IOR *global services*
ADVANCING GLOBAL TALENT

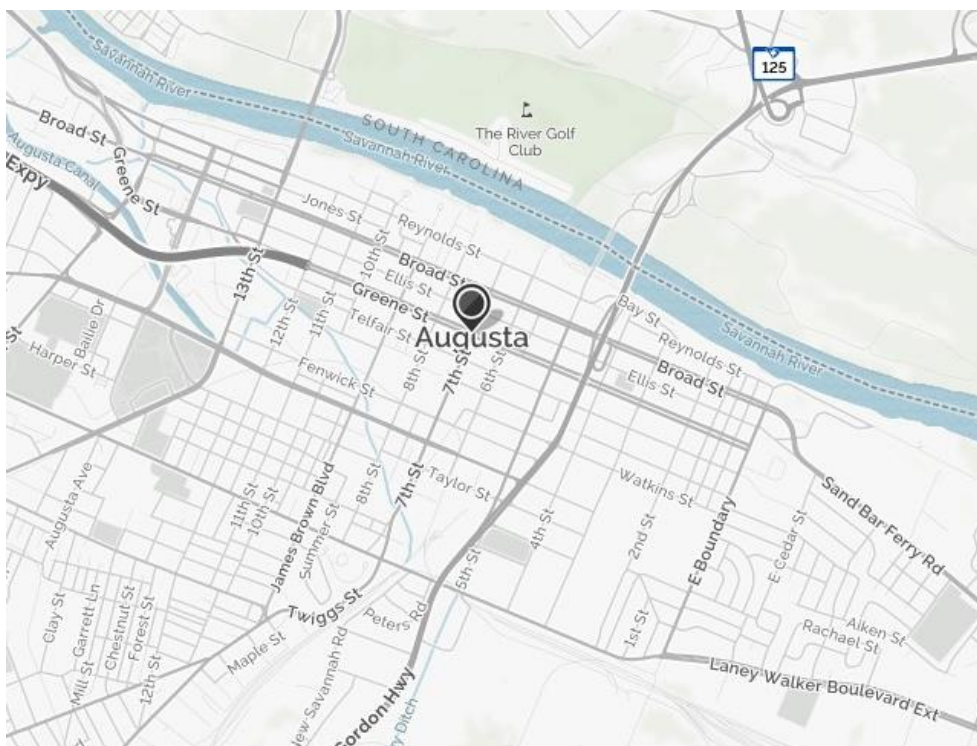## AUGUSTA, GA AREA INFORMATION

Established in 1736, Augusta is Georgia's second oldest and second largest city after Atlanta. Augusta was founded during the British colonial period as a trading outpost. Great for trade, Augusta sits on the South Carolina border which is separated by the Savannah River. It is home to about 200,000 people (500,000 people within the Trade Region) and is a center for medicine, manufacturing, military and golf as it holds the famous annual Masters of Golf Tournament. Augusta is also home to one of the most influential musicians in modern history, the "Godfather of Soul" James Brown. Like his music, it seems that Augusta beats and pulses with a vitality that continues to push the city towards progress.

Transportation

By Car
It is easy to drive and park around Augusta. Whether you drive yourself or let someone else take the wheel via Uber or Lyft, all of Augusta's attractions are accessible by car. Staying up to date with Augusta Traffic News will definitely be helpful if you choose to explore this city by car.

By Bike

It is absolutely worth it to have a bike in Augusta as there are numerous trails in and around the city. In half an hour you could be biking from your favorite pizza restaurant and end up in beautifully wooded trails to work off your well-deserved lunch. Some trails, like F.A.T.S (a world class bike trail), are designated for mountain biking if you're looking for an adrenaline filled workout. Enjoying the southern heat is best by bike in this city.

Courtesy of https://www.visitaugusta.com

By Air

Augusta Regional Airport at Bush Field is a regional airport within Augusta's city boundaries offering direct Delta and US Airways flights to Atlanta, Washington and Charlotte. The closest major airport, Columbia Metropolitan Airport is 60 miles away. This airport serves four major airlines (Delta, US Airways, United and American Eagle) with direct flights available to cities across the US.

By Bus

Augusta Public Transit provides great transportation throughout Richmond County. There are 9 fixed bus routes and the Richmond Rural Transit service.

By Train

Nearby Amtrak stops will allow you to visit other nearby cities with ease.

Schools

Generally, to register your child for school you will need to have a passport and/or birth certificate, proof of immunizations, any applicable past school records and proof of residency. Most public schools have boundary areas, and you must show proof (i.e. copy of lease or home purchase agreement) to be allowed to register in that particular school. Please always confirm requirements with the school you are interested in before assuming that your child will be able to attend that school.

Grade level in the public school system is determined by the age of the child. Typically, the child must be 5 years old by September 1st to enter kindergarten. School districts may be very strict about the age requirement, but inquire with the school district you are interested in to determine if there are any exemptions for foreign students who are ahead in grade level. You may also want to ask about any gifted or advanced programs as well as their English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. Some elementary schools also offer a pre-Kindergarten program for children who miss the September 1st requirement. You may inquire at the school districts for availability.

Contact your IOR Destination Services Consultant for more assistance with schooling questions.

Public, Private, and Preschools

While small, Augusta has quite a number or schools in their public and private school system. Augusta also has several magnet schools that focus on the fine arts, technical schooling, health science and engineering. It is important that you do some research prior to choosing a school because school ratings differ greatly.

- A complete listing of public schools in Augusta can be viewed here.
- A complete listing of private schools in the Augusta area can be viewed here. Nearly all the private schools in Augusta are religiously affiliated. However, Augusta Preparatory Day School is not. The Academy of Richmond County High School is an IB high school located in Augusta.
- A directory of preschools and daycares in the Augusta area can be viewed here.

Additional Resources

- www.greatschools.org
- www.eschoolprofile.com
- www.schooltree.org

Colleges/Universities

- Augusta University – Houses many different fields of study including nursing, medicine, dentistry and cyber science.

Recreation

Listed below are a few of the attractions offered in Augusta. A more complete listing of attractions in Augusta can be found here.

- Augusta Outdoor Market
- Augusta Attractions
- Augusta Museum of History
- Woodrow Wilsons Childhood Home
- Parks in Augusta
- Music and Nightlife
- Dining in Augusta

Courtesy of https://www.albany.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/

Obtaining a Driver's License
In the US, a driver's license or ID card is issued by each individual state and not by the federal government. Since there is no national identity card in the USA, and many Americans don't have a passport or carry around a birth certificate, a driver's license issued by your state is often the only official piece of identification for many citizens. Since 9/11, you will need to show a valid driver's license or State ID card to enter many big office buildings.

If you have an out-of-state or out-of-country license, you may use it for as long as you maintain your residency in the state where it was issued. If you are moving permanently to Georgia, you may use your out-of-state license for only your first 30 days. To change to a Georgia license, you will need to pass a vision test, surrender your out-of-state license, bring proof of identity, and pay necessary fees to your local DMV facility.

For general information and instructions on how to obtain an official state ID card or driver's license, visit the Georgia Department of Driver Services

Your Destination Services Consultant will also assist you with the proper procedure.