



Savannah is truly one of America's remarkable cities. Very rich in history, it was the first capital of Georgia, and the site of one of the earliest settlements on the American mainland. James Oglethorpe led settlers to this area in the early 1600's. Later in the American Civil War, the city was the eventual goal of General William Tecumseh Sherman during his infamous "march to the sea."

Known to be America's first planned city, Savannah was voted one of the "World's Top Ten Trendy Travel Hot Spots" by the *New York Times* and was a "Top 10 U.S. City to Visit" in *Conde Nast Traveler*. Savannah is also of interest to literary and musical aficionados as it is the home of Johnny Mercer, composer of "Skylark," and was the setting for the novel "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," later made into a movie that was directed by Clint Eastwood. Numerous films have been shot in and around Savannah including "Forrest Gump." Savannah hosts the country's second largest parade on St. Patrick's Day and is the location for a booming tourist industry. Seafood is one of the city's major food staples, and is full of wonderful restaurants. Paula Deen's infamous restaurant, "The Lady and Sons", is located a couple of blocks from the Hyatt Regency Savannah.

Savannah is located near the Atlantic Ocean at the border between Georgia and South Carolina. The city has a population of 307,995, elevation is 49 feet, average annual rainfall is 49.7 inches. January temperature average is 49.2 degrees F, and July temperature average is 81.2 degrees F. **The temperature in April for the ASC 2010 Convention & EXPO averages a high of 75 degrees and low of 52 degrees.**

Savannah International Airport (SAV) is located 8 miles from the Hyatt Regency Savannah. For information on airlines, flight arrivals/departures and ground transportation, visit www.savannahairport.com. **The taxi fare to/from the airport and the hotel is approximately \$25 + \$3 for additional passengers.**

Parking at the Hyatt Regency Savannah:
Valet Parking ONLY: \$18.00 per night.
No self parking available.

Parking for oversized vehicles/vans*: \$20.00 per night

Savannah is a fabulous city to just stroll and take in all the fabulous sites. A native Savannahian once wrote:

"I have my favorite walks here. Take a stroll down Bull Street...begin at Bay Street and continue to Forsyth Park. You will walk pass Christ Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church on Wright Square, Independent Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, St. John's Episcopal Church...all historical...have a look inside if time allows. Remember you are in the South and time is not important here, or we would like to think. You will walk pass Juliette Gordon Low House, founder of the Girl Scouts in the United States...the Green Melbrium House, General Sherman's headquarters in Savannah. Stop for a light lunch or dessert at the Scad Gryphon Tea Room, which was once Solomon's Drug Store. Scad saved the original counter among other memorabilia, so it has some charm. Continue your walk and the next square has a great example of twin town houses with great iron work and across the street is the Mercer House...such history within those walls. Forsyth Park is next with its lovely fountain...sit and enjoy life, before walking over to Abercorn Street and heading back north to Bay Street. You can stop at Clary's for a cool refreshment and then stop in The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. The Stations of the Cross are hand carved wood from Germany and the stained glass windows are Austrian. Walk on toward Bay Street, the Colonial Cemetery is on your right. Button Gwinnett, one of Georgia's signers of the Declaration of Independence is buried here. The historic Lucas Theatre is a few blocks up and if you are fortunate, there may be something of interest in the evening. When you reach Bay Street, you have completed your walk through a fine example of Savannah and some of her history. If walking is not your thing there are also carriages to allow you to see the same sites. Ya'll come to visit as you are most welcome anytime."

Harriette