



# Stars \* of the \* South

Whether your mood is urban diversions or a stunning natural retreat, head south for an inspired getaway this fall. Savor the charms of one of the South's most seductive cities, and a premier nature-meets-luxury resort. ➔

# ABOVE & BEYOND AT BILTMORE

*Pack your spirit of adventure and celebrate the blaze of fall foliage in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina at the sprawling 8,000-acre Biltmore Estate.*



**ON A CRISP FALL AFTERNOON,** Biltmore has an inviting, autumnal glow. Here, George Vanderbilt's 1895 French-inspired chateau has become a timeless beauty. Lush mountains ring the estate, showcasing the elegant design of legendary architect Richard Morris Hunt and the famed grounds and gardens of Frederick Law Olmsted.

#### ★ HAUTE FARM-TO-TABLE

Check in to four-star, four-diamond luxury at the Inn on Biltmore Estate, where the gracious hospitality will have you feeling like a Vanderbilt. Dinner is pure elegance at The Dining Room, with its menu of regional cuisine featuring estate-raised beef and lamb, and vegetables from the kitchen gardens.

#### ★ A NEW SPIN ON FALL FOLIAGE

Head to the Bike Barn for a trail pass and explore miles of trails, ranging from easy to difficult. Biltmore also boasts an Orvis-endorsed fly-fishing school; a Land Rover Experience Driving School for off-road exploring; and even guided Segway Tours. Then indulge in decadent pampering at The Spa at the Inn on Biltmore Estate, with its full menu of body wraps, massages, aromatherapy, and more. Or just sit back and enjoy a peaceful guided float down the French Broad River, revealing riverbank wildlife, estate views, and brilliantly colored woodlands.

#### ★ HEIGHT OF LUXURY

Before you return to reality, top off your visit with the ultimate experience of the natural wonders of autumn at Biltmore, as well as an insider's view of Biltmore House's original collection of art and antiques. Book the Architect's Tour for an exclusive guided look at the house, including a trip right up to the roof. The sweeping panoramic views define sheer luxury, as you linger on the upper Observatory's balcony and parapet, keeping company with the ancient, decorative gargoyles.



TO PLAN YOUR TRIP TO THIS SOUTHERN JEWEL, VISIT [BILTMORE.COM](http://BILTMORE.COM) OR CALL **866.336.1241**.

# FALL FOR SAVANNAH

*Stretch out on a vast veranda, sip a mint julep, and let Savannah embrace you with its antebellum charm. Wander the fabled Bonaventure Cemetery with its beautiful obelisks and ornately carved crypts. Then celebrate the living by dining on fresh seafood and creamy grits.*



**THE OLDEST CITY IN GEORGIA**, with period architecture and oak-lined streets, Savannah is packed this autumn with sophisticated ways to revel in festivals, films, picnics, and all things artsy and elegant.

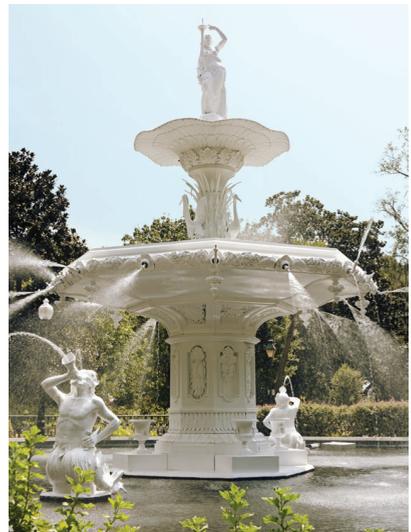
★ **UNDISCOVERED TREASURES: FIRST FRIDAY ART MARCH**

Catch the indie art buzz in Savannah on the first Friday of every month. In October, the prestigious Non-Fiction Gallery and Fresh Exhibitions will open their doors. Also, explore The Starland District, where local artists recently caught national attention for their high-quality handmade goods.



★ **UNIQUELY SAVANNAH: PICNIC IN THE PARK, OCT. 5**

A picnic with chandeliers dangling from the trees? This uniquely Savannah-quirky contest in Forsyth Park encourages guests to bring their creative best along with their elegant food baskets. Design your spread with a twist of inspiration from a movie, book, song, or anything whimsical—and dine accompanied by music from the Savannah Philharmonic.



★ **STAR SIGHTINGS: SAVANNAH FILM FESTIVAL, OCT. 25–NOV. 1**

The whole city comes out for the Savannah College of Art and Design's illustrious week of screenings of unreleased and recently released films, as well as dozens of talks and panels with the pros. Celebrity watching is also considered fair game.

★ **CULINARY ADVENTURES: SAVANNAH FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL, NOV. 10–16**

Indulge in extravagant wine dinners and tastings, sample rare wines, and view cooking demos from local and award-winning celebrity chefs. Enjoy historic scenery at the Taste of Savannah, where a culinary village will showcase hundreds of wine and spirits exhibitors, food booths, and more.

TO LEARN MORE AND PLAN YOUR GETAWAY TO GEORGIA'S CHARM-FILLED COASTAL CITY, GO TO [VISITSAVANNAH.COM](http://VISITSAVANNAH.COM).

# SOUTHERN

## \* Foodie Finds \*

*Take a mini food tour of the South to discover sublime regional flavors—and a few hot trends in Southern cooking.*

★ **IN NEW ORLEANS, TRY FRIED RABBIT LIVER WITH PEPPER JELLY.**

The exotic cousin of fried chicken liver is fried rabbit liver, which many epicures say is even more delicious than the poultry version. In New Orleans you can order either one, but the constant is the pepper jelly—sweet, spicy, and pleasantly gooey. Shaved raw onions and torn parsley also hold their own, along with that trencher of toasted bread on which this marvel of Southern elegance rests.

★ **IN CHARLESTON, DIG INTO LOCAL OYSTERS.**

Rare breeds of tiny oysters, culled straight from the inter-coastal waterways, are delicacies of choice at Charleston's seafood shacks and restaurants alike. Some like their oysters fried, but for a true taste of the sea—salty and sweet—try them steamed. You'll have to shuck them yourself, but it's worth it for the fresh, delectable results.

★ **IN LOUISVILLE, SIP THE ULTIMATE MINT JULEP.**

The classic Southern cocktail is made with four ingredients: mint leaf, bourbon, sugar, and water. Many crush the mint and sugar together (referred to as muddling), while others insist that the mint should be smelled, not tasted. The expert knows to always pre-chill julep cups or glass tumblers before filling with crushed ice.

