Unique By Nature

- See Mother Nature in full bloom at Metter's Guido Gardens
- Enjoy fishing at its finest on the banks of the Altamaha River in Baxley
- Eat produce fresh from the farm at the Market on Madison in downtown Dublin
- Taste muscadine wine straight from the vine at Statesboro's Meinhardt Vineyards and Winery.
- Go hunting at Bullard Creek Wildlife Management Area in Hazlehurst
- Take the kids berry picking at Eastman's Tom Sawyer Farm
- Stand in awe of the natural wonder of Coffee County's Broxton Rocks

Magnolia Midlands Travel Association
www.magnoliamidlands.org
Georgia
ExploreGeorgia.org
www.magnoliamidlands.org
Discover the backroads of Georgia, a vast fertile plain of uncrowded highways taking travelers to small Southern towns at a slow and simple pace. Known as the Magnolia Midlands. This region encompasses 23 of Georgia’s most beautiful and inviting counties. Here you will find rich agricultural heritage, beautiful rivers and lakes, abundant wildlife, shopping and small town festivals. The picturesque beauty of the region is embodied in parks, places and palaces. From golf courses to boat marinas, the midlands is sure to have an attraction just for you!

Spend a day or longer in the Magnolia Midlands where life is Back to Basics.
February
Douglas Annual Camellia Showcase – Douglas
1st weekend in February. Go to www.cityofdouglas.com or call (912) 383-8567 to learn more.

March
St. Patrick’s Festival – Dublin
Events during entire month of March – main event falls weekend after St. Patrick’s Day. For full schedule of events go to www.saintpatricksfestival.com.

Georgia Great Steak Cook-Off – Hazlehurst
1st Saturday in March. Call (912) 577-9263.

Peaches to Beaches Annual Yard Sale – Bainbridge, Eastman, Hawkinsville, Hazlehurst, Helena, Jesup, Lumberton, Mchale
2nd weekend in March. For more information go to www.peachesatthebeaches.com or call (912) 367-7733.

Claxton Rattlesnake Roundup – Claxton
2nd weekend in March. Call (912) 739-3820 or visit www.claxtonrattlesnakeroundup.com

Southern Pride Ag Ride – Jesup
3rd weekend in March. Call (912) 427-3233 for more information or go to www.waynetourism.com.

Battle at Manassas Reenactment – Tattnall County
3rd weekend in March. Visit www.battleatmanassas.com or call (912) 557-6649.

April
Scriven County Livestock Festival – Sylvania and Screven County
1st full week in April. Call (912) 564-7878 or visit www.screvencounty.com for information about the week’s schedule of events.

Another Bloomin’ Festival – Metter
2nd Saturday in April. Check out www.metter-candler.com to learn more.

Tree Fest – Bainbridge
3rd weekend in April. Call (912) 367-7731 or visit www.baxley.org to find out more.

Hawkinsville Harness Festival – Hawkinsville
3rd weekend in April. Go to www.hawkinsvillechamber.org or call (478) 783-1717 to learn more.

Celebration South – Statesboro
3rd Saturday in April. Call (912) 489-1869 or go to www.visitsstatesboro.com for details.

May
Farm City Day – Hazlehurst
1st Friday in May.

Wayne County Catfish Tournament – Jesup
1st weekend in May. Call (912) 427-3233 or check out www.waynetourism.com

Glennville Sweet Onion Festival – Glennville
2nd Saturday in May. Call (912) 634-2315 or go to www.glennvillesweetonion.com

Dodge Co. Sportsman Jr. Fishing Rodeo – Eastman
Memorial Day. Call (478) 374-6765 for details.

June
Georgia Blueberry Festival – Alma
1st weekend in June. Call (912) 632-5859 or go to www.georgiablueberryfestival.org for more information.

Altamaha River Rat Run – Bainbridge
1st Saturday in June. Go to www.baxley.org to find out more.

July
Alamo Annual 4th of July Celebration – Alamo
July 4th.

Independence Day Celebration – Eastman
July 4th. Call (478) 374-4723.

August
Brooklet Peanut Festival – Statesboro
3rd Saturday in August. Call (912) 842-2137 or visit www.brookletcda.org for details.

September
Annual Labor Day Duck Race – Glennville

Annual Lumber City Farm Day Festival – Lumberton
Friday-Sunday after Labor Day. Call (229) 868-6365 for more information.

Sylvania Sampler – Sylvania
3rd Saturday in September. Go to www.screvencounty.com or call (912) 564-7878 to learn more.

Possum Hollow Arts & Crafts Fair – Dexter
Last Saturday in September. Go to www.possumhollowfair.com for details.

Wiregrass Festival and Parade – Tattnall County
Last weekend in September. Call (912) 557-6323 or (912) 288-1132 or go to www.wiregrassfestival.com to learn more.

October
Guyssie Mule Roundup – Alma
1st weekend in October. Call (912) 632-5570 or go to www.alamachamberdevelopment.com for more information.

Pondtown Festival – Rhine
3rd Saturday in October. Call (912) 385-5521 to find out more.

Jesup Arch Fest – Jesup
4th weekend in October. Go to www.waynetourism.com or call (912) 427-3233.

Georgia Sweet Potato Festival – Ocilla
Last Saturday in October. Call (229) 468-9114 or go to www.occilachamber.net to find out more.

November
National BBQ Festival – Douglas
1st weekend in November. Call (912) 384-2276 or visit www.nationalbbqfestival.com to find out more.

Cruisin’ in the Country Bike Ride – Claxton
2nd Weekend in November. Call (912) 739-1391 or go to www.claxtoncharitybike.com for details.

Dublin Service League’s Annual Antique Fair & Tea Room – Dublin
2nd week in November. Go to www.dublincharityleague.org.

Downtown Holiday Open House – Douglas
Sunday before Thanksgiving. Call (912) 384-5166 or visit www.cityofdouglas.com for details.

Taste of Christmas – Alma
3rd Thursday in November. Call (912) 632-5601 or go to www.alamachamberdevelopment.com for more information. Tickets are required.

GSU International Festival – Statesboro
3rd Saturday in November. Go to http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/international or call (912) 478-0332 to find out more.

December
Sylvania’s Annual Christmas Extravaganza – Sylvania
1st Thursday in December. Call (912) 564-7878 or go to www.screvencounty.com to learn more.

Celebration of Lights Parade & Winter Wonderland Celebration – Bainbridge
1st Saturday in December. Go to www.baxley.org for details.

Downtown Christmas Open House, Parade, and Holiday Tour of Homes – Hawkinsville
1st Saturday in December. For more information go to www.hawkinsvillechamber.org.
Fish, play or just drift away along the many waterways in the Magnolia Midlands. Take time to slow down from your busy life, work and schedules and experience life as it should be.

Cast your line at one of the many public fishing areas. Visit Jesup, home of the state record flathead catfish and the annual catfish tournament. Try to beat the world record largemouth bass record at Montgomery Lake at Lumber City. Another option for fishing is a visit to one of the regions wonderful State Parks. Gordonia Alatamaha State Park in Reidsville offers a wide array of water activities along with an 18 hole golf course, miniature golf and more.

Want to take a low cost, yet fun packed family excursion? Paddle the Ocmulgee, Oconee or mighty Altamaha Rivers for an adventure to remember. Its untouched beauty and natural splendor make the perfect landscape for a family outing. Never paddled before? Contact Three Rivers Outdoors for a complete list of services including canoes, kayaks, and event tents. Begin at one of the many beautiful landings like Towns Bluff in Hazlehurst; or Falling Rocks Park in Baxley. www.altamahariver.org

From ranches and arenas to hunting plantations and some of the world's most beautiful farmland, the Magnolia Midlands has a lot to offer a visitor looking to get back to basics or rope n' ride.

Start the day at Lawrence Bennett Harness Training Facility in Hawkinsville (open October – May). Watch the harness horseman train the trotters and pacers on the mile long clay track or attend the Annual Festival (3rd weekend in April). On your way out of town, make a stop at the famous M & T Meats for a choice cut to take home.

Stop in Eastman to pick berries with the kids at Tom Sawyer Farms. After enjoying your sweet treat, head to Fallen Star Ranch where the whole family will enjoy seeing nearly 100 miniature horses. If you like to hunt, stop by McCranie Quail Plantation and try your luck. Hunters and fishers alike will also enjoy Horse Creek Wildlife Management Area in Telfair County – followed by a hearty meal at Southern Star Grill.

See some of the world's finest farmland as you travel through Irwin County to the Irwin County High School C.A.S.E. Farm, which is open for tours. Take home a bag of the C.A.S.E. Farm grits. Finally, head to Gopher Plantation in Millwood. Spend a night in a rustic cabin, enjoy a wild game supper, and wake in the morning ready to hunt whitetail deer, quail, or wild boar.

Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Magnolia Midlands on this day to day and a half adventure.

Begin the day at Metter's beautiful Guido Gardens. Breathe in the scent of the blooms, take time to reflect in the Prayer Chapel, or just take in the sparkling waterfalls, shimmering fountains, babbling brooks, lovely gazebos, and inspiring music. After enjoying a morning in the gardens, head to Little Ocmulgee State Park in Alamo for a round of golf or a stroll along the trails.

Leave Alamo and head for Moody Forest Nature Area in Baxley. Moody Forest contains nearly 4,500 acres of natural area, including a swamp, which boasts one of the nation's last remaining old-growth forests. Afterwards grab a meal just like grandma used to make at a great local joint like Sarah's Restaurant.

Enjoy a leisurely drive down US 1 and Hwy 32 to General Coffee State Park in Nicholls. Track the path of the rare gopher tortoise, learn about life on a farm in the early 1900s at the Pioneer Heritage Village, or bike and ride along the many miles or trails. Spend the night at one of the cabins, rough it in a tent, or park your RV at the campground.
The City of Savannah has long been a destination for history buffs and heritage travelers. Just a short drive from Savannah, you can also step back in time and experience the history of the Magnolia Midlands.

First, begin your history and heritage tour at Briar Creek Battle Field in Sylvania. The American Revolutionary War battle field marks a day in history where the Patriot cause was defeated by the British. Travel on to Statesboro and explore Georgia Southern University's Museum. See the Mosasaur on exhibit as part of the permanent display.

Have lunch while you're in town at one of the local landmarks, Vandy's BBQ. Dine at the original location downtown where the pork is still slow smoked and hand chopped.

After a delicious lunch, travel down I-16 to Dublin and explore your family's genealogy at the Heritage Center of Oconee Regional Library. Once you've completed your own family's research, head on to the Orphan's Cemetery in Eastman. Markers describe the story of the Williamson Mausoleum and the other orphans buried in the historic cemetery. Ready to overnight? Stay at the Dodge Hill Inn Bed and Breakfast in Eastman. Relax at the historic 1830s B&B and feel as if you have truly turned back the hands of time.

Wake up for another day of historical discoveries by driving a few minutes west of Eastman and visit the Historic Opera House in Hawkinsville. Home to an array of world class performances, concerts and plays, enjoy the ambiance of the restored Opera House while attending one of their planned shows.

You won't want to miss a tour of the Jefferson Davis Memorial Historical Site in Irwinville. The museum is home to artifacts and memorabilia depicting the story of Confederate President Davis' capture in 1865. Head east on Hwy 32 to visit the historic sites of Douglas. Have a delicious lunch at Holt's Bakery and Restaurant right downtown. The cafeteria style southern selections are a perfect choice for everyone. After lunch, explore the World War II Flight Training Museum.

Continue on Hwy 32 to the Inn at Blueberry Plantation. The old South feel of the new Inn provides the perfect ambiance for a relaxing evening. During the summer, relax by the pool or walk the grounds of the beautiful golf course. The mild winter climate makes golfing a perfect year round sport. Not interested in golfing? Take the short drive to Jesup and see a feature film at the Jesup Drive-In. One of the few continuously operating drive-in movie theatres, the Jesup Drive-In shows first run feature films on two different screens.
The Magnolia Midlands has a lot to offer “foodies” from sparkling muscadine wine to fresh produce, to fried chicken and biscuits just like grandma used to make. Take this convenient trip from Savannah into the heart of Georgia to experience the taste of the Magnolia Midlands.

Begin your day at Sylvania’s Shannon Vineyards & Winery. Go on a Sunday afternoon to get a plate from their fabulous lunch buffet. Enjoy tours and tastings in a beautiful atmosphere. Continue to Statesboro’s Meinhardt Vineyards & Winery. Sample award-winning wines – from sweet to dry, take in the beautiful scenery, and stick around for one of their famous sunsets if you have time. If you are there during the second weekend in September, take part in the “Grape Stomp Festival.” Grab a bite at Statesboro Brews on your way out of town.

If you like the back roads, take in some scenery as you head from Statesboro to Claxton. Check out how the sweetest treats of Christmas are made at The Claxton Bakery and Georgia Fruitcake Company. Watch the chefs at work and buy a few samples for the road!

Buy some of the world’s best product at road-side stands that are a part of Tattnall County’s “Farm Fresh Tattnall” co-op as you travel.

Prefer to stick to the highway? Take I-16 from Statesboro to Dublin and enjoy a relaxing stay at the Dublin Farm Bed & Breakfast. Experience a touch of Tuscany in the heart of Georgia at the Ristorante da Maria at the B&B. Fill up on a multi-course dinner complete with fine wine and converse in one of the three languages spoken on site: English, Italian, or German. If you love “Georgia Made, Georgia Grown” items, check out the Market on Madison in downtown Dublin for everything from farm fresh produce to locally made art.

For more information about Magnolia Midlands attractions, visit our website www.magnoliamidlands.org
ALAMO-WHEELER COUNTY

1 Little Ocmulgee State Park & Lodge

2 The Inn at Blueberry Plantation can host your special occasion in style, offering a full-service restaurant and bar and an elegant dining room or banquet room for your enjoyment. (Map F14) www.blueberryplantation.com • (478) 622-7474

3 Jasmine Acres

BAXLEY-APPLING COUNTY

4 Altamaha River is the second largest watershed on the Eastern Seaboard, flowing 137 miles. The river is home to over 130 rare or endangered species. (Map H1) www.altamahariver.org • (912) 367-7731

5 A Randall Tuttle Environmental Park is a 20-acre State-Certified Schoolbird and Casualttee Center. The park includes trail, boardwalk area, wetlands, ponds, rock slopes, ridges, and 1000 species of trees. (Map H1) www.baxley.org • (912) 367-6830

6 Falling Rocks Park is located adjacent to Dungen’s Landing on the Altamaha River and features sites for 8rvs, tents, picnic shelters, cabins, a bathhouse and a fishing facility. (Map H1) www.baxley.org • (912) 367-8000

7 Lake Mayers is a 570-acre Public Recreation Area owned and operated by the county. The lake features restrooms, picnic shelters, tables, fish, a boat dock and a boat launch. (Map H1) www.baxley.org • (912) 367-7731

8 Moody Forest Nature Area

9 The Claxton Baldey Sample the frutakice known worldwide for its deliciousness. Since 1910, (Map F14) www.claxtonfrutakice.com • 1-800-841-4211

10 Evans County Public Fishing Area is comprised of 372 acres with 8 lakes. Concrete boat ramps, fishing pier, boardwalk with handicapped access, picnic area, outdoor classroom. (Map F14) 478-685-2145 www.georgiafrutakice.com

11 Longsneeze Farm Truck & Tractor Pull provides family fun every Saturday from truck and tractor pulls, skiller shows and foot races. Longsneeze Farm has something for everyone! (Map F14) www.longssneezefarmtrucktractorpull.com • (912) 739-8469

12 Richley Area has barefoot racing at 8:30 and 1:30. This is the latest growing family sport around - timed barefoot events are held monthly. May 4-12th (912) 739-2139

13 Ashley-Slater House Museum / Douglas Area Welcome Center

14 The WWII Flight Training Museum reflects the legacy of an active training facility between 1941 and 1944. Vintage aircraft often on display. (Map F5) (912) 383-9111

15 Heritage Station Museum showcases the Georgia and Florida Railroad with original documents, furnishings, and even a real railroad depot. The covered depot features locally made products. (Map F5) www.cityofdouglas.com • (912) 389-3461

16 Theatre Dublin was built in 1934, renovated in 1996, and serves as a performing arts center. Accommodates 600 people and has state-of-the-art mechanical and lighting, competition youth theatre, puppetry and dance performances. (Map F14) 277-5074

17 Market on Madison features food and crafts vendors in historic downtown Dublin, this wonderful farmer’s market features local fruits, vegetables, jams, jellies, art and entertainment. May 4-12th (Map F14) 277-2560

18 Southern Pines Complex & Ag Center is a 120-acre facility including baseball with 2 fields, softball, fishing trail, picnic area, and an Ag & Exposition Center. Conveniently located just outside of Dublin with restaurants and motels nearby. May 4-12th (Map F5) www.dpu.org • (478) 277-5060

19 High Gilles Public Fishing Area has a 100-acre lake with 640 acres of terrain. Major species include: largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, and channel catfish. Includes concrete boat ramp, parking, restrooms, and walkways. May 4-12th (Map F5) 296-6192

20 Fallen Star Ranch Campground is located on the west edge of town, the campground offers sites that are shaded, level and improved utilities. 478-347-3111

21 Jay Bird Springs Resort offers a great deal of fun for the family at any time of the year. Check the hours of operation on the door. May 4-12th (Map F5) 374-4723

22 Mr. Angel Monument is the guardian of the first line of defense of Georgia Bulldog football, who served from 1941-46. The monument is located at the Bank of Eastman, where the honors of Dr. W. H. J. Calkins once stood. May 4-12th (Map F5) 312-4723

DOUGLAS-COFFEE COUNTY

1 Little Ocmulgee State Park & Lodge

2 The Inn at Blueberry Plantation can host your special occasion in style, offering a full-service restaurant and bar and an elegant dining room or banquet room for your enjoyment. (Map F14) www.blueberryplantation.com • (478) 622-7474

3 Jasmine Acres

4 General Coffee State Park

5 Douglas Motor Sports Park recently named IRBA Track of the Year, the speedway, and dirt track attract spectators from around the region. (Map F14) www.douglasmotorsportspark.com

6 Ashley-Slater House Museum / Douglas Area Welcome Center

7 Visit guests of the past at the Traveller Mansion is 1912 complete with a mural and a tragic story. The house also serves as the Welcome Center. May 4-12th www.cityofdouglas.com • (912) 384-6355

8 Mr. Angel Monument is the guardian of the first line of defense of Georgia Bulldog football, who served from 1941-46. The monument is located at the Bank of Eastman, where the honors of Dr. W. H. J. Calkins once stood. May 4-12th (Map F5) 312-4723

CLAXTON-EVANS COUNTY

9 The Claxton Baldey Sample the frutakice known worldwide for its deliciousness since 1910. (Map F14) www.claxtonfrutakice.com • 1-800-841-4211

10 Evans County Public Fishing Area is comprised of 372 acres with 3 lakes. Concrete boat ramps, fishing pier, boardwalk with handicapped access, picnic area, outdoor classroom. (Map F14) 478-685-2145 www.georgiafrutakice.com

11 Georgia Fruitice Company

12 Longsneeze Farm Truck & Tractor Pull provides family fun every Saturday from truck and tractor pulls, skiller shows and foot races. Longsneeze Farm has something for everyone! (Map F14) www.longssneezefarmtrucktractorpull.com • (912) 739-8469

13 Richley Area has barefoot racing at 8:30 and 1:30. This is the latest growing family sport around - timed barefoot events are held monthly. May 4-12th (912) 739-2139

14 The Claxton Baldey Sample the frutakice known worldwide for its deliciousness since 1910. (Map F14) www.claxtonfrutakice.com • 1-800-841-4211

15 Georgia Fruitice Company

16 Highly skilled bakers work from recipes handed down through four generations. (Map F14) www.georgiafruitice.com • (912) 739-2603

17 Longsneeze Farm Truck & Tractor Pull provides family fun every Saturday from truck and tractor pulls, skiller shows and foot races. Longsneeze Farm has something for everyone! (Map F14) www.longssneezefarmtrucktractorpull.com • (912) 739-8469

18 Richley Area has barefoot racing at 8:30 and 1:30. This is the latest growing family sport around - timed barefoot events are held monthly. May 4-12th (912) 739-2139
Raynor Wildlife Management Area is a natural refuge for wildlife lovers, seasonal fishing and hunting are allowed. Call for fees. (800) 886-6366.

Raynor Wildlife Management Area is located on Johns Island and Lumber City Hwy on 117 and offers fishing, camping, hiking, bird watching, and picnicking. Home of the World Record Long Mouth Bass. (Map D-10) 886-6366.

Pioneer Area & Historical Society Museum is located on Forsyth Street in Helena. The museum's collection is representative of Telfair County in the late 1800s. (Map E-4) 886-2664.

Telfair - A Driving Historical Tour is self-guided tour complete with a brochure of historical places located in Telfair County. (Map E-4) 886-2664.

1928 Commissary is located on Frankton Rd. The restored 1928 lumber mill commissary also houses the Telfair-Candler Chamber of Commerce and is known as the “Street Door of Metter.” (Map D-4) www.metternet.com.

Guido Gardens features a sparkling waterfall, shimmering fountains, bubbling brooks, a beautiful Prayer Chapel and home of the roses. Take Exit 16 from I-16. (Map D-4) www.guidogardens.com. (800) 663-2222.

Guido Gardens also hosts many specialty shops including two old-fashioned soda fountains. Relax and enjoy the study lawn in the center of town along the Woodpecker Trail. (Map D-4) 663-2159 or (800) 663-6968.

Downtown Metter boasts many specialty shops including two old-fashioned soda fountains. Relax and enjoy the study lawn in the center of town along the Woodpecker Trail. (Map D-4) 663-2159 or (800) 663-6968.


Screen Motor Speedway is a dirt track racing and 1/4 mile drag racing facility with competitions every weekend. (Map D-4A) www.screenmotorspeedway.com. (803) 857-4884.

Shannon Vineyards & Winery is located on I-16 and offers tours and tastings. Located on the Savannah River Parkway, north of Newington. (Map C-16) 857-3876. (800) 857-3876.

MAGNOLIA MIDLANDS TRAILS

Georgia's US 441 Heritage Trail This route connects the mountains with the swamp. USA 441 runs from Peachtree to Beaches.

Winegrass Trail CA Hwy 57 provides a short cut from I-16 to the Golden Isles.

Woodpecker Trail Hwy 121 is part of one of the oldest driving trails in the US.