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GeorgiaGardenTrails.org/Camellia

Georgia Department of Economic Development
Technology Square | 75 Fifth Street, NW, Suite 1200
Atlanta, Georgia 30308





Welcome to Georgia's Camellia Trail.

As you visit our beautiful state, we invite you to explore our state's intriguing camellia gardens. You can start at any one of the 30 public camellia gardens described in this brochure, including the garden at the Governor's Mansion in Atlanta. We are honored to be represented in the garden at the Mansion by three camellias that were named for each of us, as First Ladies of Georgia.

The camellia has been a part of the Southern landscape since the establishment of the original 13 colonies. Today, the camellia continues to grace gardens and grounds throughout Georgia from historic landscapes to contemporary specialty gardens. In each of the state's nine travel regions, you will find a wide variety of camellia gardens showcasing the beautiful spectrum from *Camellia japonicas* to *Camellia sasanquas*.

We invite you to visit the state's tourism website at ExploreGeorgia.org to discover more about the Georgia Camellia Trail. And, stop into the state's 12 Visitor Information Centers to ask our visitor information specialists for peak bloom times, garden hours and travel tips.

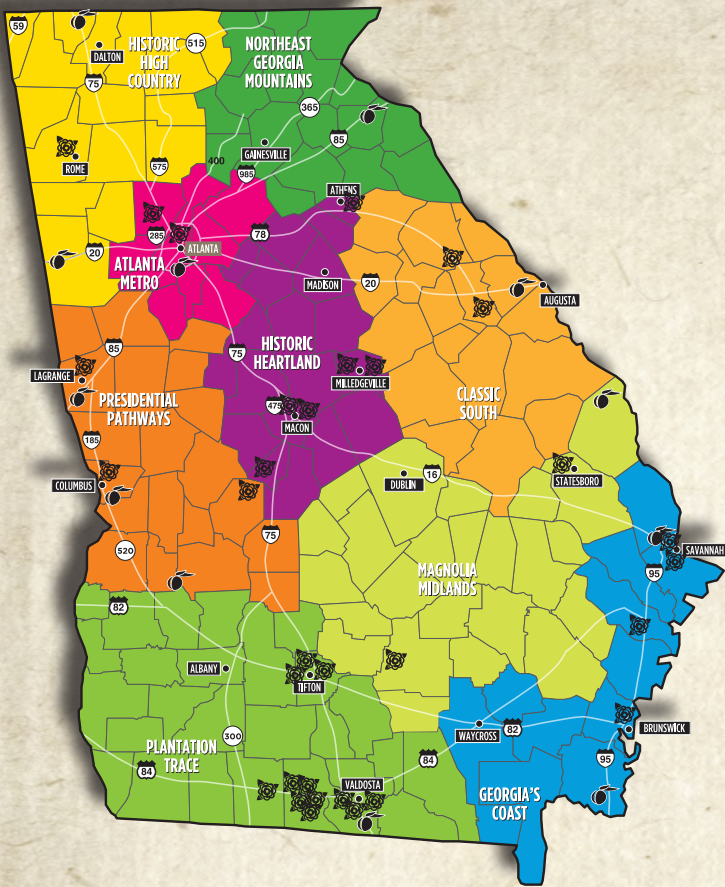
Welcome to Georgia.

Sandra Deal

Rosalynn Carter

Betty Foy Sanders





HISTORIC HIGH COUNTRY

Oak Hill & Martha Berry Museum Oak Hill - located on the Berry College campus in Rome - is the Greek revival home of Martha Berry, founder of Berry College. Visitors receive a guided tour of the dwelling led by Berry College students. Guests may also tour the home's three outbuildings, as well as Oak Hill's gardens. The gardens were designed by landscape architect Robert Cridland circa 1930. Both Camellia japonicas and C. sasanquas are planted in the gardens.

Garden Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., excluding holiday weekends

Oak Hill & The Martha Berry Museum
2277 Martha Berry Hwy
Mount Berry, Rome, Georgia 30149
(706) 358-6775
Berry.edu/OakHill



ATLANTA METRO

Smith-Gilbert Gardens

Smith-Gilbert Gardens is a 16-acre garden with 13 acres open to the public. The quarter-acre Paladino Camellia Garden features Camellia japonicas and C. sasanquas, plus a variety of hybrids - all complemented by unusual and rare shade-tolerant understory plants. Visitors enjoy an extended bloom period from late fall through early winter. Camellia connoisseurs will not be disappointed any time of the year!



Garden Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Smith-Gilbert Gardens
City of Kennesaw Botanical Garden
2382 Pine Mountain Rd
Kennesaw, Georgia 30152
(770) 919-0248
SmithGilbertGardens.com

The Georgia Governor's Mansion and Gardens

The Governor's Mansion is the official home of Georgia's Governor. The Mansion, a three-floor, 30-room, Greek revival style home built in 1967 stands on approximately 18 acres in north Atlanta. It was designed by Georgia architect Thomas Bradbury and officially opened on January 1, 1968 by Governor Lester Maddox.

A new feature in the garden is a planting of Camellia japonicas that were named for First Ladies Betty Foy Sanders, Rosalynn Carter and Sandra Deal.

Garden Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

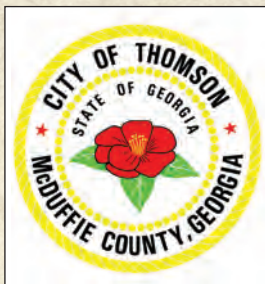
Georgia Governor's Mansion and Gardens
391 W Paces Ferry Rd, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30305
(404) 261-1776
Mansion.Georgia.gov



CLASSIC SOUTH

City of Thomson

Thomson, the Camellia City, features a number of camellia plantings including Camellia Park created in 2008 featuring more than fifty camellia shrubs. The City of Thomson will introduce the "Camellia City Festival" in 2016 on the first Saturday in December.



Camellia Park

625 Main St
Thomson, Georgia 30824
706-597-1000

The Robert Toombs House Historic Site

A legend in his own time, Robert Toombs was a successful planter and lawyer who led a turbulent career as state legislator, U.S. Congressman, Senator, Confederate Secretary of State and Confederate general. The Toombs House garden features approximately a dozen Camellia japonicas, some of which are heritage cultivars. There are original grape hyacinths that date to the 18th century and ivy that dates to the 1850s.

Garden Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Robert Toombs House Historic Site
216 East Robert Toombs Ave
Washington, Georgia 30673
Wilkes County
(706) 678-2226
GaStateParks.org/RobertToombsHouse

HISTORIC HEARTLAND

Massee Lane Gardens

Massee Lane Gardens is an International Camellia Society "Garden of Excellence." One of the world's finest collections of camellias fills a nine-acre area at Massee Lane. Brick walkways surround the camellia trees for easy viewing. The Formal Garden features hundreds of Camellia japonicas, C. sasanquas, hybrids and various other camellia species. The Species Garden houses hundreds of wild type camellias not commonly cultivated.



Massee Lane had its beginnings as the private garden of David C. Strother in the 1930s. Mr. Strother donated this land to the American Camellia Society for its headquarters in 1966. The American Camellia Society is a

national membership organization dedicated to fostering appreciation for and knowledge of plants of the genus Camellia. Founded in 1945, the Society is headquartered at Massee Lane Gardens near Fort Valley in central Georgia.

Garden Hours: Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Massee Lane Gardens
100 Massee Ln
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
(478) 967-2358
AmericanCamellias.com/Massee-Lane-Gardens

Dr. William Green Lee Camellia Garden

The Dr. William Green Lee Camellia Garden is a five-acre public camellia garden administered by the Parks & Beautification Department of Macon-Bibb County. The garden celebrates one of the founders of the American Camellia society, and includes a large collection of both Camellia japonica and C. sasanqua varieties planted by Dr. Lee. An additional section contains a trail with access to Jackson Springs Park from the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail and provides views of the many camellias in the privately-held portion of the original 12.5-acre garden.

William Green Lee Camellia Garden
933 Glenridge Dr
Macon, Georgia 31211
(478) 803-0484

Waddell Barnes Botanical Gardens

Named for a former chair of the Macon State College Foundation Board of Trustees, the 167-acre Waddell Barnes Botanical Gardens feature hundreds of varieties of regional flora on the campus of Middle Georgia State University. Of the 16 distinct themed gardens, the Fall Garden, the Heritage Garden and the Winter Garden display local varieties of Camellia sasanqua.

Waddell Barnes Botanical Gardens
Middle Georgia State University
100 University Pkwy
Macon, Georgia 31206
(478) 471-2732
MGA.edu/Botanical



State Botanical Garden of Georgia

The 313-acre State Botanical Garden of Georgia is home to numerous themed display gardens, including the Flower Garden, the International Garden and the Heritage Garden. The Shade Garden contains local varieties of camellias in one of seven sections, mirroring the seven districts of the Garden Club of Georgia. Visitors can enjoy viewing the camellias while strolling along the wandering paths, or while resting and birdwatching in the district’s plaza.

Garden Hours: Monday – Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia
2450 S Milledge Ave
Athens, Georgia 30605
(706) 542-1244
BotGarden.UGA.edu

Old Governor’s Mansion

Georgia’s Old Governor’s Mansion was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1973 and is an accredited museum of the American Alliance of Museums Completed in 1839 it is one of the finest examples of High Greek Revival architecture in the nation. The Mansion grounds feature over twenty cultivars of Camellia japonica and C. sasanqua that were established in 2005 when the gardens were restored.



Garden Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., except holidays, the week before Thanksgiving and the week after Christmas

Old Governor’s Mansion
Georgia College
120 S Clarke St
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
(478) 445-4545
GCSU.edu/Mansion

Lockerly Arboretum

The grounds at Lockerly Arboretum contain a diverse collection of plants from around the world as well as a large collection of plants native to Georgia and the southeastern U.S. Plants are displayed in a 50-acre park-like setting that is open to the public year-round. The arboretum is open 6 days a week at no charge for self-guided tours of the grounds. Two of the largest collections are conifers and camellias; the camellia collection has over 100 specimens of Camellia japonica and C. sasanqua.

Garden Hours: Monday – Friday, Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. / Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lockerly Arboretum
1534 Irwinton Rd
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
(478) 452-2112
Lockerly.org

PRESIDENTIAL PATHWAYS

Sam Wellborn Camellia Garden – Columbus Botanical Garden

Created in 1999 on 22 acres of donated land, the Garden is the first botanical garden in the City of Columbus. The first “garden within the garden” was created in 2012 as a three-acre site that became “The Sam M. Wellborn Camellia Garden.” Currently the camellia garden consists of 500 different varieties with a goal of exceeding 750 as future phases are completed.

Garden Hours: Monday – Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Columbus Botanical Garden
3603 Weems Rd
Columbus, Georgia 31909
(706) 327-8400
ColumbusBotanicalGarden.org

Hills and Dales Estate

Hills and Dales Estate encompasses the house and garden of textile magnate Fuller E. Callaway and his wife Ida Cason Callaway. Its centerpiece is a stunning Italian villa designed by renowned architects Neel Reid and Hal Hentz. House and garden admission includes access to the grounds, home and historic gardens. Visitors can explore European-styled gardens of boxwood topiary, mottos and parterres filled with heirloom specimens of magnolias, azaleas, ginkgo and more.

Garden Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hills & Dales Estate
1916 Hills and Dales Dr
LaGrange, Georgia 30240
(706) 882-3242
HillsandDalesEstate.org

City of Marshallville

Marshallville is a small rural agrarian town with a big reputation for camellias. Located just down the road on Highway 49 about four miles from the headquarters of the American Camellia Society at Masee Lane Gardens, the town was the inspiration for the camellia gardens created



by David C. Strother of Fort Valley, who had admired the camellias in Marshallville when he first acquired the land and started his gardens. There are still many camellias planted in the tree lawn along the east and west Main Street Historic Districts of Marshallville and around some of the historic homes.

PLANTATION TRACE

Fulwood Garden Center

At one time there were 125 camellias and 200 roses surrounding the home, creating such a stunning garden that the passing train would often stop and allow passengers to tour the gardens adjacent to the railroad track. Many of the original plantings are still evident today including both named and unnamed Camellia japonica and C. sasanqua. A new addition coming to the Center is a garden featuring camellias named for and commemorating women of the 20th and 21st Century, who have been influential in regional, national and international affairs.

Garden Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Fulwood Garden Center
802 12th St W
Tifton, Georgia 31794
(229) 386-8347
FulwoodGardenCenter.com

Camellia Garden, Coastal Plain Research Arboretum, University of Georgia –Tifton Campus

Planted as a test garden in the early 1950s, the collection includes historical and antique varieties. UGA professor of horticulture Dr. W.T. Brightwell, well known for blueberry research, collaborated with other camellia enthusiasts, David Strother of Fort Valley and Arthur Solomon of Savannah, to build the collection at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station. Under Brightwell’s leadership over 400 varieties of camellias were planted in a two-acre space. The sasanquas start their flower show in October, and the japonicas take the show through March.



Coastal Plain Research Arboretum
University of Georgia
2360 Rainwater Rd
Tifton, Georgia 31794
(229) 391-6868

Eccentric Garden

The half-acre Eccentric Garden is the creation of Richard Rose. Hidden from the road by an array of trees, shrubs, maples and crepe myrtles, the garden celebrates the arrival of winter with thousands of camellia blooms – Camellia sasanqua, C. japonica and a brilliant medley of hybrids – mostly newer ones – during January and February. Eccentric Garden features 150 named varieties and a total of approximately 400 camellias.

Garden Hours: January – February, please call ahead

Eccentric Garden
Richard and Brenda Rose
2610 Emory Dr
Tifton, Georgia 31794
(229) 848-4405

Pebble Hill Plantation

Pebble Hill Plantation’s stately architectural beauty stands proudly amid the magnolias and long leaf pines of southwest Georgia. The Main House is framed with more than 100 camellia species and many dogwoods, magnolias, azaleas, tea olives and Cherokee roses.



Garden Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Pebble Hill Plantation
1251 US Hwy 319 S
Thomasville, Georgia 31792
(229) 226-2344
PebbleHill.com

Whitehead Camellia Trail

Located in the northwest corner of the Valdosta State University main campus, this paved trail winds 1400 feet (926 meters) through a towering stand of longleaf pines. Planted along the trail are over 400 camellias, including some of the most prized varieties, such as Alba Plena, Elegans, Pink Perfection, and Ville de Nantes. A self-guided video tour about the history and horticultural significance of the trail will be launched during the 2017 bloom season.

Valdosta State University
1500 N Patterson St
Valdosta, Georgia 31698
(229) 333-5800



Sara Oliver Memorial Camellia Garden – Christ Episcopal Church
Dedicated in 2014, the Sara Oliver Memorial Camellia Garden features many camellia varieties including cultivars developed by the late Hulyn Smith, a camellia enthusiast well known in Georgia and north Florida.

Sara Oliver Memorial Camellia Garden
Christ Episcopal Church
1521 N Patterson St
Valdosta, Georgia 31601
(229) 242-5115
ChristChurchValdosta.org

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Wisembaker-Roberts House
The Wisembaker-Roberts House is believed to be the oldest house in Valdosta, surrounded by an 1800s pecan grove and an early 20th century garden developed by members of the J.T. Roberts family. The garden features many early named and unnamed Camellia japonica varieties.

The Roberts House
208 Wells Street
Fairview Historic District
Valdosta, Georgia 31061

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City of Quitman
Quitman, the Camellia City, is the home of Betty Sheffield, who lived in the city for most of her life. While living in Quitman, her work with Camellia japonicas resulted in over 40 varieties named after her. A stop in Quitman allows visitors the chance to tour four separate gardens. The gardens are open to the public during daylight hours.

Brooks County Court House Camellia Garden
100 W Screven St
Quitman, Georgia 31643

Quitman – Brooks County Historical Museum and Cultural Center
The museum features a bronze statue of Betty Sheffield and two Rena Campbell camellias within the garden. Rena, a local black woman is credited with introducing Betty to the genus Camellia in the early part of the 20th century.

121 Culpepper St
Quitman, Georgia 31643
229-263-6000



West End Cemetery
The cemetery features over 20 historical Camellia japonica varieties.

West Screven St
Quitman, Georgia 31643

East – West Screven Street Medians
Originally designed and planted by Betty Sheffield in the mid-20th century while she served as Parks and Beautification Director for the City of Quitman, the medians feature many camellia varieties including old favorites.

North Court Street Medians
Originally designed and planted by Betty Sheffield in the 1940s while she served as Director of Parks and Beautification for the City of Quitman, the medians feature over fifty camellia varieties including some heritage cultivars. A drive down Court Street will reveal many camellias in private gardens, which are visible from the street.

MAGNOLIA MIDLANDS

Ashley-Slater House
The Ashley-Slater House is a turn of the century Italianate mansion that serves as office space for the Douglas Visitor Information Center, City of Douglas Public Information Department and Main Street. Built in 1914 by Mr. John Marshall Ashley as a wedding present for his wife, the Ashley-Slater House is complete with moldings, beautiful woodwork, and an original mural. The grounds feature heritage camellia plants that are over 60 years old and were planted by Mrs. Ashley.

Garden Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Ashley-Slater House
211 Gaskin Ave S
Douglas, Georgia 31533
(912) 384-4555

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Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern University
Located in Statesboro, the Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern University features approximately 75 varieties of Camellia japonica and C. sasanqua. Additionally, the garden features over 11 acres of gardens on the early 20th century farmstead of Dan and Catharine Bland. The garden offers woodland trails, a landscape garden of coastal plain natives, a native azalea collection,



an arboretum, a children’s garden, a complex of early 20th century farm buildings, the Rural Life Museum, the Whelchel Camellia Garden, heritage gardens, a bog and sandhill, and the Kennedy Outdoor Classroom.

Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern University
1505 Bland Avenue
Statesboro, Georgia 30460
(912) 478-1149
Academics.GeorgiaSouthern.edu/Garden

GEORGIA COAST

Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation
This beautiful plantation represents the history and culture of Georgia’s rice coast. In the early 1800s, William Brailsford of Charleston carved a rice plantation from marshes along the Altamaha River. The family was friends of Clermont Huger Lee, one of the first women licensed as a Landscape Architect in Georgia. She was responsible for creating and working on many of the private gardens and squares in Savannah.

Garden Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation Historic Site
5556 US Hwy 17 N
Brunswick, Georgia 31525
(912) 264-7333
GaStateParks.org/HofwylBroadfield

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LeConte-Woodmanston Plantation and Botanical Garden

In 1765 the American naturalist John Bartram passed by Woodmanston. Fifteen miles south of the plantation he discovered the famous “lost” Franklinia Altamaha. By the early 19th century botanists from around the world were drawn to the region in search of rare and unknown plants. They found many of these plants at Woodmanston under the meticulous care of Louis LeConte. His collection of camellias was extraordinary. Some reached 15-feet high with trunks more than a foot in diameter.



LeConte-Woodmanston Plantation and Botanical Garden
4918 Barrington Ferry Rd
Riceboro, Georgia 31323
(912) 884-6500
LeConte-Woodmanston.org

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Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens
Located near Savannah and Interstate 95 in southwest Chatham County is an expanding botanical garden that was once an old USDA plant introduction station. The Judge Arthur Solomon Camellia Trail comprises over 35 different camellia species and is reputed as being the most diverse collection outside of China. Over 1,000 camellia plants are nestled below pines and Japanese evergreen oaks and share space with woodland.

Garden Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens
Historic Bamboo Farm
University of Georgia
2 Canebrake Rd
Savannah, Georgia 31419
(912) 921-5460
CoastalGeorgiaBG.org



Bonaventure Cemetery
Though not Savannah’s oldest cemetery, Bonaventure is certainly its most famous and hauntingly beautiful. Quintessentially Southern Gothic, it has captured the imaginations of writers, poets, naturalists, photographers and filmmakers for more than 150 years. Over 150 plants from old camellia gardens in Savannah have been air layered in an experiment to replace camellias that have died along the avenues within the cemetery. Throughout the cemetery there are several hundred camellias in individual lots and they are at their best in December through early March.

Garden Hours: Monday – Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Bonaventure Cemetery
330 Bonaventure Rd
Savannah, Georgia 31404
(912) 412-4687