

THE BEST OF SAVANNAH FOR TOURISTS

Each year, thousands of *Savannah* magazine readers vote on the top local dining, shopping, activities and tourist attractions. Read here for an unbiased report of what savvy locals consider to be the city's choice offerings.*



Compiled by **Anne Guidera** with
quotes by **Amy Paige Condon**

* Based on results of our 10th annual Best of Savannah reader poll

KEVIN BANKER

BEST of SAV



KEVIN BANKER



KEVIN BANKER

Where to Go

Experience the Hostess City's historic charm.

BEST TOUR COMPANIES

- 1. Old Savannah Tours**
234-8128, 250 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., www.oldsavannahtours.com
- 2. Savannah Fun Tours**
667-9760, www.savannahfuntours.com
- 3. Old Town Trolley**
234 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 233-0083, www.trolleytours.com/savannah
- 4. Oglethorpe Trolley Tours**
215 W. Boundary St., 233-8380, www.oglethorpetours.com
- 5. Kelly Tours**
2788 U.S. Highway 80 W., Garden City, 964-2010, www.kellytours.com
- 6. Savannah Movie Tours**
234-3440, www.savannahmovietours.net
- 7. Gray Line**
215 W. Boundary St., 866-374-8687, www.grayline.com
- 8. Cobblestone Tours Inc.**
512 E. Oglethorpe Ave., 604-3007, www.ghostsavannah.com
- 9. Carriage Tours of Savannah**
Jefferson and W. St. Julian streets, 236-6756, www.carriage toursofsavannah.com
- 10. Foody Tour (tie)**
234-3440, www.savannahmovietours.net
& Savannah River Boat Cruise Company (tie)
9 E. River St., 232-6404, www.savannahriverboat.com

BEST DAY TRIPS

- 1. Tybee Island**
786-5444, www.tybeevisit.com
- 2. Charleston, S.C.**
843-853-8000, www.charlestoncvb.com
- 3. Hilton Head Island, S.C.**
800-523-3373, www.hiltonheadisland.org
- 4. Beaufort, S.C.**
800-638-3525, www.beaufortsc.org
- 5. Jekyll Island**
1-877-4-Jekyll, www.jekyllisland.com
- 6. Daufuskie Island, S.C.**
Located off the southern tip of Beaufort County, S.C. Accessible by ferry. www.sciway.net/city/daufuskieisland. For ferry information, www.daufuskiefreeport.com
- 7. St. Simons Island (tie) & Fort Pulaski (tie)**
912-265-0620, www.comecoastawhile.com
Highway 80 E., approximately 15 miles east of Savannah, 786-5787, www.nps.gov/fopu
- 8. Cumberland Island**
Interstate 95 to exit 3, then Highway 40 E. to St. Marys waterfront, then take ferry (reservations required). 912-882-4336, ext. 254, www.nps.gov/cuis
- 9. Oatland Island Wildlife Center of Savannah**
711 Sandtown Road, 898-3980, www.oatlandisland.org



BEST INNS/B&Bs

- 1. The Presidents' Quarters Inn**
225 E. President St., 233-1600, www.presidentsquarters.com
- 2. The Ballastone Inn**
14 E. Oglethorpe Ave., 236-1484, www.ballastone.com
- 3. The Planters Inn**
29 Abercorn St., 232-5678, www.plantersinnsavannah.com
- 4. The Gastonian**
220 E. Gaston St., 232-2869, www.gastonian.com
- 5. Mansion on Forsyth Park**
700 Drayton St., 238-5158, www.mansiononforythpark.com
- 6. Foley House Inn**
14 W. Hull St., 232-6622, www.foleyinn.com
- 7. The Marshall House**
123 E. Broughton St., 644-7896, www.marshallhouse.com
- 8. The Kehoe House**
123 Habersham St., 232-1020, www.kehoehouse.com
- 9. The Mulberry Inn**
601 E. Bay St., 238-1200, www.savannahotel.com
- 10. 109 West**
109 W. Liberty St., 232-6633

BEST ANTIQUE STORES

- 1. Jere's Antiques**
9 N. Jefferson St., 236-2815, www.jeresantiques.com
- 2. Habersham Antique & Collectibles Market**
2502 Habersham St., 238-5908
- 3. 37th@Abercorn Antiques & Design**
201 E. 37th St., 233-0064, www.37aad.com
- 4. Pinch of the Past Architectural Antiques (tie)**
2603 Whitaker St., 232-5563, www.pinchofthepast.com
& Alex Raskin Antiques (tie)
441 Bull St., 232-8205
- 5. Corner Door**
417 Whitaker St., 238-5869
- 6. Universe Trading Co.**
27 Montgomery St., 233-1585, www.universetradingcompany.com
- 7. Arthur Smith Antiques (tie) & Bull Street Auctions (tie)**
402 Bull St., 236-9701, www.arthursmithantiques.com
2819 Bull St., 443-9353, www.bullstreetauctions.com
- 8. J. D. Weed & Co. Antiques**
102 W. Victory Dr., 234-8540, www.jdweedco.com

“My favorite thing to do with my family is to come down to the Historic District on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, walk around the squares, explore little shops and restaurants and find a new place.”

— Joe Marinelli, president, Visit Savannah

BEST of SAV



JOSIAH PARIS



ANGELA HOPPER

What to Do

Activities abound in this breezy city by the sea.

BEST GOLF COURSES

- 1. The Club at Savannah Harbor**
2 Resort Drive on Hutchinson Island. 201-2240, www.theclubatsavannahharbor.com
- 2. Savannah Golf Club**
A private club. 1661 E. President St., 232-2156 www.thesavannahgolfclub.com
- 3. Bacon Park Golf Course**
1 Shorty Cooper Drive, 354-2625, www.baconparkgolf.com
- 4. Wilmington Island Golf Course**
501 Wilmington Island Road, 897-1612, www.wilmingtonislandclub.com
- 5. Crosswinds Golf Club**
232 James B. Blackburn Drive, 966-0674, www.crosswindsgolfclub.com
- 6. The Landings golf courses**
A private club. 71 Green Island Road, 598-8050, www.landingsclub.com
- 7. Southbridge Golf Club**
415 Southbridge Blvd., 651-5455, www.southbridgegolfclub.com
- 8. Savannah Quarters**
A private club. 8 Palladian Way, 450-2280, www.savannahquarterscc.com
- 9. Henderson Golf Club**
1 Al Henderson Drive, 920-4653, www.hendersongolfclub.com
- 10. The Ford Plantation**
A private club. 12511 Ford Ave., Richmond Hill. 912-756-5666. www.fordplantation.com

BEST MUSEUMS

- 1. Jepson Center for the Arts/ Telfair Academy**
On Telfair Square, Barnard and York streets. Telfair Academy, 790-8871. Jepson Center, 790-8802. www.telfair.org
- 2. Owens-Thomas House**
124 Abercorn St., 790-8889, www.telfair.org
- 3. Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum**
175 Bourne Ave., Pooler. 748-8888, www.mightyeighth.org
- 4. Davenport House Museum**
324 E. State St., 236-8097, www.davenporthousemuseum.org
- 5. Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum**
460 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 231-8900, www.savcivilrights.com
- 6. Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace**
10 E. Oglethorpe Ave., 233-4501, www.juliettegordonlowbirthplace.org
- 7. Georgia State Railroad Museum (formerly the Roundhouse Railroad Museum)**
Louisville Road, off Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 651-6823, www.chsgeorgia.org
- 8. Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum**
41 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 232-1511, www.shipsofthesea.org
- 9. Tybee Museum**
Fort Screven area on Tybee Island, 786-5801, www.tybeelighthouse.org

- 10. Fort Pulaski**
Highway 80 E., approximately 15 miles east of Savannah, 786-5787, www.nps.gov/fopu

BEST KIDS' ACTIVITIES

- 1. Beach at Tybee Island**
Highway 80 E., 786-5444, www.tybeevisit.com
- 2. Oatland Island Wildlife Center**
711 Sandtown Road, 898-3980, www.oatlandisland.org
- 3. Forsyth Park**
Between Gaston Street and Park Avenue, Drayton and Whitaker streets. www.savannahvisit.com/experiences/squares
- 4. Monkey Joe's**
311 Eisenhower Drive, 349-2528, www.monkeyjoes.com/savannah
- 5. Fort Pulaski**
Highway 80 E., approximately 15 miles east of Savannah, 786-5787, www.nps.gov/fopu



- 6. Ellis Square Fountain**
Barnard, Congress and Bryan streets, next to City Market www.savannahvisit.com/experiences/squares
- 7. The Flying Frogs**
1100 Eisenhower Drive, 356-0075, www.theflyingfrogs.com
- 8. Skidaway Island**
Skidaway Island State Park: Diamond Causeway to State Park Road, 598-2300, www.gastateparks.org/SkidawayIsland
The University of Georgia's Marine Education Center and Aquarium: 30 Ocean Science Circle, 598-2496, www.marex.uga.edu/aquarium
- 9. Splash in the Boro Family Waterpark and Aquatic Center**
1388 Highway 24 E., Statesboro, 912-489-3000, www.splashintheboro.com
- 10. Family Fun Park**
1040 E. Highway 80, Pooler, 330-9860



“I have an almost 3-year-old, so I pick things that excite her like the Roundhouse Railroad Museum, a Savannah Sand Gnats game, Oatland Island, the Telfair's ArtZeum, the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum and Forsyth Park.”

— Marti Barrow, executive director, Savannah Area Tourism Leadership Council

BEST of SAV



ANGELA HOPPER



KEVIN BANKER

Great Taste

Sample some signature Savannah flavors.

BEST OUTDOOR DINING

- Bonna Bella Yacht Club**
2740 Livingston Ave., 352-3133, www.bonnabellayachtclub.com
- Cha Bella**
102 East Broad St., 790-7888, www.cha-bella.com
- Crab Shack**
40 Estill Hammock Road, Tybee Island, 786-9857, www.thecrabshack.com
- Tubby's Tank House**
115 E. River St., 233-0770, and 2909 River Drive, Thunderbolt, 354-5903
- Vinnie Van Go-Go's**
317 W. Bryan St., 233-6394, www.vinnievangogo.com
- AJ's Dockside Restaurant**
1315 Chatham Ave., Tybee Island, 786-9533, www.ajsdockside.com
- Sol**
1611 Habersham St., 232-1874
- Firefly Café**
321 Habersham St., 234-1971, www.fireflycafega.com
- Belford's**
315 W. St. Julian St., 233-2626, www.belfordssavannah.com
- Blowin' Smoke BBQ**
514 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 231-2385, www.blowin smokebbq.com

BEST SEAFOOD

- Crab Shack**
40 Estill Hammock Road, Tybee Island, 786-9857, www.thecrabshack.com
- Pearl's Saltwater Grille**
7000 LaRoche Ave., 352-8221
- Tubby's Tank House**
115 E. River St., 233-0770, and 2909 River Drive, Thunderbolt, 354-5903
- Love's Seafood**
6817 Chief of Love St. (U.S. Highway 17 S. at King's Ferry), 925-3616
- AJ's Dockside Restaurant**
1315 Chatham Ave., Tybee Island, 786-9533, www.ajsdockside.com
- Vic's on the River**
26 E. Bay St., 721-1000, www.vicsontheliver.com
- The Oyster Bar**
411 E. River St., 232-1565 and 44 Johnny Mercer Blvd., 898-8622
- The Shell House Restaurant**
8 Gateway Blvd W., 927-3280
- Russo's Seafood Restaurant**
209 E. 40 St., 341-8848, www.russoseafood.com
- Uncle Bubba's Oyster House**
104 Bryan Woods Road, 897-6101, www.unclebubbas.com



BEST FRIED CHICKEN

- Mrs. Wilkes' Dining Room**
107 W. Jones St., 232-5997, www.mrswilkes.com
- The Lady & Sons**
102 W. Congress St., 233-2600, www.ladyandsons.com
- Johnny Harris**
1651 E. Victory Drive, 354-7810, www.johnnyharris.com
- Sweet Potatoes**
6825 Waters Ave., 352-3434, www.toucancafe.com/sweetP.html
- Carey Hilliard's**
Several locations in Savannah and one in Statesboro, www.careyhiliards.com
- Spanky's**
308 Mall Way, 355-3383; 317 E. River St.; 236-3009; 1605 Strand (Tybee Island), 786-5520
- The Pirates' House**
20 East Broad St. 233-5757, www.thepirateshouse.com
- Barnes**
5320 Waters Ave., 354-8745
- Savannah Fried Chicken (tie) & Savannah Golf Club (tie)**
2108 Bona Bella Ave., 352-2205. A private club, 1661 E. President St., 232-2156, www.thesavannahgolfclub.com.

BEST FINE DINING

- The Olde Pink House (tie) & Elizabeth on 37th (tie)**
23 Abercorn St., 232-4286, www.elizabethon37th.net
- Garibaldi Cafe**
315 W. Congress St., 232-7118, www.garibaldisavannah.com
- Ele Fine Fusion**
7815 Highway 80 E., 898-2221, www.elerestaurant.com
- Vic's on the River**
26 E. Bay St., 721-1000, www.vicsontheliver.com
- Local 11 Ten**
1110 Bull St., 790-9000, www.local11ten.com
- Cha Bella**
102 East Broad St., 790-7888, www.cha-bella.com
- Alligator Soul**
114 Barnard St., 232-7899, www.alligatorsoul.com
- Sapphire Grill**
110 W. Congress St., 443-9962, www.sapphiregrill.com
- 45 Bistro**
123 E. Broughton St., 234-3111, www.marshallhouse.com/dining



“Oyster roasts are the perfect example of what Savannah is like. People stand around, drink beer, eat great seafood, socialize and experience something together.”

— Cayce Girardeau, owner, Savannah Fun Tours

BEST of SAV



KEVIN BANKER



KEVIN BANKER

Social Time

Pick up a “to-go” cup at these local hangouts.

BEST COCKTAILS

- Jazz'd Tapas Bar**
52 Barnard St., 236-7777, www.jazzdsavannah.com
- Rocks on the Roof**
102 W. Bay St., 721-3901, www.bohemianhotelsavannah.com
- Jen's & Friends**
34 Bull St., 238-5367
- Lulu's Chocolate Bar**
42 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 238-2012, www.luluschocolatebar.net
- Bar Food**
4523 Habersham St., 355-5956, www.barfoodsavannah.com
- Saya Lounge**
109 W. Broughton St., 236-7272, www.sayalounge.com
- The Olde Pink House** (tie)
23 Abercorn St., 232-4286
& **Crystal Beer Parlor** (tie)
301 W. Jones St., 349-1000, www.crystalbeerparlor.com
& **Circa 1875 Gastro Pub** (tie)
48 Whitaker St., 443-1875, www.circa1875.com
- Seed Eco Lounge**
39 Montgomery St., 349-5100

BEST LIVE MUSIC

- Live Wire Music Hall**
307 W. River St., 233-1192, www.livewiremusicall.com
- Jazz'd Tapas Bar**
52 Barnard St., 236-7777, www.jazzdsavannah.com
- Mercury Lounge**
125 W. Congress St., 447-6952
- City Market**
Four-block area at Barnard, Bryan, Congress, Jefferson and Montgomery streets. 232-4903, www.savannahcitymarket.com
- The Jinx**
127 W. Congress St., 236-2281
- Savannah Smiles Dueling Pianos Saloon**
314 Williamson St., 527-6453
- Tubby's Tank House**
115 E. River St., 233-0770, and 2909 River Drive, Thunderbolt, 354-5903
- Tantra Lounge**
8 E. Broughton St., 231-0888
- Locos Grill & Pub**
301 W. Broughton St., 236-8711 & Statesboro, www.locosgrill.com
- Driftaway Café**
7400 Skidaway Road, 303-0999

BEST PUBS

- Churchill's Pub & Restaurant**
13 W. Bay St., 232-8501, www.thebritishpub.com
- Six Pence Pub**
245 Bull St., 233-3151, www.sixpencepub.com
- Molly MacPherson's Scottish Pub & Grill**
311 W. Congress St., 239-9600, www.macphersonspub.com
- Kevin Barry's Irish Pub**
117 W. River St., 233-9626, www.kevinbarrys.com
- The Rail Pub**
405 W. Congress St., 238-1311, www.therailpub.com
- McDonough's Restaurant and Lounge**
21 E. McDonough St., 233-6136, www.mcdonoughsofsavannah.com
- Circa 1875 Gastro Pub**
48 Whitaker St., 443-1875, www.circa1875.com
- The Distillery**
416 W. Liberty St., 236-1772, www.distillersavannah.com
- Murphy's Law Irish Pub**
409 W. Congress St., 443-0855, www.irishpubsavannah.com
- Moon River Brewing Company**
21 W. Bay St., 447-0943, www.moonriverbrewing.com



BEST LATE NIGHT SPOTS

- Sweet Melissa's** (tie)
103 W. Congress St., 341-0093
& **Saya Lounge** (tie)
109 W. Broughton St., 236-7272, www.sayalounge.com
- Rocks on the River Modern Grill**
102 W. Bay St., 721-3900, www.bohemianhotelsavannah.com
- Jazz'd Tapas Bar**
52 Barnard St., 236-7777, www.jazzdsavannah.com
- McDonough's Restaurant and Lounge**
21 E. McDonough St., 233-6136, www.mcdonoughsofsavannah.com
- Pinkie Master's Lounge**
318 Drayton St., 238-0447
- Savannah Smiles Dueling Pianos Saloon**
314 Williamson St., 527-6453
- Firefly Café**
321 Habersham St., 234-1971, www.fireflycafega.com
- Hang Fire Bar** (tie)
37 Whitaker St., 443-9956
& **Circa 1875 Gastro Pub** (tie)
48 Whitaker St., 443-1875, www.circa1875.com ■

“Savannah is the first planned city in the country. Not only can you walk places — it's nice to walk places. The squares are unique. That's why we're considered a 'European' city.”

— Patrick Godley, owner, 17 Hundred 90 Inn