

# Sun, Sand & Serenity, The Golden Isles of Georgia



**April 13-22, 2026 (10 days)**

Planned & Hosted by Deb Harkness

**Discover the enchanting Golden Isles of Georgia, a coastal paradise where natural beauty & rich history intertwine. These Coastal Barrier Islands offer pristine beaches, historic sites & genuine Southern hospitality. Come, discover for yourself, this coastal haven that makes this place so special.**

## **Day 1, Mon. April 13 (D)**

We make our way south today to **Fairview Heights, Ill.** Lodging tonight at the **Drury Inn**, where you'll enjoy a relaxing complimentary 'Happy Hour' & evening meal, giving you the opportunity to get to know your fellow travel mates.

## **Day 2, Tues. April 14 (B, D)**

After a hearty breakfast at the hotel, we travel to Paducah, Kentucky, home of the **National Quilt Museum**. This museum, which is recognized by USA Today, as one of the world's top quilt displays, exhibits fiber art & quilting from around the world. We then travel to **Franklin, Tenn.**, where our lodging tonight will, once again, offer a complimentary 'Happy Hour'.

## **Day 3, Wed. April 15 (B, D)**

Our trek today takes us to **Chattanooga, Tenn.** We'll climb aboard the **Incline Railway** as it takes us to the top of **Lookout Mountain**. You'll ride in a Trolley-style car that climbs at a 72% grade. Once up there you'll be witness to some of the most incredible views looking down over the Chattanooga Valley. After this thrilling ride we'll then continue our journey south with overnight lodging tonight in **Morrow, Georgia**. (Yes, you guessed it, another 'Happy Hour'!!)

## **Day 4, Thurs. April 16 (B, D)**

This morning our travels take us to **Fort Valley, Ga.** for a visit to **Lane Orchards**. A trip to Georgia Peach Country isn't complete without a visit to a Peach & Pecan Orchard, right? Since 1908 Lane Orchards have been growing Georgia's finest peaches & pecans on their sprawling 11,000 acre orchards. Take home some of the many variety of goods they have to offer, anything from fresh fruit, to pecans, preserves, or homemade treats. And best of all you'll get a chance to try a dish of their famous Peach Ice Cream!!! After lunch there at the orchard we then continue our trek to the **Golden Isles**. After checking into our beachfront hotel, which will be our home for the next 3 nights, we will enjoy a dinner at a local restaurant.

## **Day 5, Fri. April 17 (B, L, D)**

We will be met by our local guide, Theresa, who will be with us for the next 2 full days, showing us all of what there is to see & do in this beautiful, pristine area. Here is a listing of today's activities.

~**Visit to the Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation** ...A beautiful plantation representing the history & culture of Georgia's Rice Coast.

~ **Lunch at a local restaurant**...Located at the shrimp boat docks on the Altamaha River.

~ **Tour of St. Simons Island & Darien, Ga.** ... including:

~ **The Avenue of Oaks & Sea Island Golf Course** ..... PGA Golf Course (Sorry, no golf!)

~ **Visit to Pier Village** ..... a quaint little shopping area along the waterfront.

~ **Visit to St. Simon's Lighthouse** ..... This 1872 lighthouse is still in operation today.

~ **The King & Prince Hotel** ..... Will hear the role this hotel played as a radar school in WW II.

~ **Drive by of the WW II Museum** .... Learn about area's extraordinary contributions during WW II.

~ **Visit to Christ Church of Frederica** ... History dating back to 1736!

~ **Dinner at a local favorite, Iguana's**. ... Home to some of the best 'Sweet Georgia White Shrimp'

~ **Return to our beach-front hotel**... (Night #2 of 3)

**\$3474 per person**  
double occupancy

**\$4424 per person**  
single occupancy

**\$2874 per person**  
triple/quad occupancy

ACTIVITY  
LEVEL:  
Active, with a  
moderate  
pace

## NORTHLAND TRAVEL

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When situations arise beyond our control due to covid or any other unforeseen circumstances, Northland Travel and our staff reserve the right to make itinerary changes.

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Departure Cities: Fort Dodge, Waterloo,  
Williams, Ames, Ankeny

## Day 6. Sat. April 18 (B, D)

Another fun-filled day with our local step on guide. Today we start out in Jekyll Island.....

~**Jekyll Island Historic District Tram Tour** ...This was the winter home base to the rich & famous of yesteryear. Names like the Rockefellers, the Goulds, the Astors.

~**Lunch in the Jekyll Island Beach Village** ...

~**Dolphin Tour** ...Enjoy a narrated 90-minute dolphin cruise. The waters around Jekyll Island are home to one of the world's largest populations of bottlenose dolphins.

~**Dinner at Mullet Bay** ..... Quirky, Key West type restaurant

~**Return to beach-front hotel** ...An evening of walking the sandy beaches/relaxing along the waterfront.

## Day 7. Sun. April 19 (B)

Today we say goodbye to the Golden Isles, but taking lots of memories of this beautiful area with us. We travel north to **Savannah**. We'll explore Savannah on a **Trolley** that will take us thru the lush foliage & Victorian mansions, all while listening to colorful stories about the city's past. Then, we embark on a **Scenic River Cruise**, learning about the city's historic connection to the Savannah River. .... We then depart Savannah & travel to **Orangeburg, South Carolina** for overnight lodging.

## Day 8. Mon. April 20 (B)

"Gentleman, start your engines!" This morning we travel to **Charlotte, NC, home of Nascar!** Plans are to visit **Charlotte Motor Speedway**, where you'll get a chance to tour the facility. We'll visit the NASCAR Cup Series garage area and take a ride through two infield race tracks. After you make your way down Pit Road, stop in Winner's Circle for a photo opportunity. Learn the history of Charlotte Motor Speedway while enjoying a comfortable van ride around the Superspeedway where you will feel the full-tilt force of the 24-degree banking!! .... Please note: If, by chance, the Speedway is closed that day to tourists due to on-track activities & we are unable to visit, we will instead visit the **Nascar Hall of Fame** in Charlotte. This information will not be available until a few weeks prior to our visit. But regardless, we're going to get some Nascar in, one way or another!!! .....After departing Charlotte this afternoon, we'll travel to **Mount Airy, NC. (Otherwise known as Mayberry, NC)** Home of **Andy Griffith !!!** We'll have a step-on guide join us. They'll share many stories of the Mayberry RFD days, with drive-by's of Floyd's Barber Shop, Andy's homeplace, Mayberry Courthouse & Wally's Service Station, just to name a few. Lots of fun nostalgia!!! .. Lodging tonight in Mount Airy where we'll enjoy some good home-cookin', just like Aunt Bee used to make!

## Day 9. Tues. April 21 (B, D)

This morning we say good-bye to North Carolina & start to make our way back towards home. It will be a beautiful drive today as we trek thru the West Virginia & eastern Kentucky Mountain Ranges. Overnight lodging tonight in Indianapolis, where we will have our last chance for a 'Happy Hour' with our Happy Group!

## Day 10. Wed. April 22 (B)

Today as we travel home, we reminisce with our travel friends about the good times we've shared, filled with fun & laughter. Reflecting back on the beauty of the great Southeast & all of it's history & everything it has to offer. God Bless the USA!

**\*\*Book by October 15, 2025  
for \$75 early booking  
discount!**

**\$525 deposit per  
person due at time of  
reservation  
Final balance due  
February 20, 2026**

### **Your Travel Experience Includes:**

- ~Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- ~Lodging for 9 nights
- ~Tickets/Admissions to all listed attractions
- ~17 meals



### **PRO TIP:**

Travel Insurance:  
Available at a group  
rate for this tour. Call  
for details & pricing.

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