



## GEORGIA

In February 1733, James Edward Oglethorpe landed at Yamacraw Bluff, later known as Savannah, to establish the thirteenth colony and last British Colony. This British Colony was named in honor of King George II.

The only Indian tribe living within 50 miles of the new colony was the **Yamacraw Indians**. Other Indian tribes in Georgia were the **Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Weeden** and **Kolomoki** who roamed Georgia for centuries. Although our Indians natives are long gone, picturesque reminders of their presence are in many geographical historic sites throughout Georgia.

### INDIAN MOUNDS

- **Etowah Indian Mounds**
- **Ocmulgee National Monument**
- **Sautee – Nacoochee Indian Mound**
- **Rood Creek Mounds**
- **Kolomoki Mounds State Park**
- **Rock Eagle Effigy Mound**

### CAPITAL CITIES

- **SAVANNAH (1776-1785)**
- **AUGUSTA (1785-1796)**
- **LOUISVILLE (1796-1806)**
- **MILLEDGEVILLE (1807-1868)**
- **ATLANTA (1868-Present)**

### GEORGIA GEOGRAPHY

Georgia is the largest state east of the Mississippi River. It has a variety of landscapes and soil types. No other state offers the contrasts that can be found, from the Appalachian Mountains in the north to the marshes of the Atlantic in the southeast and the mysteries of the Okefenokee Swamp. The Savannah River forms a portion of the eastern border of the state beginning in Augusta, and the Chattahoochee River flows between Alabama and Georgia from West Point to Florida, creating a western border. The Atlantic Ocean shapes our coastal boundary. Bordering states are Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama.

Within the 58,906 square miles of Georgia, about half the streams flow into the Atlantic Ocean. The majority of the remaining streams flow through Alabama and Florida into the Gulf of Mexico.

Georgia's climate is mild with an average winter temperature 40 to 50 degrees and summer temperatures averaging 80 to 90 degrees. The average annual rain fall is about 47 inches.

Georgia is located in the Eastern time zone and is home to the world's busiest airport, Hartsfield-Jackson International. Four major Interstate highways run through the state, I-75, I-85, I-20, I-95. I-16 runs from Macon to Savannah and I-59 is in the far northwest corner of the state between Tennessee and Alabama.

**Governor:** Nathan Deal  
**Lt. Governor:** Casey Cagle  
**Attorney General:** Sam Olens  
**Secretary of State:** Brian Kemp  
**State School Superintendent:** John Barge  
**Government:** U.S. Congressional Districts – 13,  
U.S. Senators – 2, State Senators – 56, State  
House Representatives – 180  
**Georgia Population (2009):** 9,829,211  
**Land Area (square miles):** 57,906  
**Admission to Statehood:** January 2, 1788  
**Statehood:** 4th of the original 13 colonies  
**Number of Counties:** 159

**Geographic Center:** Twiggs County, 18 miles  
southeast of Macon  
**Highest Point:** 4,784 feet, Brasstown Bald  
**Lowest Point:** Atlantic coast, sea level  
**State Motto:** Wisdom, Justice, and Moderation  
**Origin of State's Name:** Named for King George II  
of England  
**Nickname:** Peach State  
**Agriculture:** Poultry and eggs, peanuts, cattle,  
dairy products, and vegetables  
**Industry:** Transportation equipment, food  
processing, paper products, chemical products,  
electric equipment and tourism

## GEORGIA STATE SYMBOLS

**Cherokee Rose  
State Flower**



**Brown Thrasher  
State Bird**



**Live Oak  
State Tree**



**Bobwhite Quail  
State Game Bird**



**Large Mouth Bass  
State Fish**



**Honeybee  
State Insect**



**Tiger Swallowtail  
State Butterfly**



**Gopher Tortoise  
State Reptile**



**Right Whale  
State Marine Mammal**



**Shark Tooth  
State Fossil**



**Quartz  
State Fossil**



**Knobbed Whelk  
State Seashell**



**Staurolite Crystals  
State Mineral**



**Azalea  
State Wild Flower**



**Georgia Grown Peaches  
State Fruit**



**Vidalia Onion  
State Vegetable**



**Peanut  
State Crop**



**Georgia on My Mind  
State Song**  
*"Just an old sweet  
Song keeps Georgia"*

**State Flag**



**Great Seal of Georgia**



Additional information on Georgian can be found on our website [www.ExploreGeorgia.org](http://www.ExploreGeorgia.org). The Secretary State's Office offers a complete overview of Georgia history at [www.sos.georgia.gov](http://www.sos.georgia.gov).

[www.ExploreGeorgia.org](http://www.ExploreGeorgia.org) 800-VISIT GA