salutetoamerica](http://kennesaw-ga.gov/salutetoamerica)

● **Red, White and Boom!** Olde Town Conyers. July 3, 6-10 p.m. Celebrate the nation's independence with food trucks, activities for kids, live music, fireworks and more. 949 S. Main St., Conyers. 770-602-2606. Free admission. [conyersga.com](http://conyersga.com)

● **Sparks in the Park.** E. E. Robinson Park. July 3, 6:30-11:30 p.m. Fireworks, inflatables, food, drinks and live entertainment. 865 Level Creek Rd., Sugar Hill. 770-945-6716. Free admission. [cityofsugarhill.com](http://cityofsugarhill.com)

● **Cumming Fourth of July Celebration.** Cumming Fairgrounds. July 4, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Festivities begin with a parade, followed by food, vendors, children's activities and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. 235 Castleberry Rd., Cumming. 770-781-3491. Free admission. [cummingfair.squarespace.com](http://cummingfair.squarespace.com)

● **City of Cartersville 4th of July Celebration.** Dellinger Park. July 4, 4-10 p.m. Concert, fireworks, a children's area, food and more. 100 Pine Grove Rd., Cartersville. 770-423-1330. Free admission; parking, \$10. [jrmmanagement.com](http://jrmmanagement.com)

● **July Fourth Concert and Fireworks.** Cauble Park. July 4, 4-10 p.m. Food vendors, live music in the afternoon and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. 4425 Beach St., Acworth. 770-974-8813. Free admission. [acworthtourism.org](http://acworthtourism.org)

● **Stars & Stripes – July 4th Fireworks Celebration.** City Green. July 4, 6 p.m. Celebrate America at this family-friendly gathering. 1 Galambos Way, Sandy Springs. 770-206-1447. Free admission. [visitsandysprings.org](http://visitsandysprings.org)

● **Chamblee Fourth of July Celebration.** Chamblee City Hall. July 4, 6:30 p.m. Celebrate with traditional jam bands and an elaborate fireworks show. 3518 Broad St., Chamblee. 470-622-9271. Free admission. [chambleerocks.net](http://chambleerocks.net)

● **Fourth of July Fireworks Extravaganza.** Roswell Area Park. July 4, 6 p.m. Live music, entertainment, food trucks and fireworks at sunset. 10495 Woodstock Rd., Roswell. 770-641-3727. Free admission. [roswellgov.com](http://roswellgov.com)

● **Fourth of July Celebration.** Wills Park. July 4, 8-10 p.m. Pack a picnic, blanket and chairs to watch a display of fireworks at 9:15 p.m. 11925 Wills Rd., Alpharetta. 678-297-6000. Free admission. [alpharetta.ga.us](http://alpharetta.ga.us)



## Not-to-Miss July Events

Events may be cancelled or changed after our deadline. Please check before visiting to confirm. Full calendar online at [atlantaparent.com](http://atlantaparent.com)

### ● Wild About Weather

Tellus Science Museum / July 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Participate in a whirlwind day of weather exploration with hands-on activities and meteorologist meet-and-greets. 100 Tellus Dr., Cartersville. 770-606-5700. \$19; ages 3-17, \$15; ages 2 and younger, free. [tellusmuseum.org](http://tellusmuseum.org)

### ● Breakfast with Butterflies

Chattahoochee Nature Center / July 14, 10 a.m.-noon  
Enjoy one-on-one time with butterflies with exclusive access to the Butterfly Encounter, a light breakfast and exploring the grounds prior to opening. Reservation required. 9135 Willoo Rd., Roswell. 770-992-2055. \$25. [chattnaturecenter.org](http://chattnaturecenter.org)

### ● Railroad Rendezvous

The Southern Museum / July 20, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Learn about the evolution of transportation with airplanes, telegraph demonstrations, boarding "The General" and more. 2829 Cherokee St. NW, Kennesaw. 770-427-2117. \$10; ages 3-17, \$5; ages 2 and younger, free. [southernmuseum.org](http://southernmuseum.org)

### ● The Happy Black Parent Children's Book Festival

Pittsburgh Yards / July 20, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Celebrate your favorite children's books with stories, performances, author meet-and-greets and more. 352 University Ave. SW, Atlanta. 404-939-4753. Free admission. [thehappyblackparent.com](http://thehappyblackparent.com)

### ● Summer Party

Atlanta Botanical Garden / July 20, 5-9 p.m.  
Celebrate the sunny season with live music, specialty food and more. 1345 Piedmont Ave. NE, Atlanta. 404-876-5859. \$29.95; ages 3-12, \$26.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org)

### ● Southeast Homeschool Expo

Cobb Galleria Centre  
July 25-27. See website for schedule.  
Get encouragement for homeschooling with education resources, materials, speakers and workshops, while kids enjoy playing in the KidsZone. 2 Galleria Pkwy. SE, Atlanta. 800-285-6340. \$30-\$55; KidsZone, \$50-\$140. [southeasthomeschoolexpo.com](http://southeasthomeschoolexpo.com)

### ● Atlanta Ice Cream Festival

Piedmont Park / July 27, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Satisfy your sweet tooth with this delicious dessert, shop vendors, listen to live music and more. Charles Allen Dr., Atlanta. 678-964-5944. Free admission. [atlantaicecreamfestival.com](http://atlantaicecreamfestival.com)



Atlanta Botanical Garden

### SLITHER, CRAWL AND HISS

#### ● Repticon

Gwinnett County Fairground  
July 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and July 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Explore all things reptiles with this event featuring animals and vendors. 2405 Sugarloaf Pkwy., Lawrenceville. 863-268-4273. \$10-\$15; ages 5-12, \$5-\$6; ages 4 and younger, free. [repticon.com](http://repticon.com)

#### ● Reptile Day

Fernbank Museum / July 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
See a variety of scary, slimy, spiny and spectacular reptiles, amphibians and more. 767 Clifton Rd., Atlanta. 404-929-6300. \$25.95; ages 3-12, 23.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [fernbankmuseum.org](http://fernbankmuseum.org)



Reptile Day at Fernbank Museum



# Have an **ICONIC** Atlanta

Remember the fun of being a kid in Atlanta? We've rounded up some classic summer experiences that may bring back some fond memories. While the activities, attractions and you have gone through some changes over the years, these favorites are still fun for all.



## ■ Play Mini Golf

**Putt Putt Golf Course in Chamblee and the mini golf course at Stone Mountain,** with their no-frills designs, were hot spots in the '80s for kids, teens and families. Today, you can still make a hole-in-one at Stone Mountain, with its fun railroad theme. Make par at the course on Ponce City Roof, where you can also play classic arcade games and ride the Heege tower. More Atlanta favorites include the Fringe at Area 51, Pirate's Cove and Swing Atlanta. Mini golf goes high-tech at spots like Puttshack and Putt Nation, with digital scoring, laser lights and more.

## ■ Go Roller Skating

**Maybe you skated down the street in front of your house,** went to skate night at the local church, or even hung out with friends at Jellybeans or Sparkles. Recently, roller skating has made a comeback! Skate to your favorite grooves at an array of rinks, including Atlanta's Cascade Skate Center, Golden Glide in Decatur, or Stone Mountain Skates. Look for family nights, lessons and more special events, plus extras like laser tag, arcade games and live DJs. There are even spots to get your roll on outdoors, like Historic Ward Skate Park on the BeltLine or Arabia Mountain Path east of Atlanta.





# Summer

## ■ Go on a Picnic

**Picnicking in one of Atlanta's beautiful green spaces is a long-time favorite summer activity.** The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra expanded the experience in the late 1970s with their free concert series at Piedmont Park. Today, the tradition continues with free concerts all around Atlanta, from the Summer Concert Series on the Green in Alpharetta, to Groovin' on the Green at Brook Run Park and Riverside Sounds at Riverside Park. Find out who's hosting concerts this summer on page 67. Plus, be sure to save the date for ASO's Concert in the Park September 30.



## ■ Run Through a Sprinkler

**Remember the simple joy of running through the sprinkler in your backyard?** Perfecting your surf moves on the Slip n' Slide? Days spent with neighborhood friends made us all wish summer would last forever. Today, families can go beyond the at-home sprinkler to one of Atlanta's many splash pads and interactive fountains. Check out the Piedmont Park's Legacy Fountain Splash Pad, the splash pad at Two Bridges Park in Dunwoody, or Laurel Park Sprayground in Gainesville. Find one near you with our list starting on page 59.

*Cont'd on next page*



## ■ Enjoy a Cone

**Ice cream made the old-fashioned way** — with a hand-crank machine and plenty of elbow grease — always tasted best. Local ice cream trucks had Rocket Pops, Push Ups and Good Humor Bars; you may have loved a Varsity frosted orange or a milkshake (and a Chubby Decker) at Zesto. Out and about, you may still see that neighborhood ice cream truck, but there are also lots of Atlanta-based scoop shops with flavors both trendy and traditional. Don't miss the Atlanta Ice Cream Festival, July 27 in Piedmont Park — make it a summer tradition with your own kids.





# ICONIC Atlanta Summer

These perennial favorites keep the good old days alive for today's kids.



## ■ Stone Mountain Park

Families have long enjoyed picnicking at the park, riding the Scenic Railway and Skylift, and climbing the mountain. The laser show was added in 1982 and became a top summer attraction. Today, the "Music Across America" Light Show has the latest technology, with pyrotechnics, music, lasers and drones. Families also love the park's many festivals and special events, from Summer at the Rock to the Fantastic Fourth Celebration. [stonemountainpark.com](http://stonemountainpark.com)

## ■ Zoo Atlanta

In 1889, a small menagerie of animals was deserted in Atlanta by a traveling show. The city relocated them to Grant Park, a popular picnic destination, and the Zoo grew from there. A major renovation took place during the late 1980s with the addition of Flamingo Plaza, the Wildlife Theater and the Ford African Rain Forest — a lush new home for gorillas, including the iconic Willie B. Today, the Zoo is a world-class attraction, home to more than 1,000 animals, with a strong focus on research and conservation programs. Zoo Atlanta is one of the city's most popular destinations, not only for the animals, but also for its educational opportunities, behind-the-scenes experiences, special events and more. [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org)



## Blast from the Past: Coin-Operated Kiddie Rides

Remember when your parents bribed you at the mall with the promise of a ride? You can still find your favorite ride-ons at a few spots in Atlanta! Your kids will love the vintage horse at Richard's Variety on Peachtree Road and check out a variety of choices at The Outlet Shoppes at Atlanta in Woodstock, a few Walmart locations and other spots.



## ■ Lake Lanier

Lake Lanier was formed in the 1950s, and with 680 miles of shoreline, quickly became a favorite spot for Atlantans who enjoy boating, camping, fishing and watersports. In the '80s, Lake Lanier Islands featured Pinelise Resort, Emerald Pointe Golf Club, a few waterslides and a wavepool. Today, millions of people visit Lake Lanier's parks and recreation areas, campsites and marinas. The Lanier Islands Resort has expanded to include a campground, lodge, villas and plenty of things to do, including the popular Margaritaville and newly designed Fins Up Waterpark. [lanierislands.com](http://lanierislands.com)



## ■ Six Flags Over Georgia

You may remember riding the Dahlenoga Mine Train, being dropped by the Great Gasp, and seeing live shows at the Southern Star Amphitheatre as a kid. The amusement park originally opened in 1967 and has been thrilling Atlantans ever since. Today, Six Flags features high-tech rides including the Dare Devil Dive, Batman: The Ride and the new Georgia Surfer. For these popular rides, you can add on a flash pass to speed up your time waiting in line. Kids and families love the water rides at Hurricane Harbor, and special events like the Summer Vibes Festival, through June 30. [sixflags.com/overgeorgia](http://sixflags.com/overgeorgia)

## ■ The Atlanta Braves

There's nothing quite like taking in a ball game in the summertime! The Braves have been part of Atlanta's culture since they began playing at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium in 1966, then at Turner Field in 1997. Getting downtown and finding parking wasn't always easy, but when you did, tailgating was fun. Today, see them play at state-of-the-art Truist Park, which holds 41,500 fans and has restaurants, canopy shading and a Monument Garden. Kids can play on their very own playground, run the bases and get fun extras as Kids Club members. [mlb.com/braves](http://mlb.com/braves)



## Blast from the Past: The Peachtree Junior

The thrill of running the Peachtree Junior is a memory that lasts a lifetime. The 14-and-under event drew 600 kids in 1987, its first year. Today, more than 1,000 kids sign up to run the mile race, with the same finish spot as the Peachtree Road Race on July 4. More kid fun includes a dash, track and field zone, awards and more. This year, it's free for all kids! July 3; [atlantatrackclub.org](http://atlantatrackclub.org)

*Cont'd on next page*



## More Atlanta Classics

These places have stood the test of time! Put them on your summer must-do list.

### ■ Oakland Cemetery

Originally a six-acre burial ground known as the Atlanta Graveyard, Oakland was established in 1850. The cemetery underwent an extensive restoration in the '70s and is now a city treasure, with extensive gardens, educational opportunities and events like Sunday in the Park. [oaklandcemetery.com](http://oaklandcemetery.com)

### ■ Atlanta History Center

Founded in 1926 to "preserve and study Atlanta history," the center has grown to include 33 acres of gardens, historic houses, and exhibits, including the historic Cyclorama painting. [atlantahistorycenter.com](http://atlantahistorycenter.com)

### ■ High Museum of Art

In 1926, Harriet "Hattie" High donated her home on Peachtree Street to be an art school and museum. The High's world-class collection has grown to more than 18,000 works of art, along with special exhibits, the Greene Family Learning Gallery and a wide variety of events and educational opportunities. [high.org](http://high.org)

### ■ Starlight Drive-In

When it opened in 1949, the art deco theater had a single screen; today, Atlanta's only drive-in shows digitally-projected movies on multiple screens and has a popular weekend flea market. [starlightdrivein.com](http://starlightdrivein.com)

### ■ Fernbank Science Center

Part of the DeKalb County School District, the center opened in 1967 and today features exhibits — including the Apollo 6 Command Module — as well as a planetarium and observatory. [fernbank.edu](http://fernbank.edu)

### ■ Southeastern Railway Museum

Since 1970, this museum has told the history of Georgia transportation, with a collection of "rolling stock" that includes trains, cars, buses and railroad memorabilia. [train-museum.org](http://train-museum.org)

### ■ The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History

Opened in 1972 to tell the story of the famous "General" locomotive, the Southern Museum has grown to include a large collection of railroad artifacts and an interactive education center. [southernmuseum.org](http://southernmuseum.org)



Children's Museum of Atlanta



### Blast from the Past: Fraggle Rock

If you're a child of the '80s, you probably watched the antics of Sprocket, Red and Mokey in Jim Henson's popular TV show. Today your kids can watch classic and new episodes on Apple TV+. See classic puppets from the original series at Center for Puppetry Arts' new exhibit, "Down in Fraggle Rock," through Oct. 27. [puppet.org](http://puppet.org)

### ■ Atlanta Botanical Garden

This urban oasis in Midtown opened its doors in 1973 and is renowned for its beautiful displays and exhibitions, an award-winning Children's garden and Canopy Walk above the Storza Woods. [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org)

### ■ Chattahoochee Nature Center

Founded in the mid-1970s, CNC's mission is to connect people with nature. Its 127 acres are visited by 140,000 people each year, who enjoy the center's hiking, live animals, garden and special events. [chattnaturecenter.org](http://chattnaturecenter.org)

### ■ Center for Puppetry Arts

Opened in 1978 (with help from Jim Henson and Kermit the Frog), the Center for Puppetry Arts hosts more than 600 performances each year, and is home to the Worlds of Puppetry Museum, where visitors can see more than 5,000 puppets and artifacts. [puppet.org](http://puppet.org)

### ■ Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Park

The park was established in 1980 and includes historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, the King Center, Fire Station, World Peace Rose Garden, "Behold" Monument and King's birth home. More than 700,000 people visit annually to learn about King's life and legacy. [nps.gov/malu](http://nps.gov/malu)

### ■ Children's Museum of Atlanta

The Children's Museum began in 1988 as a "museum without walls," bringing educational programs to local schools. Today, its permanent home in Centennial Olympic Park has creative, hands-on exhibits for children, as well as innovative programming and events for families. [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org)



# ROSWELL SUMMER PUPPET SERIES



June 11 - July 13

2024



RoswellCAC.com



## CITY OF TUCKER PRESENTS



### FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT SERIES

June 7 - Aug. 2 - Sept. 6

### MOVIE ON THE GREEN

June 20 - July 18 - Aug. 15

### CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENCE

July 3

Fireworks - Live Music - Kids Zone

[TUCKERGA.GOV/SUMMER](https://tuckerga.gov/summer)



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Not-to-Miss Exhibits

These amazing exhibits are so interesting, your kids won't even realize they're learning!

### THE GREAT OUTDOORS

#### ● Alice's Wonderland Returns

Atlanta Botanical Garden / Through Sept. 15  
Look for a towering Alice twirling in Howell Fountain, the giant White Rabbit holding court in the Skyline Garden pond, the Cheshire Cat keeping an eye on you from Alston Overlook and more characters inspired by the tale. 1345 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta. 404-876-5859. \$26.95-\$29.95; ages 3-12, \$23.95-\$26.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org)

#### ● A Garden with Wings

Smith-Gilbert Gardens / June 1-July 31  
Experience the wonder of butterflies in all stages of life, and learn about the different plants that are crucial to the survival of butterflies. 2382 Pine Mountain Rd., Kennesaw. 770-919-0248. \$10; ages 3-17, \$5; ages 2 and younger, free; Butterfly House, \$3. [smithgilbertgardens.com](http://smithgilbertgardens.com)

#### ● Butterfly Encounter

Chattahoochee Nature Center / June 3-Aug. 11  
Get up close to hundreds of native butterflies and colorful nectar plants. 9135 Willetto Rd., Roswell. 770-992-2055. \$20; ages 13-18, \$16; ages 3-12, \$14; ages 2 and younger, free. [chattnaturecenter.org](http://chattnaturecenter.org)

#### ● Forest Forms

Fernbank Museum / June 29-Sept. 29  
Walk alongside larger-than-life metal sculptures of flowers and animals in this artistic outdoor exhibit. 767 Clifton Rd., Atlanta. 404-929-6300. \$25.95; ages 3-12, \$23.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [fernbankmuseum.org](http://fernbankmuseum.org)

#### ● Panorama

Sifly Piazza / June 28-Dec. 1  
This immersive outdoor experience features four rotating glass pillars to reflect, light, scenery and the urban environment for a pretty kaleidoscope of color. 1280 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta. 404-733-4400. Free admission. [high.org](http://high.org)



Panorama



Animationland

### INDOORS

#### ● Animationland

Children's Museum of Atlanta / Through Sept. 8  
Join Tracey the pencil dog and her crew on an immersive journey creating stories using art and science with storyboarding, sketching, stop-motion movie making and more. Reservations encouraged. 275 Centennial Olympic Park Dr. NW, Atlanta. 404-659-5437. \$15.95-\$19.95; ages 11 months and younger, free. [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org)

#### ● A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature

Fernbank Museum / June 8-Sept. 9  
This interactive and immersive exhibit features a life-size mirror maze exposing the mathematical patterns abounding in the natural world. 767 Clifton Rd., Atlanta. 404-929-6300. \$25.95; ages 3-12, \$23.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [fernbankmuseum.org](http://fernbankmuseum.org)

#### ● Patents: The Engine of Invention

Tellus Science Museum / Through Feb. 23  
See several miniature inventions and learn how patents helped make the U.S. a nation of inventors. 100 Tellus Dr., Cartersville. 770-606-5700. \$19; ages 3-17, \$15; ages 2 and younger, free. [tellusmuseum.org](http://tellusmuseum.org)

### MORE EXHIBITS TO CHECK OUT

#### ● Dino Brick Adventure

Atlanta Art Center / Through June 16  
Go on a mythical quest to view animatronic dinosaurs and LEGO sculptures, along with dig pits, skeletons, a build area and a virtual reality experience. 5660 Buford Hwy. NE, Atlanta. \$15.90+. [feverup.com](http://feverup.com)

#### ● Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience

Atlanta Art Center / Through July 31  
Step into the paintings of Van Gogh with new rooms, 360-degree digital projections, a one-of-a-kind VR experience and an atmospheric light and sound show. 5660 Buford Hwy. NE, Atlanta. \$34.90; ages 4-12, \$20.90; ages 3 and younger, free. [vangoghexpo.com/atlanta](http://vangoghexpo.com/atlanta)

#### ● Horizon of Khufu: Journey in Ancient Egypt

Illuminarium / Through July 28  
Travel back in time to explore the Great Pyramid of Giza, decipher hieroglyphs and more to unravel the mysteries of Ancient Egypt. For ages 8 and older. 550 Somerset Terrace NE, Atlanta. \$24+; ages 8-17, \$21+. [horizonkheopsexperience.com/atlanta](http://horizonkheopsexperience.com/atlanta)



# CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL



Join us for a whimsical adventure at the Children's Book Festival, where imagination knows no bounds! Don't miss out on this opportunity to spark a love of reading and learning in your little ones! Mark your calendar for June 22 and June 29, and let the adventures in reading begin.

Learn more at [fulcolibrary.org/cbf](https://fulcolibrary.org/cbf)

## SUMMER READING AT FULCOLIBRARY

Summer reading begins on June 1 and all ages are invited to participate. Summer reading promotes academic growth, instills a love of reading, and helps students prepare for the upcoming school year. Register for summer reading and start learning today.

Discover Summer Reading programs at [fulcolibrary.org/srp](https://fulcolibrary.org/srp)

*The Children's Book Festival and the Summer Reading Program are supported by the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation.*

## Track Your READING with beanstack

Track your reading, write book reviews, and participate in fun activities to earn badges this Summer with Beanstack!

- 1 How do I sign-up?**  
Visit our Beanstack website at [fultoncounty.beanstack.org](https://fultoncounty.beanstack.org) or scan the QR code below!
- 2 Already have Beanstack from last year or past reading challenges?**  
You can log into your account and enroll in the 2024 Summer Reading challenge today!
- 3 Are there Beanstack apps?**  
Yes! Download the Beanstack app from the Google Play store or the Apple store to track on the go!







Groovin' on the Green

## Outdoor Concerts

Rock out to music and discover new bands at a community concert series.

### ● Summer Stage Concert

Duluth Town Green: 3167 Main St.,  
Duluth. 770-476-3434.  
duluthga.net. 8 p.m.  
June 1 – POP 2000

### ● Concerts by the Springs

Heritage Amphitheatre Lawn:  
6110 Blue Stone Rd., Sandy Springs.  
770-206-2022. citysprings.com. 7 p.m.  
June 2 – Savannah Jack  
July 14 – G Clef and the Playlist  
Aug. 4 – Harvest Moon  
Sept. 8 – Grains of Sand

### ● First Friday

Downtown Canton: 130 E. Main St.,  
Canton. 770-704-1500. cantonga.gov.  
6 p.m.  
June 6 – A1A – The Official and Original  
Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show  
July 5 – Mark Wills

### ● Summer Concert Series

Thrasher Park: 93 Park Dr., Norcross.  
770-448-2122. norcrossga.net. 7:30 p.m.  
June 7 – American Flyers  
June 21 – Still Swingin'  
July 5 – September In The Park  
July 19 – Troubadour Project  
Aug. 2 – Black Jacket Symphony  
Aug. 16 – The Geek Squad  
Aug. 30 – Queen Nation

### ● On The Green Alpharetta Concert Series

Town Green: 2 Park Plaza, Alpharetta.  
678-297-6000. awesomealpharetta.com.  
7 p.m.  
June 7 – Radio Star  
June 21 – Acoustic Soul  
July 5 – Decades Band  
July 19 – Double Take  
Aug. 2 – Sunset Strip  
Aug. 16 – Jessie Albright Band  
Sept. 6 – RTW  
Sept. 20 – Mike Ross Band

### ● Summer Concert Series

Newtown Park: 3150 Old Alabama Rd., Johns Creek.  
678-512-3200. johnscreekga.gov. 7 p.m.  
June 7 – Chuck Martin and Katie Run  
July 3 – Boogilicious  
Aug. 2 – Landslide and Rocco  
Sept. 7 – Face to Face  
Oct. 5 – Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra

### ● Chamblee Rocks

Chamblee City Hall: 3518 Broad St., Chamblee.  
470-622-9271. chambleerocks.net. 6:30 p.m.  
June 7 – Sami Automatic and Who's Bad:  
Michael Jackson Tribute Band  
July 4 – The Ansley Stewart Band and The Platinum Band  
Aug. 9 – All the Locals and 10,000 Maniacs

### ● First Friday Concert Series

Church Street Greenspace: 4316 Church St., Tucker.  
tuckerga.gov/summer. 7 p.m.  
June 7 – The Wildflowers  
Aug. 2 – The Ultimate Eagles Tribute Band –  
On the Border  
Sept. 6 – The Return



## ● First Friday Concert Series

Downtown Kennesaw: S. Main St., Kennesaw.  
kennesawdowntown.com. 7 p.m.  
June 7 – G Clef and the Playlist  
Aug. 2 – Outside the Perimeter  
Sept. 6 – Bumpin' The Mango  
Oct. 4 – 293 Band

## ● Groovin' on the Green

Brook Run Park: 4770 N. Peachtree Rd., Dunwoody.  
678-382-6700. dunwoodyga.gov. 6 p.m.  
June 8 – Deep Velvet  
July 13 – Parks and Rec Month Celebration: Nu  
Wave ATL with Mount Vernon School  
Aug. 10 – Back to School Bash with G Clef & The  
Playlist, with DieDra Hurdle-Ruff  
Sept. 14 – Sassfolk with The New Quintet  
Oct. 12 – LANDSLIDE – A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac,  
with Corporate Therapy

## ● Woodstock Summer Concert Series

Northside Hospital-Cherokee Amphitheater:  
101 Arnold Mill Rd., Woodstock. 770-517-6788.  
woodstockconcertseries.com. 7:30 p.m.  
June 8 – Guardians of the Jukebox with  
Black Lion Reggae  
July 13 – Tonic with The Verve Pipe  
Aug. 10 – Who's Bad Ultimate Michael Jackson  
Experience with The 80ators  
Sept. 14 – Eddie Montgomery with Across The Wide

## ● Home By Dark

Brooke Street Park: 2 Park Plaza, Alpharetta. 678-  
665-0040. homebydark.com. 7:30 p.m.  
June 8 – Carrie Welling and Jonathan Kingham  
July 13 – Jenn Bostic and Brian Sutherland  
Aug. 10 – Jesse Terry and Marcia Ramirez  
Sept. 14 – The Young Fables

## ● Friday Night Live

The Forum Peachtree Corners: 5155 Peachtree  
Pkwy., Peachtree Corners. 770-368-8811.  
theforumpeachtree.com. 6 p.m.  
June 14 – East and Ward  
June 28 – James and Julia  
July 12 – Jason Gardner  
July 26 – The Bourbon Brothers  
Aug. 9 – Taylor Harlow  
Aug. 23 – Canon Tyler  
Sept. 6 – Jacob Harshman Project  
Sept. 20 – Hughes Taylor  
Oct. 4 – Emily Hearn  
Oct. 18 – The Bourbon Brothers

## ● Kennesaw Concert Series

Piedmont Bank Amphitheater at Depot Park:  
2828 Cherokee St., Kennesaw. 770-422-9714.  
kennesaw-ga.gov. 6 p.m.  
June 14 – Leah Belle Faser and  
September in the Park  
Sept. 14 – Face 2 Face Tribute to Elton John  
& Billy Joel

## ● City Green Live

City Green: 1 Galambos Way, Sandy Springs.  
770-206-2022. citysprings.com. 7:30 p.m.  
June 21 – The Dazz Band  
July 26 – Marc Broussard  
Aug. 30 – Fastball

## ● Groovin' on the Green

Town Green: 235 Main St., Loganville.  
770-466-1165. loganville-ga.gov. 7:30 p.m.  
June 21 – Firelake  
July 19 – September in the Park  
Aug. 16 – Departure  
Sept. 13 – Dock Rock Radio  
Sept. 20 – The Gold Standard Band

## ● Roswell Riverside Sounds

Riverside Park: 575 Riverside Rd., Roswell.  
770-641-3727. roswell365.com. 7:30 p.m.  
June 22 – Paul McDonald  
July 27 – Rissi Palmer  
Aug. 24 – River Whyless  
Sept. 28 – Twanguero

## ● Groovin' On The Square

Colony Square: 1197 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta.  
404-879-2250. colonysquare.com. 6 p.m.  
June 28 – The Highbeams  
July 26 – The Retreat Trio  
Aug. 30 – Hughes Taylor  
Sept. 27 – Lilac Wine  
Oct. 25 – The Andrews Brothers: Dueling Pianos

## ● Glover Park Concert Series

Glover Park: 50 N. Park Sq., Marietta.  
770-794-5606. mariettaga.gov. 8 p.m.  
June 28 – Her Majesty's Request  
July 26 – G Clef and The Playlist  
Aug. 23 – Troubadour Project  
Sept. 27 – The Bourbon Brothers

## ● Summer Concert Series

Town Green: 5140 Town Center Blvd.,  
Peachtree Corners. 678-691-1200.  
peachtreecornersga.gov. 7 p.m.  
June 29 – Guardians of the Jukebox  
and Risky Biscuit  
July 27 – Tina – A Tribute to the Queen of Rock  
and Roll and Lilac Wine  
Aug. 31 – Ticket to the Moon – The ELO Tribute  
and Sailing to Denver  
Sept. 28 – A1A – The Original and Official Jimmy  
Buffett Tribute Band and Leah Belle Faser  
Oct. 26 – The Evolution of Pop and G Clef  
and The Playlist



Glover Park Concert Series



Woodstock Summer Concert Series





# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Reel Good Time: Under the Stars and In the Theatre



Catch a family-friendly flick at these summer movie series.

### OUTDOOR MOVIES

#### ● Flicks on the Green

Town Green: 5140 Town Center Blvd., Peachtree Corners. 678-691-1200.

peachtreecornersga.gov. 7 p.m.

June 1 – “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem” (PG)

July 6 – “Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark” (PG)

Aug. 3 – “Lilo & Stitch” (PG)

Sept. 7 – “The Secret Life of Pets” (PG)

Oct. 4 – TBD

#### ● Movies On The Square

Colony Square: 1197 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta.

404-879-2250. colonysquare.com. 7 p.m.

June 6 – “Father of the Bride” (PG)

July 11 – “Shrek” (PG)

#### ● Lawrenceville Movie Club

Lawrenceville Lawn: 210 Luckie St., Lawrenceville. 770-963-2414. lawrencevillega.org. 7 p.m.

June 21 – “Daddy Day Care” (PG)

July 17 – “Harriet the Spy” (PG)

Aug. 9 – “Zootopia” (PG)

#### ● Outdoor Movie Series

Swift-Cantrell Park: 3140 Old 41 Hwy., Kennesaw. 770-422-9714. kennesaw-ga.gov. 6 p.m.

June 21 – “Lilo & Stitch” (PG)

July 19 – “Top Gun: Maverick” (PG-13)

#### ● Movies Under the Stars

Mall of Georgia: 3333 Buford Dr., Buford. 770-271-9458. simon.com/mall/mall-of-georgia. 7 p.m.

June 22 – “The Super Mario Bros. Movie” (PG)

July 20 – “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” (PG-13)

Aug. 24 – “Shrek” (PG)

Sept. 21 – “Barbie” (PG-13)

Oct. 12 – “Trolls Band Together” (PG)

#### ● REEL Friday

Town at Trilith: 305 Trilith Pkwy., Fayetteville. 678-519-1008. trilith.com. 7 p.m.

June 28 – “Under the Boardwalk” (PG)

July 26 – “Migration” (PG)

Aug. 30 – “Elemental” (PG)

Sept. 27 – “Wish” (PG)

Oct. 25 – “Inside Out 2” (PG)

## Monthly Saturday Stay & Play Weekly Preschool Program Summer Camp Field Trips



A SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATE

# All aboard for museum fun!

SouthernMuseum.org • 770-427-2117



## FREE INDOOR MOVIE SERIES

### ● Movies @ the Wadsworth

Charles Wadsworth Auditorium: 25 Jefferson St., Newnan. 770-253-2682. [ga-newnan.civicplus.com](http://ga-newnan.civicplus.com). See website for times.

- June 3 – "The Super Mario Bros. Movie" (PG)
- June 10 – "Migration" (PG)
- June 17 – "Wonka" (PG)
- June 24 – "Up" (PG)

### ● Movie Mondays

Cultural Arts & Community Center: 10 College St., Norcross. 770-448-2122. [norchrossga.net](http://norchrossga.net). 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.

- June 10 – "Wonka" (PG)
- June 24 – "Arthur the King" (PG-13)
- July 8 – "The Boys in the Boat" (PG-13)
- July 22 – "A Million Miles Away" (PG)
- Aug. 12 – "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3" (PG-13)
- Aug. 26 – "Barbie" (PG-13)



## INDOOR MOVIE SERIES

### ● Disney Movie Series

Strand Theatre: 117 N. Park Sq., Marietta. 770-293-0080. \$7-\$12. [earlsmithstrand.org](http://earlsmithstrand.org). 10 a.m. (sensory friendly) and 1 p.m.

- June 26 – "Frozen Sing-A-Long" (PG)
- July 3 – "The Little Mermaid" (G)
- July 10 – "Beauty and the Beast Sing-A-Long" (G)
- July 17 – "Finding Nemo" (G)
- July 24 – "Frozen II" (PG)

### ● \$3 Summer Family Flicks

Aurora Cineplex: 5100 Commerce Pkwy., Roswell. 770-518-0977. \$3. [auroracineplex.com](http://auroracineplex.com). 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

- May 31-June 6 – "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem" (PG)
- June 7-13 – "Lyle, Lyle Crocodile" (PG)
- June 14-20 – "The Land Before Time" (G)
- June 21-27 – "DC League of Super Pets" (PG)
- June 28-July 4 – "Trolls Band Together" (PG)
- July 5-11 – "Paw Patrol: The Movie" (PG)
- July 12-18 – "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse" (PG)
- July 19-25 – "Sonic The Hedgehog" (PG)
- July 26-Aug. 1 – "The Boss Baby: Family Business" (PG)



### ● Summer Movie Camp

AMC Theatre: 16 locations. \$3. [amctheatres.com](http://amctheatres.com). See website for schedule.

- June 24 and 26 – "Minions: The Rise of Gru" (PG)
- July 1 and 3 – "The Lorax" (PG)
- July 8 and 10 – "Sing" (PG)
- July 15 and 17 – "Sing 2" (PG)
- July 22 and 24 – "The Secret Life of Pets" (PG)
- July 29 and 31 – "Migration" (PG)
- Aug. 5 and 7 – "Despicable Me 2" (PG)
- Aug. 12 and 14 – "Despicable Me 3" (PG)



Kids Video Connection  
Presents

# Atlanta Children's Film Festival



## JUNE 7 -23, 2024

### INTRO TO FILMMAKERS CAMP

June 10 -14, 2024  
Joy TV Studio in  
Gwinnett County

### MEDIA CAREER FAIR

June 21, 2024  
Decatur  
Conference Center

### FILM FESTIVAL

FAMILY DAY  
June 22, 2024  
Emory University



LEARN MORE AT  
[ATLCFF.EVENTIVE.ORG/WELCOME](http://ATLCFF.EVENTIVE.ORG/WELCOME)

### ALL ACCESS PASS

(Includes film camp, film screenings,  
workshops and online activities)

### TO REGISTER

[kidsvideoconnection.org/acff-24](http://kidsvideoconnection.org/acff-24)

# TOP 10 LISTS for Everything Family

## Are You in the Top 10? July 2024 Issue!

Email Laura  
[lpowell@altantaparent.com](mailto:lpowell@altantaparent.com)  
770-454-7599



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Free Fun

### ● In-Store Kids Workshop

Home Depot

June 1, 9 a.m.: Grill Gift Card Box

July 6, 9 a.m.: Soccer Game

Create with the help of Home Depot employees.

Multiple locations. Free admission. [homedepot.com](https://www.homedepot.com)

### ● Kids Club

Michaels

June 8, 10 a.m.-noon: Summer Painted Rocks

June 22, 10 a.m.-noon: Pom-Pom Butterfly Wreaths

July 13, 10 a.m.-noon: Craft Stick Airplanes

July 27, 10 a.m.-noon: Air-Dry Clay Rings

Dip into your creativity with this cute craft time.

Multiple locations. Free admission. [michaels.com](https://www.michaels.com)

### ● UPS Second Sunday

High Museum of Art

June 9, noon-5 p.m.

July 14, noon-5 p.m.

Enjoy art-making activities, performances and the High's collection and special exhibitions.

1280 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta. 404-733-4400.

Free admission. [high.org](https://www.high.org)



UPS Second Sunday

### ● Kids' Workshops

Lowe's

June 15, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Father's Day UTV

July 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Kinetic Sandbox

Mini-DIYers can learn how to build their own creations. Registration encouraged. Multiple

locations. Free admission. [lowes.com](https://www.lowes.com)

### ● Pop-in for Family Fun

Marietta History Center

June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Cultures of Cobb

July 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Summer Time Santa

Explore themed activities for edutainment.

1 Depot St., Marietta 770-794-5710.

Free admission. [mariettahistory.org](https://www.mariettahistory.org)



## MORE FREE STUFF

● Kids ages 2-15 can bowl two free games per day with **Kids Bowl Free**. Find participating centers and available days at [kidsbowlfree.com](https://www.kidsbowlfree.com).

● Get free skate passes through **Kids Skate Free**. Membership is now required to join the program and costs \$4.99. After joining, receive two skating sessions per week at a participating rink. Find centers at [kidsskatefree.com](https://www.kidsskatefree.com).

● **Sign up for a free library card.** Through the Georgia Public Library Service, you can check out passes for free and reduced-cost entry to places like Zoo Atlanta, Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites, Center for Puppetry Arts and more. Find information at [georgialibraries.org/passes](https://www.georgialibraries.org/passes).

## Rock out to music and discover new bands at a community concert series.

- Summer Stage Concert Series. [duluthga.net](https://www.duluthga.net)
- Concerts by the Springs. [citysprings.com](https://www.citysprings.com)
- First Friday. [cantonga.gov](https://www.cantonga.gov)
- Summer Concert Series. [norcrossga.net](https://www.norcrossga.net)
- On The Green Alpharetta Concert Series. [awesomealpharetta.com](https://www.awesomealpharetta.com)
- Summer Concert Series. [johnscreekgga.gov](https://www.johnscreekgga.gov)
- First Friday Concert Series. [kennesawdowntown.com](https://www.kennesawdowntown.com)
- Groovin' on the Green. [dunwoodyga.gov](https://www.dunwoodyga.gov)
- Woodstock Summer Concert Series. [woodstockconcertseries.com](https://www.woodstockconcertseries.com)
- Home By Dark. [homebydark.com](https://www.homebydark.com)
- Friday Night Live. [theforumpeachtree.com](https://www.theforumpeachtree.com)
- Kennesaw Concert Series. [kennesaw-ga.gov](https://www.kennesaw-ga.gov)
- City Green Live. [citysprings.com](https://www.citysprings.com)
- Groovin' on the Green. [loganville-ga.gov](https://www.loganville-ga.gov)
- Roswell Riverside Sounds. [roswell365.com](https://www.roswell365.com)
- Groovin' On The Square. [colonysquare.com](https://www.colonysquare.com)
- Glover Park Concert Series. [mariettaga.gov](https://www.mariettaga.gov)
- Summer Concert Series. [peachtreecornersga.gov](https://www.peachtreecornersga.gov)

# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Toddler-Tastic Fun All Around Atlanta

Toddlers have a lot of energy, so mixing things up with a visit to somewhere fun is a must! There are lots of options around Atlanta for young children, including some special activities at well-known spots you may not know about. Whether you opt to spend time with your toddler exploring, making music, being artistic or staying active, get out there and try something new.

### TOP SPOTS FOR TODDLERS

#### ● Children's Museum of Atlanta

This hands-on museum is a treasure trove of fun for toddlers. Check out "Animationland" (through Sept 8), as well as engaging permanent exhibits like "Fundamentally Food" and "Leaping into Learning." Toddlers can get creative in the Art Studio, imagine and create at the Innovation Station and experiment at the Science Bar. Atlanta, [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org)

#### ● Zoo Atlanta

When it comes to animal adventures, Zoo Atlanta offers up fun for all ages, including toddlers. Get up-close and personal with hundreds of animals, visit the petting zoo, Splash Fountain and KIDZone play area, and ride the train and carousel. Kids ages 5 and younger can learn about animals and nature through games and activities during Adventure Cubs (June 1 and 20, July 6 and 18) and Twilight Tots (June 8 and July 20). Atlanta, [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org)

#### ● Atlanta Botanical Garden

This beautiful greenspace in the heart of Atlanta is a family destination. The Lou Glenn Children's Garden has places for young children to play and learn, along with special programming including Garden Playtime and Garden Grooves. On Fridays from June-Sept., Shows for Seedlings has performances by puppeteers, storytellers and musicians. Atlanta, [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org)

#### ● Fernbank Museum

Explore science and nature at Fernbank! Explore NatureQuest, a fun hands-on learning area with activities and live animal displays. Outside, Fernbank Forest and WildWoods offer lots of places to play. Look for special events on their website, including Story Time for ages 1-6. Atlanta, [fernbankmuseum.org](http://fernbankmuseum.org)

#### ● Center for Puppetry Arts

Engaging puppet shows, including "Sesame Street the Musical" and "Owl at Home" let kids interact with their favorite characters and stories; check the calendar for dates and times. At the Worlds of Puppetry Museum, see puppets and costumes from Sesame Street, Fraggle Rock and more. Atlanta, [puppet.org](http://puppet.org)

#### ● Interactive Neighborhood for Kids

Let your little one use their new skills and independent attitude at this hands-on museum. Toddlers will love flying in an airplane, shopping for groceries, playing dentist, making music, and exploring the dairy farm. Gainesville, [inkfun.org](http://inkfun.org)

#### ● The Art Barn

This Canton farm is a fun mix of art and animals. During Play Dates, kids can take a hay ride, pet the animals and then head over to the barn for arts and crafts. Canton, [theartbarn.com](http://theartbarn.com)

#### ● Yellow River Wildlife Sanctuary

This 25-acre attraction has plenty of wildlife, including bison, peacocks, pigs, wallabies, sheep and lemurs. Visit the petting zoo or purchase a bag of lettuce and carrots to feed the deer, goats, bunnies and alpaca. Lilburn, [yellowriverwildlifesanctuary.com](http://yellowriverwildlifesanctuary.com)



### MORE TODDLER FUN

● **Trains:** Train-loving toddlers can explore the Southeastern Railway Museum; admission includes a train ride (Duluth, [train-museum.org](http://train-museum.org)). At the Southern Museum for Civil and Locomotive History, see the General Locomotive and explore more train-related artifacts (Kennesaw, [southernmuseum.org](http://southernmuseum.org)).

● **Fire Trucks:** Check out fire-fighting equipment at the Marietta Fire Museum ([mariettaga.gov/189/fire-museum](http://mariettaga.gov/189/fire-museum)) or Roswell Fire Museum ([roswellgov.com](http://roswellgov.com)); both have self-guided tours.



Southern Museum for Civil and Locomotive History





May 18 - September 8, 2024

# Discover Your Story



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[childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org)

## EXPERIENCE PASSES

Use your **library card**  
to visit *amazing places*  
around **Georgia!**

Check out passes for free entry to  
museums, state parks, and more.

[georgialibraries.org/passes](http://georgialibraries.org/passes)





# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Summer at the Zoo Be a backyard tourist and visit Zoo Atlanta.



### Say Bye-Bye to the Pandas

Don't miss your chance to see the four giant pandas who currently call Zoo Atlanta home! Zoo Atlanta's giant panda agreement with China expires this year, so make sure you stop by this summer for a visit with Lun Lun, Yang Yang, Ya Lun (pronounced yah loon) and Xi Lun (pronounced shee loon). Fewer than 1,900 giant pandas remain in the wild in China, and of these, more than 1,200 reside inside nature reserves that are supported by conservation efforts and partnerships.

### EVENTS AND EXPERIENCES

#### ● Adventure Cubs

June 1 and 20 and July 6 and 18, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Learn about a new animal through a game, craft, story and sing-a-long. In June, the Zoo will focus on turtles and tortoises; in July, learn about lions. \$26; additional child participant, \$5 each.

#### ● Twilight Tots

June 8 and July 20, 4:30-6 p.m.  
For ages 5 and younger, enjoy a mini tour of the Zoo, stopping along the way to sing songs, hear animal stories and dance like an animal. Reservation required. \$26; additional child participant, \$5 each.

#### ● Art Gone Wild Artist Market

June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
This wild art festival features a curated variety of handcrafted jewelry, ceramics, wall art and more to support local artists. \$28.95; ages 3-11, \$20.95-\$25.20; ages 2 and younger, free.

#### ● Rise and Dine with the Animals

June 15 and 22 and July 6 and 20, 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
Enjoy a continental breakfast with an exclusive early morning view of the animals as they get ready to start their day. Reservation required. \$65; ages 3 and younger, free.

### Kids Night Out

June 15 and 29 and July 13 and 27, 5-9 p.m.  
Enjoy a night off while kids experience a wildly fun and educational evening at the Zoo with an after-hours tour, games, activities, crafts and a pizza dinner. For ages 5-11. Reservation required. \$42.

### NEW ANIMALS

If it's been a minute since you've had a chance to visit the Zoo, you might not know that the animal kingdom has continued to expand with these new arrivals.

● **Willie B. III:** The male western lowland gorilla was born on April 24, 2023, and he is the grandson of the legendary late Willie B. Look for his troop in Gorilla Habitat 4.

● **Olivia:** This two-toed sloth was born on June 18, 2023. Look for the sloths at the Brazilian Outpost.

● **Chilean Flamingos:** The Chilean flamingo flock is one of the most successful in North America, and two flamingos hatched in early Sept. 2023. Unlike adults, chicks are gray, not pink — see if you can spot them in the Flamingo Plaza.

● **Nangka:** Born at the Sacramento Zoo, Nangka was sent to join orangutan Madu at Zoo Atlanta. See them in the Asian Forest.

● **Zebras:** Spot Wembe, a male plains zebra, at his mixed-species habit in the African Savanna. Imara, a female plains zebra, arrived on Dec. 27, 2023, as a social companion of Wembe.

● **Rhinos:** Dakari, a female southern white rhino arrived at Zoo Atlanta on Oct. 13, 2023, at the recommendation of Zoos and Aquariums Species Survival Plan. At the rhino complex, spot Zuri, the first southern white rhino calf born at the Zoo.

● **Bob:** This male Sumatran tiger arrived on Nov. 29, 2023, and he represents one of the most endangered species at the Zoo.

**The Details:** 800 Cherokee Ave. SE, Atlanta.  
404-624-9453. zooatlanta.org



Nangka



Wembe



Dakari



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## PLAY BALL!

Baseball is often referred to as America's favorite pastime, but why? Maybe because the sport is nearly 180 years old!

Atlanta is lucky to have the only existing major league franchise to have played every season since professional baseball came into existence. Truist Park, where the Atlanta Braves play, is also unique; it houses the first zip line and climbing tower in a major league ballpark. Ready to enjoy some baseball? Here's how:

**Atlanta Braves** fans are rooting for a fifth World Series win in 2024! From the enormous Atlanta Braves symbol made out of LEGO bricks to the monument garden, there is so much to see and do before the first pitch. Hope & Will's Sandlot, a state-of-the-art kids zone (where you'll find that zip line) has carnival games and more. Game tokens are \$1 each. The Braves Kids Club is free for ages 14 and younger; check the website for special benefits, including giveaways and discounts.

### Special Offers

On Family Sundays, kids ages 14 and younger can run the bases after the game, enjoy free entry to Hope & Will's Sandlot, and score giveaways like Braves bobbleheads. Check the website for more special events and offers, including Coca-Cola Wednesdays, when fans can sit in the Coca-Cola corner for any Wednesday for \$20. On select days, the T-Mobile Value Pack (\$30+) includes a game ticket, snack and drink. Upgrade your game experience with Batting Practice Experience tickets (\$105+), where you can go on the field pregame to watch batting practice up-close and personal. Tours of Truist Park (\$20-\$32) are offered year-round and take guests to the press box, dugout and more.

### Good to Know

Purchase parking passes online prior to the game, and use the Waze app to navigate to your specific lot, since each lot has its own address. Each ticket holder can bring their own food and one bottle of water into the stadium. The food must fit inside a clear, gallon-sized plastic bag. Find more information on [mlb.com/braves](http://mlb.com/braves).



Atlanta Braves

### Catch a Game in Georgia's Minor Leagues

#### ● Gwinnett Strippers

Special nights at Coolray Field include fireworks, giveaways, Star Wars Night and Sunday Fundays. [mlb.com/gwinnett](http://mlb.com/gwinnett)

#### ● Rome Emperors

Formerly known as the Rome Braves, you can catch an Emperors game at AdventHealth Stadium. Check the website for ticket promotions and giveaways, including T-shirt Tuesdays and Sunday Fun-days. [mlb.com/rome](http://mlb.com/rome)



Gwinnett Strippers



Macon Bacon

### More Fan Favorites

● **The Macon Bacon**, part of Georgia's Coastal Game League, play at historic Luther Williams Field. Game themes include Fan Appreciation Fireworks, Hawaiian Night and Star Wars Night. Stop in the Pork Shop for souvenirs. [maconbaconbaseball.com](http://maconbaconbaseball.com)

● When the **Savannah Bananas** play at Historic Grayson Stadium, it's part circus, part sporting event, with dancing players, a dad cheering squad and plenty of craziness. Tickets can be hard to find, but if you're planning a trip to Savannah, try not to miss seeing this exhibition team play. [thesavannahbananas.com](http://thesavannahbananas.com)

# SUMMER Fun Guide

## It's Time for Summer Reading in Atlanta!

### Here's what's happening at your local library, bookstores and more.

This summer, the Georgia Public Library's theme is "Adventure Begins at Your Library." Check your local branch for special events like story times, arts and crafts, magic and puppet shows, STEAM activities and prizes. Need to find a library? Visit [georgialibraries.org](http://georgialibraries.org).



### What's happening where you live?

- **The Fulton County Library system** will kick off its summer reading program on June 1 — look for special events including puppet shows, performances and a themed "Field Day" with face painting, crafts, bubbles and more. Check your local branch's calendar for story times for toddlers and preschoolers, early learning programs, movies and more fun things to do. [fulconlibrary.org](http://fulconlibrary.org)
- During **Gwinnett Public Library's** Summer Reading Challenge, kids of all ages can earn prizes and free books by reading and logging their books on Beanstack. Summer events include story times at area parks and splash pads, puppet shows, camp-inspired crafts and activities. Stop in your local branch for early learning and literacy activities, story times and kids' craft programs. [gwinnettpl.org](http://gwinnettpl.org)
- At **DeKalb County Libraries**, kick-off "Adventure Begins at Your Library" with scavenger hunts at area branches, where kids can solve puzzles and receive their summer reading starter pack. Many of their library locations offer book clubs, story times, author events and more to keep kids engaged and reading. [dekalblibrary.org](http://dekalblibrary.org)
- During summer reading at **Cobb County Libraries**, use the online reading tracker Beanstack to sign up and be entered to win prizes based on how much you read. All summer long, you can make kindness cards for members of the community any time you stop by a branch, plus they'll have story times, arts and crafts, and more for the whole family. [cobbcounty.org/library](http://cobbcounty.org/library)

### More Reading Programs

- **Atlanta Hawks' Check It Out Reading Challenge:** Kids who read at least five books will receive a Check it Out Reading Challenge bookmark and a free youth ticket with the purchase of one adult ticket to a regular season game. [nba.com/hawks/community/checkitout](http://nba.com/hawks/community/checkitout)
- **Chuck E. Cheese Reading Rewards:** Kids can receive 10 free play points with any food purchase. Download the rewards chart and track their reading progress, then redeem the chart at participating locations. [chuckecheese.com](http://chuckecheese.com)
- **Barnes and Noble Summer Reading Program:** Kids in grades 1-6 can choose a free book for every eight books they read. [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)
- **The Carlos Museum:** The Wrapped Up in Reading program encourages children to maintain their reading skills, and the book list allows kids to learn about civilizations from around the world. [emory.edu/wrapped-up-in-reading](http://emory.edu/wrapped-up-in-reading)
- **Pizza Hut's Camp BOOK IT! Program:** Track and reward your kids' reading this summer and they'll receive a free one-topping Personal Pan Pizza. The website also has fun activities and book recommendations. [bookitprogram.com/book-it-for-parents](http://bookitprogram.com/book-it-for-parents)
- **Little Shop of Stories:** This summer, ages 5 and younger can win prizes during the Wee Reads program; older kids can complete their bingo cards to win prizes through the Summer Reads program. [littleshopofstories.com](http://littleshopofstories.com)



## Best Places to See Butterflies

Get up-close and personal with hundreds of butterflies and learn about the importance of pollinators at these events and encounters.

### ● A Garden With Wings

Smith-Gilbert Gardens

June 1-July 31

Encounter butterflies in all stages of life, from egg to adult butterfly at this annual exhibit. After visiting the butterfly house, visit the pollinator garden, where you'll see butterflies, honeybees, hummingbirds and other pollinators at work. 2382 Pine Mountain Rd., Kennesaw. 770-919-0248. \$10; ages 3-17, \$5; ages 2 and younger, free. [smithgilbertgardens.com](http://smithgilbertgardens.com)

### ● Butterfly Encounter

Chattahoochee Nature Center

Through Aug. 11

Surround yourself with native butterflies! On select Sundays, families can even enjoy breakfast with them. Learn about nectar plants and purchase some for your own garden. Included with admission. 9135 Willeo Rd., Roswell. 770-992-2055. \$10; ages 13-18, \$16; ages 3-12, \$14; ages 2 and younger, free. [chattnaturecenter.org](http://chattnaturecenter.org)

### ● Pollination Observation Garden

Zoo Atlanta

Located near the Zoo's Conservation Action Resource Center, the garden features an abundance of native plants and teaches guests about pollination. Signs explain various plants in the garden and the process of pollination. Included with admission. 800 Cherokee Ave. SE, Atlanta. 404-624-9453. \$25.95-\$32.45; ages 3-11, \$20.70-\$25.95; ages 2 and younger, free. [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org)



Chattahoochee Nature Center

### ● Bird and Wildflower Garden

Freedom Park

Certified as an Atlanta Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary, this garden contains native plants and shrubs that create a habitat for birds, butterflies and other pollinators. North Ave. and Candler Park Dr., Atlanta. 404-480-3018. Free admission. [freedompark.org](http://freedompark.org)

## WORTH THE DRIVE

### ● Dahlenega Butterfly Farm

This eight-acre farm, southwest of downtown Dahlenega, is focused on conservation and sustainability. Take a tour of the butterfly conservatory and outdoor caterpillar habitat. You'll have the chance to "catch" a butterfly and observe it up close. 427 Castleberry Rd., Dawsonville. 706-770-3377. \$9; ages 3-12, \$7; ages 2 and younger, free. [dahlenegabutterfly.com](http://dahlenegabutterfly.com)



Day Butterfly Center

### ● Day Butterfly Center

Callaway Gardens

More than 1,000 butterflies flutter in a dynamic, glass-enclosed environment — one of North America's largest tropical butterfly conservatories. In September, hundreds of iridescent Blue Morpho butterflies fill the center. Included with admission. 17617 US-27, Pine Mountain. 844-512-3826. \$29.99; ages 3-11, \$19.99; ages 2 and younger, free. [callawaygardens.com](http://callawaygardens.com)

### ● Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch

This habitat is managed by volunteers and features host and nectar-providing plants that attract hundreds of butterflies. Signs explain the importance of pollinators and their habitats. 617 N. Jefferson Ave., Eatonton. 706-485-3311. Free admission. [facebook.com/butterfliesandbloomsinthebriarpatch](https://facebook.com/butterfliesandbloomsinthebriarpatch)

### ● Douglas County Butterfly Trail

Spot monarchs, black swallowtail and other butterfly species at these gardens containing butterfly weed, milkweed, fennel, zinnias, vegetables, marigolds and more. Each of the 10 gardens is maintained by volunteers. Douglasville. 678-741-5356. Free admission. [douglascountytails.com/butterfly.html](http://douglascountytails.com/butterfly.html)

# SUMMER Fun Guide



Sesame Street the Musical

## See a Show

Atlanta's got some drama!  
Take in a summer performance.

### • Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

Woodstock Arts / June 5-19. See website for showtimes.  
Adapted from Mo Willems's beloved picture book, celebrate the everyday heroes and civil servants that keep communities running. 8534 Main St., Woodstock. 678-494-4251. \$18-\$23. woodstockarts.org

### • The Secret Garden

Act1 Theater / June 7-23. See website for showtimes.  
This enchanting children's literature tale is reimaged as a musical as 11-year-old orphan Mary Lennox returns to Yorkshire to live with her distant relatives. 180 Academy St., Alpharetta. 770-663-8989. \$20-\$25. act1theater.org

### • Lion King Jr.

Aurora Theatre  
June 21, 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and June 22, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.  
This beloved musical adapted from the classic Disney film is presented by Aurora Theatre Academy. 128 E. Pike St., Lawrenceville. 678-226-6222. \$10. auroratheatre.com

## IT'S PUPPET TIME!

### • Sesame Street the Musical

Center for Puppetry Arts  
June 5-Aug. 4. See website for showtimes.  
Join Elmo, Cookie Monster, Grover, Bert, Ernie and more of your favorite characters in their very own musical. 1404 Spring St. NW at 18th, Atlanta. 404-873-3391. \$29-\$92; ages 11 months and younger, free. puppet.org

### • Roswell Summer Puppet Series

Roswell Cultural Arts Center / June 11-July 13. See website for showtimes.  
These exciting puppet shows feature five performances: "Three Billy Goats Gruff and Other Stuff," "Sleeping Beauty," "The Jungle Book," "The Tortoise, the Hare and More!" and "The Princess and the Butterbean."  
950 Forrest St., Roswell.  
770-594-6232. \$7;  
Puppet Pass, \$28.  
roswellcac.showare.com



Photo by Richard Parsons

### • Babble Lab

Alliance Theatre / June 22-July 28. See website for showtimes.  
When an experiment goes awry, a concoction of sneaky LETTERS take over a science lab in this one-of-a-kind production for ages 3-7. 1280 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta. 404-733-4600. \$10-\$20. alliancetheatre.org

### • Believe It or Not: Disney Edition

Aurora Theatre / June 26-27, 11:30 a.m.  
Aurora Theatre Academy's young playmakers present their own production where anything can happen if you just believe. 128 E. Pike St., Lawrenceville. 678-226-6222. \$10. auroratheatre.com



Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!





# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Playgrounds: Best of the Best

These top spots are worth a drive across town. From giant slides to circle swings to net climbers, these playgrounds stand above the rest.



### ● Peachtree Corners Town Green

5140 Town Center Blvd., Peachtree Corners  
Visit for the shops and restaurants, but stay for the play structures! The inclusive playground features climbing structures, slides, a roller slide, a We-Go-Swing and a net play structure. Walk the path to discover additional play equipment, including a slide and net climbing structures. Plus, there's a ninja warrior obstacle course in the woods.

### ● Elizabeth Porter Park

370 Montgomery St., Marietta  
All kids will be determined to conquer the stand-out climbing areas, which include web-like towers, hanging hoops, hexagons and balancing belt elements. The gravity rail and tall slide also add to the fun, making kids want to visit again and again!



### ● Brook Run Park

4770 N. Peachtree Rd., Dunwoody  
The playground and children's adventure garden has clusters of bright play structures with shades to hide from the sun. Separate structures for toddlers and older kids include slides, swings, monkey bars, a multicolored tunnel and a "log roll" for balancing. The cushioned rubber matting will help protect from scrapes and bruises.



### ● Alexander Park

955 Scenic Hwy., Lawrenceville  
This bright playground off the Scenic Highway/Dog Park entrance includes a two-story playscape with tube slides, a cargo net and a climbing structure. The playground is shaded, and there's a smaller area for toddlers. The park also boasts another playground with slides, swings and a climbing wall at the Old Snellville Highway entrance.







### ● **Rodney Cook Sr. Park**

Vine St. NW, Atlanta

This park has entertainment for all ages! The cool climbing structure ravel around the play structures. Kids can slide down slides, swing on the swing set, enjoy a toddler playground area, and play with music and sensory elements in the inclusive area. This park also has a pond and water feature showcasing several of the city's Civil Rights icons.



Photo by Chastain Park Conservancy

### ● **Westside Park**

1660 Johnson Rd. NW, Atlanta

To go with the nature theme of the space, this tall playground features wood-like elements with slides, a climbing net, saucer swings, an outdoor percussion instrument and more. At 280 acres, this park is the largest greenspace in the city.



### ● **Chastain Park**

135 W. Wieuca Rd. NW, Atlanta

Located in Buckhead, kids can climb and explore in the treehouse, slide down one of the three large roller slides, or play on the natural playscapes. Three giant "oodle" disc swings allow two children to recline and swing together, and there is a spider web for climbing. The music area includes drums and chimes and is wheelchair accessible. This beloved playground was nominated by our readers 15 times!



### ● **Poole's Mill Park**

7725 Poole's Mill Rd., Ball Ground

This Forsyth County park offers natural shade on the two-story playground that includes slides, climbing structures, interactive elements and more. Kids will especially love the spider web-like climbing structure, and there is an accessible swing.



### ● **Logan Farm Park**

4405 Cherokee St., Acworth

This 120-acre park features a playground with a 25-foot tower, climbing structures, merry-go-rounds and a spider net. A lot of the area is covered by shade. The playground is accessible and has a rubberized surface leading to and around the swings.



### ● **Lee Street Park**

155 Lee St., Jonesboro

This cool playground, which is part of the Downtown District, features unique climbing structures, swings, spinners, see-saws, musical equipment and more for a special way for your kids to burn off their energy.





Chattahoochee Food Works

## Forks Up! Food Halls in Atlanta

by Emily Webb



It's Saturday and no one can agree where to go out for dinner. What do you do? Force the kids to the Thai restaurant you're in the mood for or give in and hit up the neighborhood tavern for the 10th time this month.

Opt for a food hall instead! Metro Atlanta is following this culinary trend by offering different cuisine options, so everyone can choose what they want in a fun atmosphere.

### ● Marietta Square Market

68 N. Marietta Pkwy. NW, Marietta.  
[mariettasquaremarket.com](http://mariettasquaremarket.com)

In the heart of Historic Marietta Square, this food hall offers a diverse mix of cuisines for families to enjoy in the indoor communal dining space or eat on the expansive outdoor patio to spot trains passing by on the railroad tracks. Taste various styles of food like vegan, Korean, New Orleans, Cuban and more. Finish off your meal with a bubble tea or macaroon from Tiny Bubbles Tea Bar or a crêpe from Crème de la Crêpe. For a fun activity, visit on Thursday nights for Trivia Night. Parking is free for two hours.

### ● Krog Street Market

99 Krog St. NE, Atlanta. [thekrogdistrict.com](http://thekrogdistrict.com)  
 Part of The Krog District adjacent to the BeltLine Eastside Trail, this market has stalls featuring prepared foods, produce and gourmet foods. The "living room" allows you to relax and dine communally after choosing your meal. Taste Indian street food at Jai Ho Indian Kitchen, Szechuan cuisine at Gu's Dumplings, plant-based food at PLANTA, Neapolitan pizzas at Varuni Napoli and more. The District boasts other dining and retail options, including Woof Gang for your family's best friend. Parking is not free; the Krog District Surface Lot has a three-hour limit and costs \$6-\$22. The Krog District Parking Garage allows parking for up to 24 hours and is \$4-\$28.

1197 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta.  
colonysquare.com/politan-row  
This chef-driven food hall features local food and beverage talent, including Thai flavors, Cuban cuisine, Creole-Mexican fare and more. Finish off your meal with a bubble tea from Unbelibubble or a gourmet cookie from Fit for a Cookie. Plan a date night to enjoy delicious cocktails from Jojo's Beloved Cocktail Lounge or Bar Politan. There are multiple open-air spaces. Two-hour parking validation is available.

675 Ponce De Leon Ave. NE, Atlanta.  
poncecitymarket.com  
Ponce City Market features both food stalls and full-service restaurants. Try Iranian at Bibi, Indian at Botiwalla, Vietnamese at Vietvana, special creations from pop-up chefs at Punk Foodie and much more. Also in the space, shop some of your favorites, such as Rhen's Nest Toy Shop, Posman Books and more. Consider paying extra admission for access to The Roof for carnival rides and games. Self-parking costs \$3-\$20 for up to 24 hours.



### Marietta Square Market

## Know Before You Go:

- **Check websites before visiting.**

Some food stalls may have different hours compared to the hall. Also, look at the events calendar that many food hall websites feature to choose the best day to head over or avoid based on your family's preferences.

- **Be ready to be flexible.** Since the

stalls are located in different parts of the food hall, your family may need to divide and conquer to order and save a table. Some food may also be ready before other dishes, so decide ahead of time if normal table manners apply — wait until everyone has their food to start — or not.

- **Bring snacks for young kids.**

Again, the timing for lines, getting your food and finding a place to sit can be unpredictable. While this is all part of the fun of food halls, if you have little ones, be sure you bring some snacks that will keep them satisfied while you wait for the main event.

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# SUMMER Fun Guide

## ● Sweet Auburn Curb Market

209 Edgewood Ave. SE, Atlanta.  
municipalmarketatl.com

Also known as Municipal Market, this market has the coolest history in Atlanta, as it was founded in 1918 as an open air market. Now, it houses 30 local businesses digging into delicious cuisine. Taste Mexican street food at Tijuana Tacos, savory South African pies at Panbury's Double Crust Pies, wood-fired pizza at Pi's R Squared and more. For dessert, chow down on French patisseries, gelato or Miss D's Pralines. Also in the space, drop by the retail shops. The market offers free one-hour parking with validation.

## ● Chattahoochee Food Works

1235 Chattahoochee Ave. NW, Atlanta.  
chattahoocheefoodworks.com

Chattahoochee Food Works boasts 31 vendors, including empanadas at Belén de la Cruz, Southern food at Delilah's Everyday Soul, Italian at Mozza Bella and more. Make sure to save room for dessert! Taste sweet treats at Baker Dude, Mallo Sweet Bar, Mochinut Atlanta, Munster Cravings, Morelli's Ice Cream or Unbelibubble Tea House. There is central seating, outdoor seating or a covered patio, and some of the stalls offer seating if your family ends up all picking the same place to eat. Not interested in sticking around? Some restaurants offer online ordering for pickup. Parking is free for two hours.

## ● Halidom Eatery

1341 Moreland Ave. SE, Atlanta.  
halidomeatery.com

This new food hall features Mexican cuisine, cheesesteaks and hoagies, handcrafted waffles, seafood, scrumptious coffee and more. The area has a two-acre outdoor space with a scenic walking trail and picnic tables for dining outdoors or enjoying space with your pet. Visit every other Saturday for Kid's Corner with activities for children from noon-4 p.m. Sip an adult beverage at Bar La Rose, an art-deco-inspired craft cocktail bar with seating for 30 guests. Parking is free.

## SMALLER SPOTS:

### ● Politan Row at Ashford Lane

4550 Olde Perimeter Way, Dunwoody.  
ashfordlane.politanrow.com

From the same creative minds behind Colony Square's food hall, this hall features 10 stalls and three bars. The chef-driven concepts include 26 Thai, Bucatini Ristorante, Mamacita's Cuban Cocina and Pretty Little Tacos. For a date night, take in the late '80s and early '90s at Okay Anny's Cocktail Bar. You can reserve a table in the Dining Room on Resy. Parking is free.



Market Hall at Halcyon

## ● The Collective Food Hall at CODA

756 W. Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta.  
codatechsquare.com

This smaller food hall offers six different options: SmoQ'n Hot Grill, El Burro Pollo, Poke Burri, Aviva by Kameel Mediterranean Grill and Humble Mumble, along with cocktail bar By Weight & Measure. The underground parking deck is validated for two hours when you eat at The Collective.

## ● Lee + White

1020 White St. SW, Atlanta. leeandwhiteatl.com  
On the Westside, this food hall features some quintessential summer staples, such as Original Hot Dog Factory, Honeysuckle Gelato and coming soon Good Azz Burgers. Other options include Mexican cuisine at Cielito Lino Taqueria, Japanese at Gekko Kitchen and sake, Japanese whiskey and soju at Sakura Sake Bar for a unique date night. This space includes other restaurants and breweries, along with retail shops and services. Located directly on the BeltLine and in walking distance to a Marta station, this hall is accessible to those in the neighborhood. Parking is available, but spaces are limited.

## ● Citizens Market Atlanta

3480 Peachtree Rd. NE, Atlanta.  
citizensmarketphipps.com  
Located in Phipps Plaza, this food hall features nine elevated culinary concepts and a full bar. Choose from fast casual Mediterranean at El Pollo Verde, Italian at Cicci Di Carne, Western and Japanese fusion at Sa' Moto and more. Visit Phipps Plaza for shopping. Street parking available or park in the parking garage.

## ● Market Hall at Halcyon

6365 Halcyon Way, Alpharetta. visithalcyon.com  
Dining spots at this hall include CT Al Pastor for Mexican-style tacos and bowls; Szechuan Gu's Dumplings; pizza parlor Holmes Slice;



26 Thai, Politan Row at Ashford Lane

Mediterranean street food from Pita; build-your-own poke bowl with Sweet Tuna; hot dogs and American fare from The Original Hot Dog Factory and Kilwins for dessert. Halcyon also features full-service restaurants, shopping and services. Events in the space include farm animal yoga and Halcyon Kids Club. Parking is free in the deck, but you can pay for premium parking.

## ● Southern Feedstore

1245 Glenwood Ave., Atlanta. sfseav.com  
With a focus on local flavors, this mini food hall is also a space for live music. Sip on coffee with Buteco, eat delicious sandwiches with Woody's Cheesesteaks, combine the best of sweet and savory flavors with Waffle Bar, dig into decadent burgers with Sinful Sldr, or slice up pizza with an authentic Brazilian twist with Brasileira Pizza. Limited street parking is available.

## ● PH'EAST

925 Battery Ave., Atlanta. pheastatl.com  
Inspired by the hawker markets on the streets of Asia, get your fill of different Asian cuisines at this food hall in The Battery Atlanta. Taste a variety of beverages, meals or snacks, including ramen, curry dishes, dumplings, bubble tea and more. TAPS@PH'EAST offers 40 taps of craft beers, wine, sake and more, including cocktails curated to complement global cuisines. On non-event days, self-parking is free for the first two hours at the Red, Green, Yellow and Purple Decks; after that, prices are \$10-\$50.

## COMING SOON:

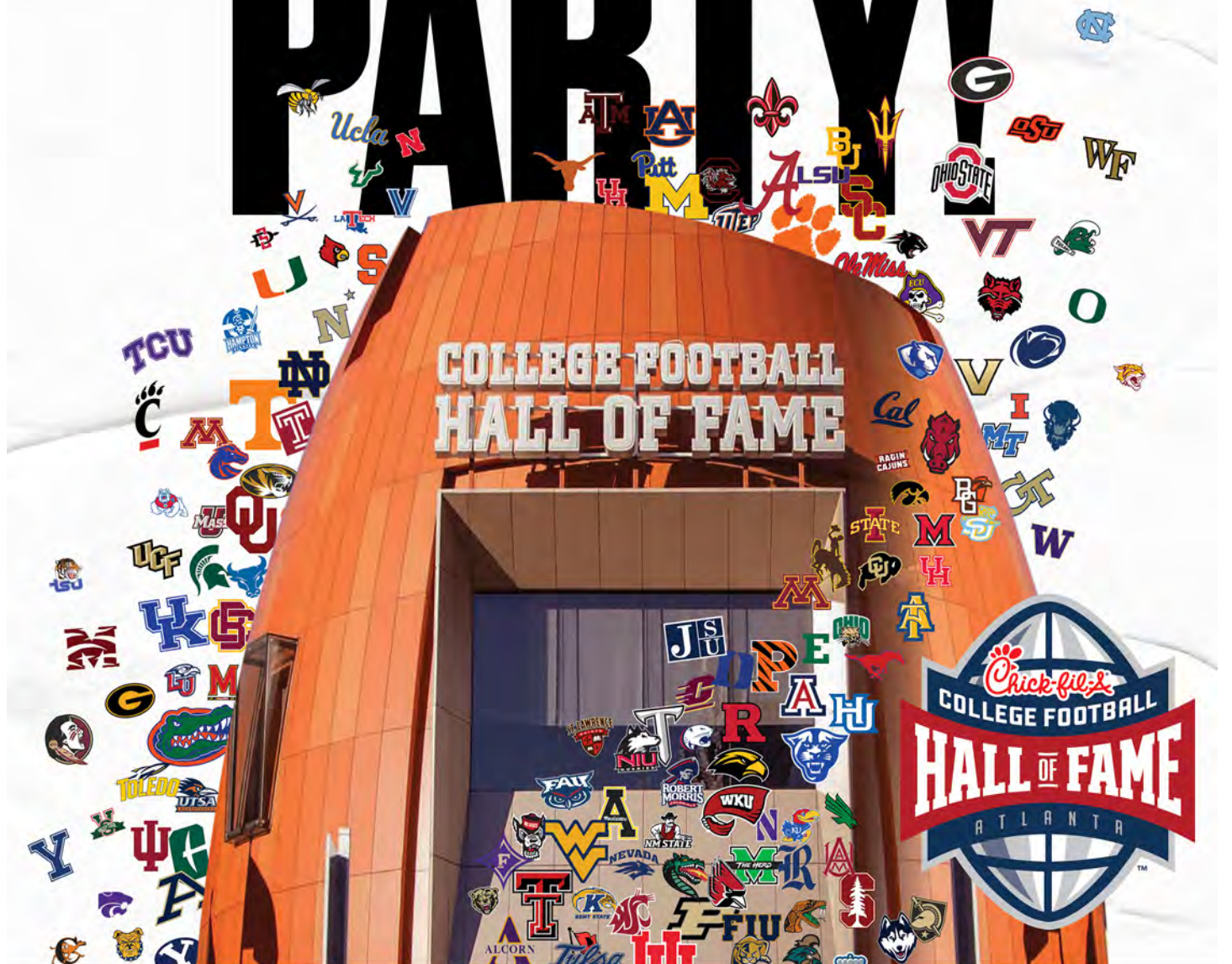
● **Roswell Junction.** 340 S. Atlanta St., Roswell.  
roswelljunction.com

● **Privi Stonecrest.** 8020 Mall Pkwy., Stonecrest.  
privistonecrest.com

● **Chamblee Tap & Market.** 3509 Broad St., Chamblee. chambleetapandmarket.com

● **Switchman Hall.** 1111 Ridge Ave., Atlanta.  
terminalsouth.com

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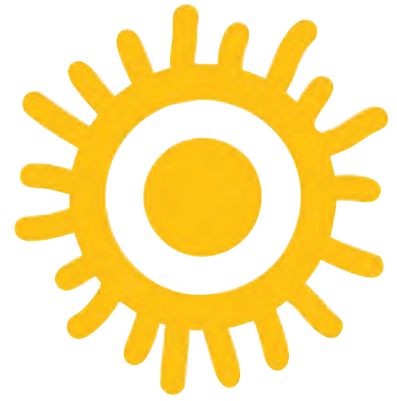
Hurricane Falls Suspension Bridge  
at Tallulah Gorge State Park



[ExploreRabun.com](http://ExploreRabun.com)







# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

by Emily Webb

DID YOU KNOW GEORGIA HAS  
159 COUNTIES TO EXPLORE? THIS  
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- REGIONAL FAVORITES

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*Cont'd on page 57*



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**800-858-8027** [www.HelenGa.org](http://www.HelenGa.org)

Alpine Helen-White County Regional Visitor Center  
726 Bruckenstrasse, Helen, GA 30545



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# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

There's so much to do and explore in Georgia! The state offers tons of family fun with exotic animals, baseball, water play and so much more. Try some of *Atlanta Parent's* ideas for a summer family road trip.



*Amanda Miller Allen and Elsa Simcik contributed to this article.*



Lake Winnepesaukah Amusement Park

## North Georgia

### ● Athens

Let your kids bring their backpacks and pretend they are college students as you tour the University of Georgia campus ([uga.edu](http://uga.edu)), and explore the heritage of UGA's athletics through memorabilia, displays and videos, including Hershel Walker's Heisman Trophy, at Butts-Mehre Heritage Hall ([georgiadogs.com](http://georgiadogs.com)). The Alice H. Richards Children's Garden includes almost three acres of interactive and immersive fun with themed gardens, edible landscapes, hands-on garden plots, an underground adventure area and more ([botgarden.uga.edu](http://botgarden.uga.edu)). Walk through 225 acres of woodlands and wetlands at Sandy Creek Nature Center ([sandycreeknaturecenterinc.org](http://sandycreeknaturecenterinc.org)), and visit the education center to see live reptiles, amphibians and aquariums.

### ● Blairsville

You can see a lot of Georgia from Brasstown Bald ([fs.usda.gov](http://fs.usda.gov)) near Blairsville, the highest point in the state. Vogel State Park's 22-acre lake has a beach with mountain views ([gastateparks.org/vogel](http://gastateparks.org/vogel)). Make an appointment to drop by Lasso the Moon Alpaca Farm ([farmfeltandglass.com](http://farmfeltandglass.com)) to see alpacas up close.

*Cont'd on next page*

### DON'T MISS! Lake Winnepesaukah Amusement Park

This park ([lakewinnie.com](http://lakewinnie.com)) has been open since 1925 and continues to be a fun family destination! The park has thrill, family and kiddie rides, many set along the lakefront. Boat Chute, the first ride in the park, is the oldest mill chute water ride in the U.S. according to the National Amusement Park Historical Association. The five-acre SOAKYa Water Park features a Crazy River, water slides, a mat racer and an area just for smaller children. Along with the rides, enjoy shaded picnic areas, beautiful scenery, games and food. Open for the season through September, check the website for deals for the best day for a family trip.



Alice H. Richards Children's Garden





# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA



## DON'T MISS!

### Toccoa River Swinging Bridge

At 270 feet long, this scenic spot ([blueridgemountains.com](http://blueridgemountains.com)) houses the longest swinging bridge east of the Mississippi River. It's an easy hike to get to the bridge — walk the Benton Mackaye Trail or Duncan Ridge Trail to make the journey to the bridge for pretty views. Also along the BMT, consider hiking to see Long Creek Falls or Fall Branch Falls. Pack a picnic for a scenic mealtime.

## ● Blue Ridge/McCaysville

Take a ride on the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway ([brscenic.com](http://brscenic.com)) to McCaysville, where kids can put one foot in Georgia and the other in Tennessee. Have lunch and ice cream; then, head back to Blue Ridge for a visit to Mercier Orchards ([mercier-orchards.com](http://mercier-orchards.com)) for blueberry and blackberry picking in summer. Take in the picturesque Toccoa River Swinging Bridge or mountainside Lake Blue Ridge ([blueridgemountains.com](http://blueridgemountains.com)). Visit Expedition Bigfoot to see evidence of the creature with artifacts, exhibits, sighting maps and "Sasquatch" theater ([expeditionbigfoot.com](http://expeditionbigfoot.com)).

## ● Cartersville

Cartersville is almost "close-in" to the northern suburbs, but still a hike for those farther south. It's worth the drive to see the Booth Western Art Museum ([boothmuseum.org](http://boothmuseum.org)), Savoy Automobile Museum ([savoymuseum.org](http://savoymuseum.org)) and Tellus Science Museum ([tellusmuseum.org](http://tellusmuseum.org)). For outdoor fun under the sun, head to Etowah Indian Mounds State Historic Site ([gastateparks.org/etowahindianmounds](http://gastateparks.org/etowahindianmounds)).

## ● Cleveland

This city is known as the birthplace of Cabbage Patch Kids at BabyLand General Hospital ([cabbagepatchkids.com](http://cabbagepatchkids.com)), where Mother Cabbage is always on display beneath the branches of the Magic Crystal Tree. Witness the "birth" of a hand-sculpted Cabbage Patch Kid, and find the perfect Kid to adopt. Unicoi State Park & Lodge ([unicoilodge.com](http://unicoilodge.com)) has archery, ziplining and lots more adventures for kids.

## ● Dahlonega

Pan for gold at the Consolidated Gold Mine ([consolidatedgoldmine.com](http://consolidatedgoldmine.com)) or Crisson Gold Mine ([crissongoldmine.com](http://crissongoldmine.com)), and be sure to tour the Dahlonega Gold Museum ([gastateparks.org/dahlongegoldmuseum](http://gastateparks.org/dahlongegoldmuseum)) to learn the history of this Gold Rush town.



BabyLand General Hospital

## ● Dalton

This city is more than the "Carpet Capital of the World." Tour the Chief Vann House Historic Site ([gastateparks.org/chiefvannhouse](http://gastateparks.org/chiefvannhouse)), the first brick house in the Cherokee Nation. Then, take a tour through railroad and Civil War history at Tunnel Hill Heritage Center & Museum ([civilwarrailroadtunnel.com](http://civilwarrailroadtunnel.com)) in Tunnel Hill. Hike around nearby historic Prater's Mill Historic Site ([pratersmill.org](http://pratersmill.org)) for a scenic outing.



## DON'T MISS! Etowah Indian Mounds State Historic Site

For fascinating history, travel to this site ([gastateparks.org/etowahindianmounds](http://gastateparks.org/etowahindianmounds)), which was home to several thousand Native Americans from 1000-1550. A.D. This 54-acre site protects six earthen mounds, a plaza, a village site, borrow pits and more. It is also the most intact Mississippian Culture site in the Southeast. Walk along the nature trail to see an historic fish trap and how early civilizations used native trees for food and medicine.



## STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

### ● Helen

In this Alpine village, visit beautiful Anna Ruby Falls ([fs.usda.gov](https://fs.usda.gov)), and pan for gold and gems at Dukes Creek Gold and Ruby Mines ([facebook.com/dukescreekgoldandgemmines](https://facebook.com/dukescreekgoldandgemmines)). Visit Charlemagne's Kingdom ([georgiamodelrailroad.com](https://georgiamodelrailroad.com)) to see a 50-foot model railroad, and see a master glassblower at work at The Glassblowing Shop ([theglassblowingshop.com](https://theglassblowingshop.com)).

### ● Lookout Mountain

Close to the Tennessee border, Lookout Mountain is home to Rock City ([seerockcity.com](https://seerockcity.com)), a true marvel of nature with ancient rock formations, gardens and a panoramic view where you can see seven states. Kids will love the whimsical Fairyland Caverns and Mother Goose Village. For family fun, head to Lake Winnepesaukah Amusement Park ([lakewinnie.com](https://lakewinnie.com)) in nearby Rossville with rides and a water park.

### ● Rome

Float down the scenic Etowah River in a tube or kayak on the most urban section of the Etowah River Trail system ([romegeorgia.org](https://romegeorgia.org)). Tour the beautiful Berry College grounds and visit Oak Hill, the 1880s home of founder Martha Berry ([berry.edu/oakhill](https://berry.edu/oakhill)). Time your visit to catch a ball game from the Rome Braves ([milb.com/rome](https://milb.com/rome)).

### ● Toccoa

A top attraction in Toccoa is 186-feet, free-falling Toccoa Falls, located on the campus of Toccoa Falls College ([tfc.edu](https://tfc.edu)). Also, visit the Currahee Military Museum ([toccoahistory.com](https://toccoahistory.com)) to learn about the men who trained at Camp Toccoa.

## Central Georgia

### ● Augusta

Go canoeing or kayaking at Savannah Rapids Park ([columbiacountyga.gov](https://columbiacountyga.gov)), which is set along the Augusta Canal and Reed Creek waterfall. Take a stroll on the Augusta Riverwalk ([visitaugusta.com](https://visitaugusta.com)) featuring a children's playground and various gardens. Visit the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area ([augustacanal.com](https://augustacanal.com)) for a boat or bike tour, nature and a history lesson. Fans of comedy team Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy will want to visit the Harlem Museum and Welcome Center ([harlemmuseumandwelcomecenter.com](https://harlemmuseumandwelcomecenter.com)) in nearby Harlem.

### ● Columbus

See the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center ([nationalinfantrymuseum.org](https://nationalinfantrymuseum.org)) with artifacts from 240 years of American military history. The interactive Coca-Cola Space Science Center ([ccssc.org](https://ccssc.org)) is a hit with kids. Columbus State University's Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center ([oxbow.columbusstate.edu](https://oxbow.columbusstate.edu)) is open to the public for exhibits and displays, along with alligators, fish, snakes and more. Enjoy a walk through the Columbus Botanical Garden ([columbusbotanicalgarden.com](https://columbusbotanicalgarden.com)) for herbs, pollinators, an 1898 farmhouse and more, and save time for a short stroll along the 15-mile Chattahoochee RiverWalk ([visitcolumbusga.com](https://visitcolumbusga.com)). For an eclectic spot, visit The Lunch Box Museum ([columbuscollectivemuseums.com](https://columbuscollectivemuseums.com)) with more than 5,000 items.

*Cont'd on next page*

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# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

## ● Macon

A stroll through the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historic Park ([nps.gov/ocmu](https://nps.gov/ocmu)) is a great lesson in history as a prehistoric American Indian site. Kids will like the Museum of Arts and Sciences ([masmacon.org](https://masmacon.org)) with lots of hands-on activities and the Tubman African American Museum ([tubmanmuseum.com](https://tubmanmuseum.com)), which celebrates African American art, history and culture. Fans of the Allman Brothers will want to stop by The Big House Museum ([thebighousemuseum.com](https://thebighousemuseum.com)). Watch America's favorite pastime with a Macon Bacon baseball game ([maconbaconbaseball.com](https://maconbaconbaseball.com)). Take a drive south of Macon to visit the 11,000-acre Lane Southern Orchards ([lanesouthernorchards.com](https://lanesouthernorchards.com)).

## ● Pine Mountain

Summer is one of the best times at Callaway Gardens ([callawaygardens.com](https://callawaygardens.com)), as Robin Lake Beach and Aqua Island are open. Stop by the Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center to see more than 1,000 butterflies flutter freely. Nearby, Roosevelt's Little White House State Historic Site ([gastateparks.org/littlewhitehouse](https://gastateparks.org/littlewhitehouse)) provides a portrait of the former president and his time in Warm Springs for polio treatments.

## ● Statesboro

The Center for Wildlife Education and The Lamar Q Ball, Jr. Raptor Center at Georgia Southern University ([georgiasouthern.edu/academics/wildlife](https://georgiasouthern.edu/academics/wildlife)) show kids eagles, raptors, reptiles and amphibians up close. Also at Georgia Southern, view one of the largest curated tick collections in the world ([georgiasouthern.edu/cosm/usntc](https://georgiasouthern.edu/cosm/usntc)). Cool off on a hot day at Splash in the Boro! Family Waterpark ([splashintheboro.com](https://splashintheboro.com)) with its lazy river, wave pool, slides and more.

## ● Warner Robins

A hands-on, interactive experience, the Museum of Aviation ([museumofaviation.org](https://museumofaviation.org)) has a fascinating collection of aircraft for flying through history — and it's free. Have a blast at Rigby's Water World ([rigbyswaterworld.com](https://rigbyswaterworld.com)), which features the water playground Paradise Island with 10 water slides, water sprays and an enormous pineapple bucket that drops gallons of water. Also, plan to visit the Go Fish Education Center ([gofisheducationcenter.com](https://gofisheducationcenter.com)) in nearby Perry where kids can learn about trout fishing, view alligators and turtles, and catch and release fish.



### DON'T MISS! Lane Southern Orchards

Visit this orchard ([lanesouthernorchards.com](https://lanesouthernorchards.com)) for just-picked, fresh Georgia peaches, pecans, preserves and homemade treats. The kids will love the farm-themed playground, and if you get hungry, taste a delicious, home-cooked meal or fresh peach ice cream at The PeachTree Café. On the days staff pack peaches, visitors can watch the sorting and packing process from an elevated catwalk.



# DISCOVER

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# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

## South Georgia

### ● Albany

Experience the ecosystems of the Flint River at the Flint RiverQuarium ([flintriverquarium.com](http://flintriverquarium.com)) with interactive exhibits, aquatic animals, shows and animal feedings. See more animals at Chehaw Park & Zoo ([chehaw.org](http://chehaw.org)) for tarantulas, snakes, emus and more, and through October, the pond is stocked for fishing. Visit Thronateeska Heritage Center ([heritagecenter.org](http://heritagecenter.org)) for educational exhibits. Go for a friendly competition at All American Fun Park ([allamericanfunpark.com](http://allamericanfunpark.com)) with mini golf, laser tag, bowling, go karts and more. One of the "Seven Natural Wonders of Georgia," Radium Springs ([dougherty.ga.us](http://dougherty.ga.us)) is a cool 68-degrees year-round for clear, blue waters and pretty flowers.

### ● Andersonville

Almost 13,000 Union soldiers died at the Camp Sumter military prison here during the Civil War, and the Andersonville National Historic Site ([nps.gov/ande](http://nps.gov/ande)) pays tribute to them and serves as a memorial to all American prisoners of war. Built in 1892, view the Victorian masterpiece Windsor Hotel ([windsor-americus.com](http://windsor-americus.com)) in nearby Americus.

### ● Cordele, Plains and Archery

Visit the Historic SAM Shortline Railroad train ([samshortline.com](http://samshortline.com)) during select days in June to hop on a train ride behind Thomas the Tank. The Presidential Flyer gives you time to tour former President Jimmy Carter's hometown and visit his Boyhood Farm ([nps.gov/jica](http://nps.gov/jica)). Nestled in the middle of Georgia Veterans Memorial State Park, Lake Blackshear Resort & Golf Club ([lakeblackshearresort.com](http://lakeblackshearresort.com)) offers nature trails, geocaching, boat rentals, golf, disc golf and more, along with the Military Museum paying tribute to veterans. Travel to Cordele on June 22 for the Watermelon Days Festival ([visitcordele.com](http://visitcordele.com)).

### ● Tifton

Kids can travel back in time to learn about farming and the state's agricultural and cultural roots at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture ([gma.abac.edu](http://gma.abac.edu)). Climb aboard the only steam-powered train in regular operation in Georgia, and see demonstrations of farm and village life in the 1800s, including blacksmithing.



### DON'T MISS! Watermelon Days Festival

Did you know the "Watermelon Capital of the World" is in Georgia? More than 200 million pounds of melons are grown and shipped from the Cordele community each year! The Watermelon Days Festival ([visitcordele.com](http://visitcordele.com)) celebrates the county's favorite fruit on June 22. At the festival, enjoy more than 30 activities to honor the farmers, growers, brokers and buyers involved in the watermelon industry in the area.

*Cont'd on next page*

CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE AND OUR HEROES



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# STAY AND PLAY IN GEORGIA

## ● Valdosta

Wild Adventures Theme Park ([wildadventures.com](http://wildadventures.com)) has lots of kid-friendly and daredevil-pleasing rides, plus tons of animals and the Splash Island Waterpark open through September. See wetlands, pine forests and game animals on a walk through the 2,623-acre Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area ([georgiawildlife.com/grand-bay-wma](http://georgiawildlife.com/grand-bay-wma)).

## ● Waycross

Visit the Okefenokee Swamp ([okeswamp.org](http://okeswamp.org)) for a special experience, and part of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Okefenokee Adventures has guided boat tours and kayak or canoe rentals. Reserve cottages or campsites at Stephen C. Foster State Park ([gastateparks.org/stephencfoster](http://gastateparks.org/stephencfoster)).



### **DON'T MISS! Okefenokee Swamp Park**

For an unforgettable way to view Georgia's unique ecosystem, visit the swamp ([okeswamp.org](http://okeswamp.org)). Take a ride on the Okefenokee Railroad, go on a tour boat into the swamp, see live wildlife shows, and view a pioneer island homestead. If you like to camp, there are overnight shelters you can use (permit required) and you can travel the swamp by canoe or kayak to access the camping areas.

## Coastal Georgia

### ● Brunswick

Take a fishing excursion with a charter, or watch the shrimp boats come in with their catch and sample some at a local restaurant ([goldenisles.com](http://goldenisles.com)). Plan your visit to take in a show at the Historic Ritz Theatre ([goldenislesarts.org](http://goldenislesarts.org)). At The Pinball Palace ([thepinballpalace.com](http://thepinballpalace.com)), play pinball, classic arcade games, air hockey and more.

### ● Cumberland Island

Ride the ferry to Cumberland Island ([nps.gov/cuis](http://nps.gov/cuis)) and explore 18 miles of undeveloped beaches; pack a lunch as there are no concessions on the island. Go to the Cumberland Island National Seashore Museum, and if your kids like submarines, the St. Marys Submarine Museum ([stmaryssubmuseum.com](http://stmaryssubmuseum.com)), with displays including a working periscope, models of torpedoes, a deep-sea diving suit and submarine uniforms.

### ● Jekyll Island

Visit the Georgia Sea Turtle Center ([jekyllisland.com](http://jekyllisland.com)), which is actually a hospital for sick and injured turtles; check out exhibits about sea turtle conservation and rehabilitation, and your family can even adopt one and track its progress. Fish from the pier, bike the trail system, go on a boat tour, take a horse-drawn carriage in the Historic District, play a game of mini golf and get wet at the Summer Waves Water Park. Explore Driftwood Beach for a family photo op.

### ● Sapelo Island

This 16,000-acre coastal island features cultural history, wildlife and complex beach and dune systems, as well as a restored 1820 lighthouse ([gastateparks.org/reynoldsmansion](http://gastateparks.org/reynoldsmansion)). After a 30-minute ferry ride, go on guided tours highlighting the African American community, Reynolds Mansion, Nanny Goat Beach, University of Georgia Marine Institute and the lighthouse. The historic Reynolds Mansion features marble sculptures, a decorated Circus Room, a bowling lane and more.

### ● Savannah

This coastal city has stately homes and beautiful gardens. Visit Old Fort Jackson ([chsgeorgia.org](http://chsgeorgia.org)) and Fort Pulaski ([nps.gov/fopu](http://nps.gov/fopu)) for cannon firings and weapons demonstrations. Other historical and educational spots include Savannah History Museum, Georgia State Railroad Museum, Pinpoint Heritage Museum and Harper Fowlkes House. The outdoors Savannah Children's Museum features an exploration maze, a reading nook, a sensory garden and a nature kitchen. Cruise along the coast, learn about the city's pirating history, or hunt for ghosts ([oldsavannahtours.com](http://oldsavannahtours.com)). While tickets can be hard to find, consider taking in a Savannah Bananas baseball game ([thesavannahbananas.com](http://thesavannahbananas.com)). Forsyth Park ([savannah.com](http://savannah.com)) has two playgrounds — one for smaller kids, one for bigger kids — and a splash pad.

### ● St. Simons Island

Climb to the top of the St. Simons Lighthouse ([coastalgeorgiahistory.org](http://coastalgeorgiahistory.org)), and stop by Christ Church Frederica ([ccfssi.org](http://ccfssi.org)), one of Georgia's oldest parishes, dating back to 1736. Watch for dolphins from the Pier, and play in Neptune Park ([glynncounty.org](http://glynncounty.org)) with its Fun Zone pool. Go for a family bike ride around the island looking for tree spirits ([goldenisles.com](http://goldenisles.com)) — kids love to find faces carved into the beautiful oak trees all over the island.

### ● Tybee Island

Take an ecology tour ([visittybee.com](http://visittybee.com)) with a marine biologist to examine tide pools, comb the beach and pull a net from the ocean to see cool marine life, and see how many dolphins you can spot at play with a dolphin tour. At the Tybee Island Marine Science Center ([tybeemarinescience.org](http://tybeemarinescience.org)), go on a self-guided tour for animal exhibits, interactive stations, fossils and a pirate ship playground. Ascend the Tybee Island Light Station ([tybeelighthouse.org](http://tybeelighthouse.org)) for breathtaking views.

### **DON'T MISS!** **Georgia Lighthouses**

When you think of lighthouses, you might think of the Northeast, but Georgia is home to three beautiful lighthouses. Climb to the top of the St. Simons Lighthouse ([coastalgeorgiahistory.org](http://coastalgeorgiahistory.org)) to see as far as Jekyll Island, Brunswick and the south end of St. Simons, catch the sunset at Georgia's oldest and tallest lighthouse, Tybee Island Light Station and Museum ([tybeelighthouse.org](http://tybeelighthouse.org)), or take in the sites from the restored Sapelo Lighthouse ([gastateparks.org/reynoldsmansion](http://gastateparks.org/reynoldsmansion)).



Sapelo Lighthouse

## Go On a Safari

Take the family on an unforgettable adventure without leaving Georgia! These animal parks offer a variety of safari experiences, from walk- and drive-through options to guided VIP tours.

*Advance registration is recommended; check websites for dates and availability.*

● **Georgia Safari Conservation Park.** Opening June 1, this spacious new park boasts 530 acres and a range of African species, including giraffes, rhinos, zebras and antelope. Board a safari truck for a guided tour (1.5 hours) or safari encounter tour (2.5 hours), where you'll see and learn about the animals and life on the savanna. VIP safari tours (3 hours) include an animal encounter and behind-the-scenes opportunities. For the ultimate splurge, book an overnight stay in a safari tent or suite.

**Location:** Madison

**Cost:** \$39-\$125+; reserve tours online

**Good to Know:** Overnight stays require a two-night minimum  
georgiasafari.com

**NEW!**

● **Lake Hartwell Wildlife Safari.** Located about 90 minutes from Atlanta, this park has bison, ostriches, camels, buffaloes, wildebeests, zebu and more. Purchase a feed bag and drive through in your own car, or rent one of theirs. A tour will take about 45 minutes but you can drive through as many times as you like. Visit African tortoises and budgies, and pet baby animals at the walkabout zoo.

**Location:** Hartwell

**Cost:** \$10; ages 2-12, \$5; ages 1 and younger, free

**Good to Know:** Open Wed.-Sun.

lakehartwellsafari.com

● **Atlanta Safari Park.** Animals roam free on this 156-acre park, situated in the foothills of the Appalachians. The drive-through safari covers two miles of road, and you'll see everything from llamas to ostriches and zebras. In the walk-through area of the park, visit the aviary, giraffe exhibit and petting zoo.

**Location:** Commerce

**Cost:** \$12.99-\$15.99; ages 2 and younger, free

**Good to Know:** Open daily; season passes are available

atlantasafaripark.com

● **Wild Animal Safari.** At this scenic 250-acre park, many of its 75 species of animals — including camels, elk, zebras and wildebeests — will greet you at your car. Drive your own car or rent a safari van from the park. A tour will take 1-2 hours, but you can drive through as many times as you like. Admission includes the Walkabout Adventure Zoo, where you can meet more animal species, visit the petting zoo and more.

**Location:** Pine Mountain

**Cost:** \$23.99-\$26.99; ages 2 and younger, free

**Good to Know:** Open daily; annual passes and a family pack are available

animalsafari.com



Georgia Safari Conservation Park

● **Wild Georgia Safari Park.** Board the safari bus at this combination petting zoo and safari park for a 30-minute ride — you'll see zebras, camels, antelope, water buffalo, kangaroos and more. Afterward, visit the farm animals at the petting zoo, enjoy lunch in the picnic area and shop for Georgia-grown produce and more.

**Location:** Metter

**Cost:** \$15+; ages 1 and younger, free

**Good to Know:** Open daily; safari rides Mon.-Fri. require an appointment

wildgeorgiasafaripark.com

● **North Georgia Wildlife and Safari Park.** Take a 30-minute drive-through tour for up-close encounters with camels, zebras, warthogs, ostriches, llamas and more, including the Bush Drive, where antelope, emus and more will greet you at your car. A variety of packages include extra options for an animal meet and greet or feedings. Safari tickets also include admission to the petting farm.

**Location:** Cleveland

**Cost:** \$19.99-\$61.99; ages 2 and younger, free

**Good to Know:** Open Wed.-Sun.

northgeorgiazoo.com

— Mary Williams



Lake Hartwell Wildlife Safari



Wild Georgia Safari Park



# Georgia Summer Adventures!



Plan a day or weekend trip to one of these great family destinations.

## ■ Family Fun for Everyone!

If you're looking for fabulous family adventures filled with fun, fresh air and sunshine, **Rabun County**, just a short trip away, is Atlanta's backyard playground for family adventures of all kinds. These North Georgia mountains are home to thrilling outdoor activities like hiking, biking, rafting, zip-lining, horseback riding, fishing and camping as well as cultural exploration, agritourism, hands-on history and environmental experiences. At the end of the day, your kids will be a little dirty, plenty tired and a whole lot of happy! There's something for everyone in Rabun County. Visit [explorerabun.com](http://explorerabun.com) to start your adventure today.



## ■ North Georgia Mountains' Hidden Gem

Treat the family to a visit in North Georgia's **White County**, including Alpine Helen and the villages of Sautee-Nacoochee and Cleveland, conveniently located just 90 minutes north of Atlanta. Georgia's official Outdoor Adventure Destination also offers abundant shopping, history museums, performances, hand crafted arts and wonderful events throughout the year. White County offers a great escape for the entire family no matter the age. Stay at the newly renovated Unicoi State Park and Adventure Lodge. Make sure you tempt your taste buds at one of 25 downtown dining destinations, including bakeries and candy kitchens, while in town. Learn more at [helenga.org](http://helenga.org).





## ■ Sit Back and Stay Awhile

Escape to **Calhoun-Gordon County's** scenic hills for a summer packed with adventure! Discover Copper Creek Farm's sunflower fields and The Rock Garden's whimsical charm. Explore Cherokee history at New Echota State Historic Site or enjoy cultural exhibits at the Harris Arts Center. Beat the summer heat at the Splash Pad, or watch your little ones unleash their energy at one of Northwest Georgia's largest playgrounds. There's endless fun for all in Calhoun-Gordon County. Learn more at [exploreghordoncounty.com](http://exploreghordoncounty.com).

## ■ An Amazing Find

Golden opportunities abound in **Villa Rica**, where actual gold was discovered in the 1820s. Today, visitors can hike, take a scenic train ride, see historic ruins and even pan for gold at the Pine Mountain Gold Museum Park. Enjoy concerts at the MILL Amphitheater and explore historic downtown, where both the father of gospel music and the Coca-Cola dynasty were born. You'll find everything from local eateries and libations to quaint and quirky shops. Learn more at [visitvillarica.com](http://visitvillarica.com).



## ■ Explore Air Force History and Heritage

**The Museum of Aviation**, located just north of Macon, is the second largest museum in the United States Air Force. Offering free admission, the Museum of Aviation houses more than 85 historic U.S. Air Force aircraft, missiles, cockpits and award-winning exhibits. For information and hours of operation, visit [museumofaviation.org](http://museumofaviation.org).

### FOR MORE INFO:

- **Rabun County**  
[explorerabun.com](http://explorerabun.com)
- **White County**  
[helenga.org](http://helenga.org)
- **Calhoun-Gordon County**  
[exploreghordoncounty.com](http://exploreghordoncounty.com)
- **Villa Rica**  
[visitvillarica.com](http://visitvillarica.com)
- **Museum of Aviation**  
[museumofaviation.org](http://museumofaviation.org)



# SUMMER Fun Guide

## Six Georgia Lakes Families Will Love

Our state is home to more than 30 beautiful lakes; some were formed by nature and others began as reservoirs created by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Read about our favorite Georgia lakes and their attractions; all are great destinations for a day trip, weekend adventure or family vacation.



Lake Allatoona



Lake Hartwell

### 1 Fun Close to Home: Lake Allatoona

Located just northwest of Atlanta, Lake Allatoona makes an ideal day trip. Visit one of its many parks, with beaches, picnic spots, playgrounds and other facilities. Cauble Park on Lake Acworth (which flows into Lake Allatoona) is popular for its beach and amenities. Red Top Mountain State Park also has biking and hiking trails, beaches and a historic Civil War site.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** about 30 minutes
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 270
- [allatoonalake.org](http://allatoonalake.org)

### 2 A Resort and Much More: Lake Lanier

It's one of the state's most visited lakes, and one trip will tell you why. Lanier Islands Resort and its waterpark are popular destinations; in addition, the lake also has plenty of day parks with beaches, boat access, picnic areas and fishing. Visit Don Carter State Park for activities like paddling, horseback riding and 15 miles of hiking trails.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** about 45 minutes
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 692
- [discoverlakelanier.com](http://discoverlakelanier.com)

### 3 Nature Lover's Paradise: Lake Blue Ridge

Much of this lake's shoreline is part of the Chattahoochee National Forest, and there's plenty to do! Morganton Point Recreational Area has a great family beach, as well as kayak and paddle board rentals. The Day Use Area offers hiking, a paved walking loop and scenic lake views. Lake Blue Ridge Recreation Area has great views of the dam, with an accessible park, swimming and other amenities.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** about 1-1/2 hours
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 65
- [blueridgemountains.com](http://blueridgemountains.com)

### 4 More Than Just Fishing: Lake Hartwell

Located on the border of Georgia and South Carolina, Lake Hartwell is known for its great fishing. Not an angler? The lake has nine campgrounds and a wide variety of family-friendly things to do, including beaches, biking, canoeing and waterskiing. Opportunities for walking and hiking abound, including a paved and accessible trail leading to the Hartwell Dam.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** 2 hours
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 962
- [visitoconeesc.com/visit/lake-hartwell](http://visitoconeesc.com/visit/lake-hartwell)

### 5 Relax or Play: Lake Sinclair

Spend a weekend — or a week — on Lake Sinclair, located near I-20 in Milledgeville. Little River Park and Scenic Mountain campgrounds have RV and pop-up camper sites, tent camping and cabin rentals. Explore the lake's quiet coves in a canoe or kayak, float in a tube, rent a boat or go jet skiing. Hike or walk the nearby trails and enjoy the public fishing area and sandy beaches.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** about 1-1/2 hours
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 500
- [visitmilledgeville.org](http://visitmilledgeville.org)

### 6 Worth the Drive: Lake Blackshear

Enjoy an upscale vacation at Lake Blackshear Resort and Golf Club, where you can rent a villa or cabin and enjoy golfing, restaurants and other amenities, or camp lakeside at Georgia Veterans Memorial State Park, with fishing, biking and hiking trails, water sports, sandy beaches and more. Visit the park's Military Museum, which pays tribute to veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present day, or test your aim at the park's archery and air gun range.

- **Distance from Atlanta:** about 2-1/2 hours
  - **Miles of shoreline:** 97
- [lakeblackshearresort.com](http://lakeblackshearresort.com)

# SUMMER Fun Guide

## The Berry Best Farms Near Atlanta

Be a farmer for a day and pick fresh blueberries, blackberries and peaches.

*Call or check websites for hours, weather concerns and availability.*



### ● Berry Patch Farms

The history of this farm began in 1978 when the owners bought 40 acres of land for blueberries, pumpkins and Christmas trees. They plan to open in July for blueberry picking, and visit the Farm Stand Market for fresh produce, jams, local honey and more. 786 Arnold Mill Rd., Woodstock. 770-926-0561. [berrypatchfarms.net](http://berrypatchfarms.net)

### ● CJ Orchards

For more than 30 years, this family-run orchard has offered fresh produce, including 10 different varieties of peaches, pecans and blueberries. 1251 Old Mill Rd., Rutledge. 706-318-9462. [cjorchards.com](http://cjorchards.com)

### ● Cool Springs Blueberry Farm

Starting in mid-June, blueberries will be available for u-pick or pre-pick this summer. Browse the gift shop with arts and crafts from local artisans. 5975 Smith Mill Rd., Gainesville. 770-535-7350. [coolspringsblueberryfarm.com](http://coolspringsblueberryfarm.com)

### ● Dickey Farms

Travel to Dickey Farms for peaches, homemade ice cream, vegetables, preserves and more. They usually harvest peaches through August. Explore the playground, and go on a farm tour. 3440 Musella Rd., Musella. 478-836-4362. [gapeaches.com](http://gapeaches.com)

### ● DJ's U-Pick Blueberry Farm

This farm offers u-pick by the pound in June and July as you peruse the blueberry fields. Kids will love viewing the Scottish Highland Cows, Coco, Rudolph and Hank, and you can even bring bread and veggies to feed them. 1839 Prospect Rd., Lawrenceville. 470-208-3026. [djsupickblueberries.com](http://djsupickblueberries.com)



### ● Fitzgerald Fruit Farms

This farm harvests peaches through mid-September, and they sell onions, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, peppers, zucchini, okra, corn and homemade ice cream. 3355 Imlac Rd., Woodbury. 706-553-2795. [fitzgeraldfruitfarms.com](http://fitzgeraldfruitfarms.com)

### ● HEMI Blueberry Farm

Family-owned and operated, this Greensboro farms has six varieties of blueberries, as well as blackberries and muscadine grapes. Picking is by appointment only. 1861 Bramlett Rd., Greensboro. 770-403-7018. [hemiblueberryfarm.com](http://hemiblueberryfarm.com)

### ● Jaemor Farms

Enjoy fresh produce at this farm, along with their pop-up markets. Visit on the U Pick Peaches (date to be announced) day to pick your own fruit, and they have blackberries, muscadines, nectarines, corn and more. 5340 Cornelia Hwy., Alto. 770-869-3999. [jaemorfarms.com](http://jaemorfarms.com)

### ● Lane Southern Orchards

Peaches are available at this farm and market, along with peach ice cream, peach cobbler, pecans, salsa and more. Stop by the Café & Bakery for delicious Southern food, and kids will love the farm-themed playground with real tractors. 50 Lane Rd., Fort Valley. 800-277-3224. [lanesouthernorchards.com](http://lanesouthernorchards.com)

### ● Lone Oak Farms

Open during blueberry season, you can pick your own fresh blueberries from July to October. 7633 Forrest Rd., Grantville. 678-416-3955. [meriwethertourism.com](http://meriwethertourism.com)

### ● Mercier Orchards

Head to Blue Ridge for u-pick blueberries starting in June, and in July, you can also pick blackberries. Take in the beauty of the 300-acre farm with a tractor ride, and stop by the café or market for delicious food and treats. 8660 Blue Ridge Dr., Blue Ridge. 706-632-3411. [mercier-orchards.com](http://mercier-orchards.com)

### ● Mitcham Farm

Pick your own blueberries, blackberries, peaches and lavender at this Oxford farm. At the Farm Market, shop fresh produce, specialty items and more. Visit with farm animals, and pay extra to try your hand at gem mining. 829 W. Macedonia Church Rd., Oxford. 770-855-1530. [mitchamfarm.com](http://mitchamfarm.com)

### ● Southern Belle Farm

Pick your own blueberries, blackberries and peaches at this farm. You can also shop their market for pre-picked produce, and visit with chickens, donkeys, cows, goats and more at Belle's Barn. 1658 Turner Church Rd., McDonough. 770-288-2582. [southernbellefarm.com](http://southernbellefarm.com)

### ● Sugar Hill Berry Farm

Shop peaches, blueberries, muscadines and vegetables, as well as jams, jellies, honey and slushy drinks for a day of farm fun. 6646 Jake Kemp Rd., Murrayville. 770-540-6952. [facebook.com/sugarhillberryfarm](https://facebook.com/sugarhillberryfarm)

### ● Tuckaway Blueberry Farm

This family-owned and operated blueberry farm has more than 500 rabbit eye blueberry bushes. 3560 Claude Brewer Rd., Loganville. 770-560-5922. [tuckawayblueberryfarm.com](http://tuckawayblueberryfarm.com)



# Your Summer Go-To Bucket List



This handy checklist means your family won't miss a minute of fun this summer!

- ☐ **Alliance Theatre**  
alliancetheatre.org
- ☐ **Atlanta Children's Film Festival**  
atlcff.eventive.org
- ☐ **Atlanta Braves**  
braves.com
- ☐ **Aurora Cineplex and The Fringe Mini Golf**  
auroracineplex.com
- ☐ **Chattahoochee Nature Center**  
chattnaturecenter.org
- ☐ **Chick-Fil-A College Football Hall of Fame**  
cfbhall.com
- ☐ **Children's Museum of Atlanta**  
childrensmuseumatlanta.org
- ☐ **City of Acworth**  
visitacworth.com
- ☐ **City of Norcross**  
norcrossga.net
- ☐ **City of Tucker**  
tuckerga.gov/summer
- ☐ **Douglas County**  
exploredouglascountyga.com

- ☐ **Fulton County Library System**  
fulcolibrary.org
- ☐ **Georgia Public Library**  
georgialibraries.org
- ☐ **Gwinnett County Public Library**  
gwinnettpl.org
- ☐ **Margaritaville at Lanier Islands**  
margaritavilleatlanierislands.com
- ☐ **Roswell Summer Puppet Series**  
Roswell Cultural Arts Center  
roswellcac.com
- ☐ **Sesame Street the Musical at Center for Puppetry Arts**  
sesamestreetmusical.com
- ☐ **The Southern Museum**  
southernmuseum.org
- ☐ **Stars and Strikes**  
starsandstrikes.com
- ☐ **Tellus Science Museum**  
tellusmuseum.org
- ☐ **Zoo Atlanta**  
zooatlanta.org