

Discover Atlanta

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Atlanta Area National Parks
and Programs



Beyond Atlanta's modern skyline lies a wealth of natural and cultural history waiting for you to explore!



Natural Wonders

Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area



Explore ancient "monadnocks" at Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area. These granite outcrops have stood watch over Georgia for millions of years. Arabia Mountain provides outstanding hiking, cycling, and other recreational activities, and preserves 10,000 years of human history—from American Indians, to escaped slaves, to Trappist monks. The Monastery of the Holy Spirit includes a Heritage Center, Abbey Church and a cafe. Flat Rock Archives, which helps to preserve local African American history, offers tours. For more information visit arabiaalliance.org/

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area



Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area is home to the first National Water Trail. An "Ancient River in a Modern City," the recreation area offers a wide range of activities such as boating, fishing, hiking, and picnicking. Just a short drive north of Atlanta, this 48 mile stretch of the river contains numerous historic sites along its scenic banks. For more information visit www.nps.gov/chat

From Civil War to Civil Rights

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park



Learn the stories of the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Explore the site of the what General Sherman would later call "the hardest fight of the campaign up to that date." Whether you want to hear the roar of cannon fire or hike on one of the many trails, Kennesaw Mountain has something for you. The park offers a museum, film, and driving tour, as well as opportunities for birding or just enjoying the natural setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/kemo

State Capitol National Historic Landmark



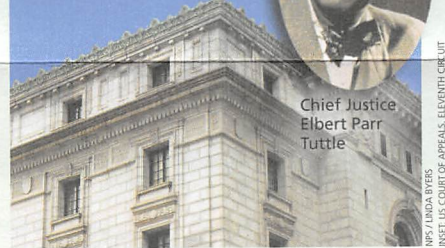
The gilded dome of the Georgia State Capitol symbolized Atlanta's role as the capital of the "New South." Rebuilt during Reconstruction at the site of the destroyed Confederate Railroad Center, its design—reminiscent of the US Capitol in Washington DC, expressed a renewed sense of Nationalism. Tours are available through the Georgia Capitol Museum. For more information visit www.libs.uga.edu/capitolmuseum/tours/

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site & Preservation District



Walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hear his voice in the church where he moved hearts and minds. Learn the legacy of one of our greatest civil rights leaders. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site and Preservation District includes the places Dr. King was born, lived, worked, worshipped, and is buried. Stop at the Visitor Center (450 Auburn Avenue NE) for orientation, exhibits, films, or to sign up for a Birth Home tour. For more information visit www.nps.gov/malu

US Post Office & Courthouse National Historic Landmark



The US Post Office and Courthouse played a major role in reshaping the South during the civil rights movement. Despite massive resistance, the US Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals made historic decisions on issues such as school integration, voting rights, and employment discrimination. The Courthouse was renamed for Chief Judge Elbert Parr Tuttle whose leadership earned him a reputation as one of the most significant judges of the 20th century. Located at 56 Forsyth Street, some court proceedings are open to the public. For more information visit www.ca11.uscourts.gov



Chief Justice
Elbert Parr
Tuttle

Stone Hall (Fountain Hall), Atlanta University National Historic Landmark

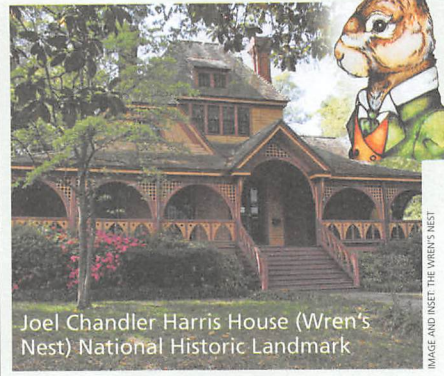


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Herndon Home National Historic Landmark



NPS / LINDA BYERS



Joel Chandler Harris House (Wren's Nest) National Historic Landmark

IMAGE AND INSET: THE WREN'S NEST

Founded by the American Missionary Association, Atlanta University was one of the few schools to offer quality academic education to African Americans in the late 19th century. Stone Hall is the oldest surviving building originally associated with Atlanta University. Renamed Fountain Hall, it is currently in use by Morris Brown College. Visitors are welcome on campus, but the interior is not open to the public. For more information, visit morrisbrown.edu

Civil rights activist W.E.B. Dubois studied and later taught at Atlanta University

Alonzo Herndon's rise from slavery to leadership in the Black business community is a testament to African American struggle and achievement. Visit the Herndon Home to learn about his amazing journey—growing up in a sharecropping family after the Civil War to becoming Atlanta's first black millionaire. The Herndon Home includes a museum and is open for tours. Visit www.herndonhome.org for more information.

The Wren's Nest preserves 100 years of telling tales. This National Historic Landmark honors the heritage of African American folklore and includes a museum about the legacy of Joel Chandler Harris—known for popularizing Brer Rabbit Tales and Uncle Remus tales. For information visit www.wrensnest.org.

Sweet Auburn Historic District National Historic Landmark



NPS PHOTO

The Sweet Auburn Historic District reflects the history, heritage and achievements of Atlanta's African American community from after the Civil War through the 1930s [and beyond]. The center of African American economic, social, religious, and cultural activities, the district includes Big Bethel A.M.E. Church and the Butler Street YMCA. Walking tour maps are available through the Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau, (404) 222-6688. For more information contact the Friends of Sweet Auburn at www.sweetauburn.com.



Fox Theatre National Historic Landmark

NPS / LINDA BYERS

"The Fabulous Fox," one of the nation's largest and most extravagant movie palaces when it opened on Christmas Day, 1929, was designed in a neo-Moorish style, with onion domes, minarets, and horseshoe-arched openings. It still houses one of the largest Moller Organs in the world—the "Mighty Mo," which produces sounds ranging from exotic animal cries to thunder. The theater is still used for live performances, movie revivals, and more. For information about tours and events visit foxtheatre.org

Partners for Preservation

The National Park Service works with communities throughout the country to help preserve natural, cultural and historic sites. With over 40 programs, from National Historic Landmarks to National Trails, this work extends well beyond park boundaries. You might be surprised where you can find us! While in Atlanta, grab a bite to eat at Ponce City Market (www.poncecitymarket.com), a former Sears retail and distribution center that was transformed into a popular place to live, work, play, shop, and eat, with help from the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive Program. As part of the rehabilitation project, the property was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. For more information on Atlanta's historic sites visit www.nps.gov/nr/travel/atlanta.



PONCE CITY MARKET



Dixie Coca-Cola Bottling Company Plant National Historic Landmark



NPS PHOTO INSET: HADIANHONGSHUTTERSTOCK.COM

Walk by the site of the Dixie Coca-Cola Bottling Company Plant at the corner of Edgewood Ave. and Courtland St. This building marks Coca-Cola's transformation from a local fountain treat—created in Atlanta—to a bottled drink served world-wide. Privately owned by the Baptist Student Union at Georgia State University, the building is not open to the public. For more information visit www.nps.gov/nr/travel/atlanta/dix.htm.

Downtown Atlanta

Nearby Sites

