# IOR global services
### ADVANCING GLOBAL TALENT



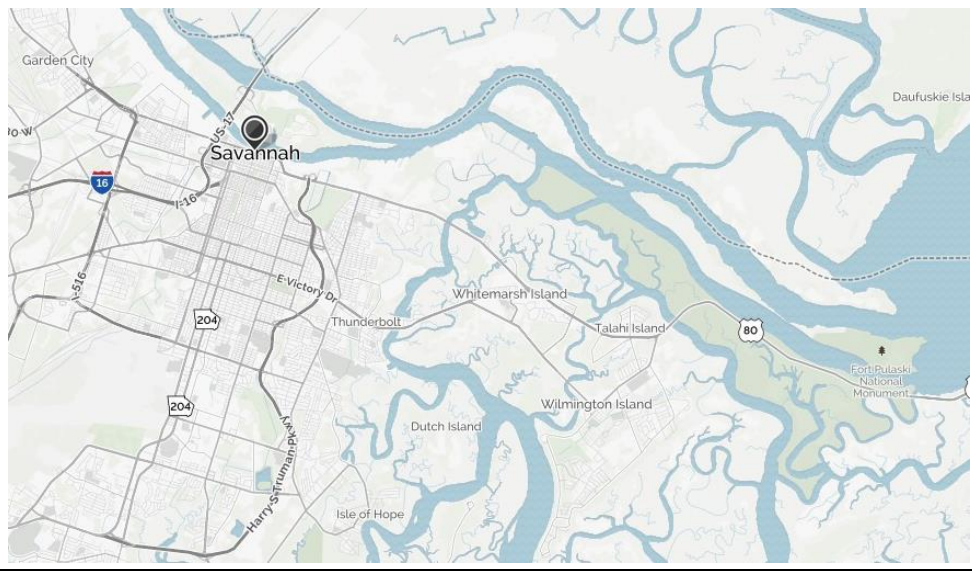## SAVANNAH, GA AREA INFORMATION

As the oldest city in Georgia, Savannah is known for beautiful cobblestone streets, museums, classic southern parks and historic buildings. Savannah is home to nearly 150,000 people. The downtown area has the Savannah historic district, the Victorian historic district, many national landmarks and 22 parklike squares.  Savannah earned its name because of its geographical location on the Savannah River, upriver about 20 miles, or 32 kilometers, from the Atlantic Ocean. Savannah is the primary port on the river and is the largest port in the state of Georgia. The port has allowed Savannah to continue innovation in their city making it better and more modern as the years go on. In addition to the port, Savannah has been a hub for technological innovation. Art lovers are also in high numbers in this city. Known for its southern charm, rich history, and proximity to the ocean, Savannah is a gorgeous place to live where you'll always be surrounded by southern hospitality and wonderful weather.

## Transportation

**By Car**
While all attractions are accessible by car, Savannah can suffer from heavy road congestion especially during peak tourism seasons. There are 5 publicly owned parking lots in downtown savannah and several privately-owned garages and lots. Metered street parking is also available, but spots tend to fill fast. If you used one of the parking garages in the historic district you are able to take a free shuttle to get downtown.  Uber or Lyft  services are available in the city as well.

**By Bike**

Savannah has wonderful [biking](#) with over 30 bike corridors for all bike enthusiasts, with year-round warm weather and fairly flat geography. The city has listed maps for [downtown biking](#) so you can bike to your favorite coffee shop or commute to work and enjoy the nice weather and beautiful trails.

**By Air**

The closest airport is the [Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport](#) which is 12 miles northwest of the downtown historic district. Other airports nearby are the [Brunswick Golden Isles](#) airport a little over 60 miles away and the [Yeager Airport](#) in West Virginia which is 85 miles away.

**By Bus**

Savannah runs on two public transportation systems. The fare-free [Downtown Transportation (DOT)](#) system and [the Chatham Area Transit (CAT)](#) bus services. The fare-free DOT has shuttle buses and ferries that provide transportation around the Historic District and to city parking garages making it great for commuters and visitors alike. The CAT takes you in and around the city, and to a few suburbs.

**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**

- A complete listing of public schools in Savannah can be viewed here. Savannah has 5 charter schools.
- A complete listing of private schools in the Savannah area can be viewed here. There are five international schools in Savannah.
- A directory of preschools and daycare in the Savannah area can be viewed here.

**Additional Resources**

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

**Colleges/Universities**

- Georgia Southern University-Armstrong Campus
- Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)
- Savannah State University
- South University
- Georgia Tech Savannah offers certificate programs

## Recreation

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

- Tours in Savannah
- Arts and Culture
- Tybee Island – Savannah's beach destination!
- Outdoor Recreation
- Historic District
- Georgia Islands
- Food and Drink



*Tybee Island*

**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.**