



Get Out. Get Dirty. Get Fit.

**Macon Area
State Parks and Historic Sites
FACT SHEET**

- **HIGH FALLS STATE PARK**

76 High Falls Park Drive
Jackson, GA 30233

ABOUT HIGH FALLS STATE PARK

In the early 1800s, the site was a prosperous industrial town with several stores, a grist mill, cotton gin, blacksmith shop, shoe factory and hotel. High Falls became a ghost town in the 1880s when a major railroad bypassed it. Today, park visitors can enjoy the scenic waterfall on the Towaliga River and hike to the remaining grist mill foundation. A campground, picnic areas and canoe rental are also available. This pretty park in middle Georgia is conveniently located near I-75 and makes a restful side trip for travelers. For visitor safety, swimming is allowed in the pool only, but not the river or falls. Numerous rocks submerged in the river have deep holes that could easily trap or injure someone.

Key Activities: Hiking – 4.5 miles of trails, Fishing, Boating - 2 ramps, private boats allowed, 10 HP limit, Kayak, Canoe and Fishing Boat Rental, Pedal Boat Rental, Miniature Golf, Swimming Allowed in Pool Only

Facilities: 1,050 Acres, 650-Acre Lake, 111 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$23), 5 Picnic Shelters (\$40-\$60), Screened Group Shelter (seats 125, \$250), Pioneer Campground (\$50), Swimming Pool (fee)

Directions: Located 1.8 miles east of I-75 exit #198 at High Falls Road.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Park (478) 993-3053

- **INDIAN SPRINGS STATE PARK**

678 Lake Clark Road
Flovilla, GA 30216

ABOUT INDIAN SPRINGS STATE PARK

Located off I-75 in middle Georgia, Indian Springs is thought to be the oldest state park in the nation. It was acquired by the state in 1825 and became an official "State Forest Park" in 1927. The Creek Indians used the springs for centuries to heal the sick and impart extra vigor to the well. During the 1800s, the area was a bustling resort town. Today, visitors can still sample the spring water while enjoying the park's cottages, camping, swimming, fishing and boating. Many structures within the park, such as the spring house, were built during the Great Depression by members of FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). A museum (hours limited) highlights Creek Indians, the resort era and CCC history.

Key Activities: Boating – ramp, private boats allowed, 10 HP limit, Fishing Boat Rental, Lake Swimming, Miniature Golf (fee required)

Facilities: 528 Acres, 105-Acre Lake and Swimming Beach (seasonal), 88 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$23), 10 Cottages (\$100-\$110), Cottages #2 and #6 are dog-friendly, 7 Picnic Shelters (\$50), Group Shelter (seats 130, \$250), Group Camp (sleeps 130 max, \$500), Pioneer Campground (\$40), 3/4-Mile Nature Trail, Museum (seasonal)

Directions: From I-75 southbound, take exit #205 to Jackson; proceed south on Ga. Hwy. 42 to the park. From I-75 northbound, take exit #188; proceed north on Ga. Hwy. 42. Approximately 15 miles from exits.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Park (770) 504-2277

- **JARRELL PLANTATION HISTORIC SITE**

711 Jarrell Plantation Road
Juliette, GA 31046

ABOUT JARRELL PLANTATION HISTORIC SITE

Nestled in the red clay hills of Georgia, this cotton plantation was owned by a single family for more than 140 years. It survived Gen. Sherman's "March to the Sea," typhoid fever, Emancipation, Reconstruction, the cotton boll weevil, the advent of steam power and a transition from farming to forestry. In 1847, John Fitz Jarrell built a simple heart pine house typical of most plantations and made many of the furnishings visitors see today. In 1860, the 600-acre plantation was farmed by 39 slaves. After the Civil War, John increased his land to nearly 1,000 acres farmed by former slaves. As John aged, most workers left and the slave houses deteriorated and disappeared. After John's death, his son, Dick Jarrell, gave up teaching to return to the farm, and in 1895, he built a small house for his family that grew to 12 children. Dick diversified the farm, adding a sawmill, cotton gin, gristmill, shingle mill, planer, sugar cane press, syrup evaporator, workshop, barn and outbuildings. In 1974, his descendants donated these buildings to establish Jarrell Plantation State Historic Site.

Admission: \$2.50-\$4. Group rates available with advance notice.

Facilities: Museum and Film, Plantation Buildings, Gift Shop, Picnic Area, Bus Parking

Directions: Located southeast of Juliette, 18 miles from I-75 Forsyth exit #185 or 18 miles north of Macon exit #171.

Information: Historic Site (478) 986-5172

A FEW NEARBY GEORGIA STATE PARKS WORTH THE DRIVE

- **GEORGE L. SMITH STATE PARK**
371 George L. Smith State Park Road
Twin City, GA 30471-9649

ABOUT GEORGE L. SMITH STATE PARK

With natural beauty, lakeside camping and cozy cottages, this secluded park is the perfect south Georgia retreat. It is best known for the newly refurbished Parrish Mill, a combination grist mill, saw mill, covered bridge and dam built in 1880 and now open for tours. Anglers and canoeists can explore the mill pond dotted with Spanish moss-draped trees and home to blue heron and white ibis. Hikers can stretch their legs on 7 miles of trails while searching for lumbering gopher tortoises, Georgia's state reptile. The park is named after one of Georgia's great legislators.

Key Activities: Fishing - boat rentals, Boating - 10 HP limit on private boats, Pedal Boat rentals - (\$3 per person / half hour), Canoeing and Pedal boat rentals, 10 miles of water trails, Walking and Biking - 7 miles of trails, Birding

Facilities: 1,634 Acres, 412-Acre Lake with Boat Ramp, 25 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$23), 8 Cottages (\$100-\$110), Cottage #4 is dog-friendly, 4 Picnic Shelters (\$35), Group Shelter (seats 50, \$85), Pioneer Campground (\$40 and up), Playgrounds

Directions: Located between Metter and Twin City off Ga. Hwy. 23. Take I-16 exit #104.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Park (478) 763-2759

- **HAMBURG STATE PARK**

6071 Hamburg State Park Road
Mitchell, GA 30820-2901

ABOUT HAMBURG STATE PARK

With modern-day facilities amidst reminders of days gone by, Hamburg State Park offers a wonderful mix of history and outdoor recreation. Anglers can enjoy great lake fishing for largemouth bass, crappie and bream, as well as boat ramps and a fishing pier. Campers find shaded campsites along the edge of quiet Hamburg Lake fed by the Little Ogeechee River. The restored 1921 water-powered grist mill is still operational and beckons visitors to buy a bag of corn meal at the country store. Visitors who are particularly interested in the mill should call ahead to ask when it will be operating. A museum displays old agricultural tools and appliances used in rural Georgia.

Key Activities: Fishing, Hiking – 3.5 miles of trails, Boat Rental – pedal boats, surf bikes, canoes, fishing boats, electric motors, Picnicking

Facilities: 741 Acres, 225-Acre Lake, 30 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$23), 2 Picnic Shelters (\$30), Group Shelter (seats 50, \$55), Pioneer Campground (\$25 and up), Grist Mill and Museum, Country Store

Directions: Located 20 miles north of Sandersville via Hamburg State Park Road off Ga. Hwy. 102.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Park (478) 552-2393

- **HARD LABOR CREEK STATE PARK AND GOLF COURSE**

Knox Chapel Road
Rutledge, GA 30663

ABOUT HARD LABOR CREEK STATE PARK AND GOLF COURSE

While this park may be best known for its golf course, The Creek, it also offers a wide range of recreational opportunities in a beautiful wooded setting. Horseback riders can explore 22 miles of trails, while hikers have their own 2.5-mile trail. A lakeside beach is open for swimming during summer. The park provides one of Georgia's best golf values, along with a pro shop, driving range, rental carts and junior/senior citizen discounts. Hard Labor Creek cuts through the course, creating water hazards on five holes. The creek is thought to have been named by slaves who tilled summer fields or by Native Americans who found it difficult to ford.

Key Activities: Golf (rental carts, driving range), Boat Rental – pedal boats (seasonal), canoes, fishing boats, Fishing, Horseback Riding – 22-mile trail, stalls, no horse rentals, Hiking – 2.5-mile trail, weekday hiking on 22-mile horse trail, Swimming (March-September)

Facilities: 5,804 Acres, 2 Lakes, 63 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$25-\$50), 20 Cottages (\$100-\$110) – cable TV, Cottages #13 and #17 are dog-friendly, 4 Picnic Shelters and Barbecue Pit (\$60-\$80), 2 Group Shelters (seat 85 and 120, \$85-\$325), 2 Group Camps (sleeps 75–120, \$175–\$580), Pioneer Group Campground (\$40), 30 Horse Stalls, Riding Ring and 12 Equestrian Campsites (\$18), Swimming Beach and Bathhouse (seasonal), The Creek Golf Course (18 Holes) (\$35 M-Th, \$40 Fri, \$45 Sat-Sun)

Directions: Located 2 miles north of Rutledge. Take I-20 exit #105 into Rutledge and proceed 3 miles on Fairplay Road.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Park (706) 557-3001
Golf (706) 557-3006

- **LITTLE OCMULGEE STATE PARK, LODGE AND GOLF COURSE**

P.O. Drawer 149
McRae, GA 31055

ABOUT LITTLE OCMULGEE STATE PARK, LODGE AND GOLF COURSE

Conveniently located off Highway 441 in south Georgia this park features a wide variety of amenities. Golfers can test their skills on the 18-hole Wallace Adams Course with clubhouse, golf pro and junior/senior discounts. Boaters and anglers will enjoy the park's 265-acre lake with swimming beach, while children can rent pedal boats or play miniature golf during summer. The 2.6-mile Oak Ridge Trail winds through scrub oaks and pines towards a buzzard roost and boardwalk. The 60-room lodge offers hotel-style guest rooms, meeting facilities and a restaurant with golf course view. Facilities are available for meetings, reunions, weddings and other group gatherings.

Key Activities: Golf, Fishing, Boating and Skiing – ramp, Canoe and Pedal Boat Rental, Bike Rental, Hiking – 2.6-mile trail and boardwalk, Miniature Golf (seasonal), Volleyball

Facilities: 1,360 Acres, 265-Acre Lake with Beach, 55 Tent, Trailer, RV Campsites (\$22) – cable TV hookups, 10 Cottages (\$85–\$95), Cottages #4 and #6 are dog-friendly, 60-Room Lodge & Conference Center (\$65-\$125), 7 Picnic Shelters (\$45), 2 Group Shelters (seat 50 and 125, \$100-\$210), Pioneer Campground (\$15 and up), Wallace Adams Golf Course (18 Holes, \$34-\$38), Meeting Facilities, Restaurant, Swimming Pool (overnight guests only), 2 Tennis Courts, Amphitheater, Children's Splash Pad

Directions: Located 2 miles north of McRae via U.S. Hwys. 319 and 441.

Reservations: Reservations (800) 864-7275
Lodge Reservations (877) 591-5572
Park (229) 868-7474
Golf (229) 868-6444

- **SPREWELL BLUFF STATE PARK**

740 Sprewell Bluff Road
Thomaston, GA 30286

ABOUT SPREWELL BLUFF STATE PARK

This little-known gem on the Flint River is the perfect location for a daytime getaway. Visitors can cool off in the gently flowing river, skip rocks across the water, picnic on the river's edge or toss horseshoes in a grassy field. A three-mile trail winds along the bank and up rocky bluffs, offering excellent views from high above the river. A boat ramp is available for canoeists, kayakers, rafters and anglers. Canoes may be rented from nearby outfitters, and camping and cottages are available 25 miles west at F.D. Roosevelt State Park in Pine Mountain.

Key Activities: Fishing - bass and catfish, Hiking – 3-mile trail, Picnicking, Horseshoes, Volleyball

Facilities: 1,372 Acres, Boat Ramp, Picnic Area with Grills, Playground

Directions: Located 10 miles west of Thomaston. From Ga. Hwy. 74, turn on Old Alabama Road and go south 6 miles to the park.

Information: Park (706) 646-6026

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Editor's Notes:

More information is available at www.GeorgiaStateParks.org or by calling 1 (800) 864-7275. Thank you for helping promote Georgia's diverse natural and historic resources!

Rates and prices are valid as of May 2008.

Key Web Address:

www.GeorgiaStateParks.org

Photography:

High-resolution images of all Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites are available by request.

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