

ATLANTA

1 MINUTE/1 HOUR/1 DAY GETAWAY

To this day, Atlanta still represents the quintessential city of the “New South” after the Civil War. Proud of their city, residents of Atlanta continue to be “boosters” supporting its current status as a first-class urban center and securing its future as a vibrant and forward-thinking city into the next century.

1 MINUTE

Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Site
450 Auburn Ave. N.E. • 404-331-5190

The site where the civil rights leader lived and is buried. See where he grew up and preached, or take an educational tour of his birth home. Eight statues of men and women represent the Freedom March, too.

Atlanta Cyclorama
800 Cherokee Ave. S.E. • 404-658-7625

The Cyclorama is a theater that rotates around a mural of the 1864 Battle of Atlanta, which is the largest oil painting in the world. Look for a moment, or get a quick history lesson listening to the accompanying story. There’s also a museum hosting Civil War memorabilia and artifacts.

1 HOUR

World of Coca-Cola
55 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. S.W. • 404-676-5151

It’s everything you’ve ever wanted to know about one of America’s most beloved sodas. Memorabilia takes you back to the 1930s, plus you can see how the soda is bottled. Stick your cup under the “fountain of the future” for a fun surprise.

Inside CNN Studio Tours
1 CNN Center N.W. • 404-827-2300

Journey into the heart of CNN Worldwide and get an up-close look at global news in the making. Inside CNN Atlanta is a 55-minute guided walking tour offering guests exclusive, behind-the-scenes views of the CNN studios and an exciting glimpse of newsgathering and broadcasting in action.

High Museum of Art
1280 Peachtree St. • 404-733-HIGH

Named “one of the 10 best works of American architecture,” this sleek modern building houses the city’s finest collection of classic and contemporary art. Its atrium soars to four levels, where you can experience 19th-century paintings, European sculpture and authentic African relics.

1 HOUR (CON’T)

Atlanta Botanical Garden
1345 Piedmont Ave. N.E. • 404-876-5859

This natural oasis boasts 30 acres of cultivated plants, woodlands and gardens, perfect for finding a little solitude. The Fuqua Conservatory is the focal point, displaying foliage in tropical and desert environments, including rare or endangered plants. Also, the Japanese Garden is small and designed for meditation.

Georgia Aquarium
225 Baker St. • 404-581-4000

The majestic glass and steel prow of the Georgia Aquarium beckons explorers to discover the 100,000 creatures inside. Check out the whale sharks, Asian otter and stunning Tropical Diver exhibit, and visit the “4-D” theater, where you’ll not only see jellyfish float by in 3-D, you’ll also feel their tentacles brush your face.

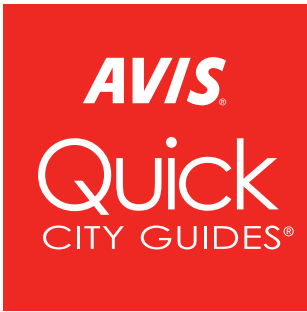
1 DAY

Château Elan Winery & Resort
100 Rue Charlemagne, Braselton • 1-800-233-9463

This retreat is styled like a French château and set on over 3,000 acres, and you can spend the day touring its 200-acre vineyard and winemaking facility to see the process from grape to bottle. Gourmet eateries like Versailles Restaurant and Café Élan round out the experience.

Athens
I-85 N. to GA-316 E. • 1-800-653-0603 (Convention and Visitors Bureau)

An hour outside Atlanta, Athens is a college town par excellence, and the cultural crucible that launched bands like the B-52’s and REM. Explore its surprisingly global restaurant scene and eclectic boutiques, and check out the live music hangouts on Broad Street and beyond after the sun goes down.



ATLANTA

GOURMET DINING AND LOCAL FAVORITES

GOURMET DINING

Bacchanalia

This elegant lounge has pale yellow walls and lots of high windows. The prix-fixe menu includes steak tartare and foie gras terrine, plus braised red snapper and wood-grilled beef tenderloin. Reservations may take up to a month in advance.

1198 Howell Mill Rd. N.W. • 404-365-0410

Pano's and Paul's

An Atlanta landmark for more than 20 years, this elegant establishment offers up American-Continental dishes to customers waiting in luxurious velvet seats. The cuisine is just as elaborate, with Italian bronzino and their signature fried lobster tails.

1232 W. Paces Ferry Rd. • 404-261-3662

Aria

Aria has won rave reviews from everyone from *Bon Appetit* to *Esquire*. The decor is sexy, sleek and modern, and the cuisine features an array of American traditions inspired by seasonal produce, meats and seafood. Expect slow-cooked meats, like the zinfandel-braised beef short ribs, and light and elegantly simple dishes, like the seared rare ahi tuna or oak-grilled Springer Mountain chicken.

490 E. Paces Ferry Rd. N.E. • 404-233-7673

Rathbun's Restaurant

Sleek post-industrial decor provides the backdrop for Rathbun's innovative New American fare, heralded by *Gourmet*, *Esquire* and *Zagat*. Expect seafood, steaks and more with unexpected twists, like the sambal-tossed crispy calamari or the veal chop with sweet corn and gouda cheese fondue. The outdoor patio welcomes walk-ins, but call ahead to land a table inside.

112 Krog St. at the Stove Works • 404-524-8280

Ritz-Carlton Dining Room

This 5-star fusion of French, Mediterranean and Asian cuisines offers starters like cocoa bean soup with oyster tempura or foie gras with mission figs and port reduction. Entrées include citrus-cured cod and little neck clams with fennel broth or veal loin with wilted spinach, coconut cream and hazelnut oil-scented jus. The wine list boasts vintages from around the globe, and the décor is as sumptuous and elegant as the food.

3434 Peachtree Rd. N.E. • 404-237-2700

LOCAL FAVORITES

Sotto Sotto Cucina Italiana

Set back from bustling Buckhead, this bistro has a rustic feel. Homemade pasta adorns the menu, while risotto and wood-roasted fish are also house specialties.

313 N. Highland Ave. • 404-523-6678

MidCity Cuisine

A hip brasserie that feels European, they use seasonal ingredients for their contemporary American menu with whole roasted fish and the chef's selection of vegetables. Plus, a different dessert is offered every day of the week.

1545 Peachtree St. • 404-888-8700

The Varsity

It's the world's largest drive-in, with carhops dishing out slaw dogs, homemade chili and peach pie à la mode. Dine car-side, or opt to eat inside the throwback dining room. For a second location, there's The Varsity Jr. on Lindbergh Drive.

The Varsity:

61 North Ave. • 404-881-1706

The Varsity Jr.:

1085 Lindbergh Dr. • 404-261-5200

Alon's Bakery & Market

There's nothing like freshly-baked bread. At Alon's, you'll find baguette, ciabatta, challah and more, which they'll top with creative combinations of artisanal cheeses, fresh veggies, and meats for a sandwich that's truly unforgettable. Try the Asian barbeque salmon on rosemary focaccia, and save room for a fresh cup of Joe and a homemade cookie.

1394 N. Highland Ave • 404-872-6000

Agnes & Muriel's

A wonderland of Americana kitch, complete with 60's China, vintage board games and Barbie collectibles. Expect hearty portions of Southern cooking with a modern twist, ranging from crab cakes with red bell pepper sauce to buttermilk fried chicken to barbequed shrimp over grits. Be sure to make a reservation, because this hot spot has a loyal following.

1514 Monroe Dr. NE • 404-885-1000