

Directions

The Vidalia area is nestled midway between Macon and Savannah, approximately 80 miles from each of these cities. It is 170 miles East of Atlanta. From I-16, take exit 67 (*Soperton-Vidalia, Highway 29*) to the intersection of Highway 29 and Highway 280. Turn left, onto Highway 280 East, to go to Vidalia and Lyons. Turn right, onto Highway 280 West, to go to Ailey, Mount Vernon and Montgomery County.

From US Highway 1, turn onto Highway 280 West. Downtown Lyons and Santa Claus are along US Highway 1. Follow Highway 280 West to go to Vidalia, Ailey, Mount Vernon and Montgomery County.

Accommodations

Comfort Inn	912.538.8100
Days Inn	912.537.9251
Grand Lady Suites (completely furnished) ..	912.538.8988
Holiday Inn Express	912.537.9000
Inn at Vidalia	912.537.1282
Mount Vernon Inn	912.583.2281
Scottish Inn	912.537.7611

Bed and Breakfast

Cotton Patch Inn

912.583.2519
(5 bedroom, 5 bath bed and breakfast inn located in Alston on Highway 135. Approximately 20 minutes from Vidalia.)

Annual Events

Mark your calendar for the **2003 Vidalia Onion Festival, which will be held April 10-13, 2003.** This year's air show will feature the US Navy's *Blue Angels* flight demonstration team on Saturday and Sunday. Festival events include Children's Parade, fireworks, beauty pageants, rodeo, carnival, arts and crafts festival, air show, street dance, car show, culinary extravaganza, and 10K Onion Run. (For more information, go to www.vidaliaga.com, or call 912.538.8687)

Come by and say "Hello!" We're centrally located in the Vidalia Area Welcome Center, just a block from Highway 280 and next door to the Toombs-Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. Let us assist you with your travel arrangements and itineraries.

Vidalia Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

100 Vidalia Sweet Onion Drive • Vidalia, GA 30474
912.538.8687 • tourism@vidaliaga.com



*Looking for a taste
of local flavor?*

*Then, try the
Vidalia area!*

Vidalia, Georgia



VIDALIA AREA
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
100 Vidalia Sweet Onion Drive • Vidalia, GA 30474
912.538.8687 • vacvb@bellsouth.net



Known around the world for sweet onions, the Vidalia area is full of local flavor — and we don't just mean on your dinner plate. Visit the Vidalia Area and see for yourself. Our cities offer unique shopping, dining, historical sight-seeing, one of the South's largest genealogical research libraries, visual and performing arts, scenic drives, and outdoor adventures. Stop by and check us out... you're in the neighborhood if you're traveling along I-16, Highway 280 or Highway 1.



Once pioneer towns, the cities within the Vidalia area were settled at the turn of the 20th century along the Savannah, Americus and Montgomery Railroad which opened this section of Georgia in the 1890s. Today, you can enjoy modern conveniences while still experiencing quaint, small town atmospheres full of smiling faces and friendly residents.

The city of **Vidalia** offers a wide variety of shopping, dining, and golf throughout the year. Visit the shops located in **Downtown Vidalia**, which is a designated *National Main Street city*. You'll find it's full of local flavor, charm, hospitality, and unique shops.

While downtown, visit **The Ladson Genealogy Library** which houses one of the most extensive collections in the Southeast. (Call for hours and more information. 119 Church Street, 912.537.8186)

The Altama Art Gallery displays 18th-20th century collections and is quite a masterpiece itself. The Gallery is housed in the Brazell House (circa 1911), and is on the National Register of Historic Places. (Call for hours and more information. 611 Jackson Street, 912.537.1911)

Follow Church Street past downtown, and tour the magnificent **Paul Anderson Youth Home**, a Christian home for troubled adolescents. Paul's legacy as a world champion and 1961 Olympic Gold Medalist is inspiring, and so are the teens living in the home he and his wife established for them. (For more information, contact the Paul Anderson Youth Home at 912.537.7237)

Do you love Vidalia Onions? Stop by the **Vidalia Onion Factory** for gifts and onion products sure to delight your tastebuds. Seasonal tours are available. (3309 East 1st Street, Hwy. 280, 912.526.3466)

Pack your lunch, backpack, and bike and hit the trail! **The Yamassee Trail**, that is! Follow the bike route signs throughout Montgomery County for a truly great bike ride past the pecan orchards and cotton fields. You'll pedal through the communities of Mount Vernon, Alston, Uvalda, and historic Long Pond. Experience rural Georgia hospitality. Bike safely, and follow the trail markers. (For trail maps and more information, contact tourism@vidaliaga.com, or 912.538.8687)

The mild climate of the Vidalia area invites golfers and outdoor enthusiasts to play all year round. Make a tee time at the **Rocky Creek Golf Club**, one of the finest 18 hole championship courses in southeast Georgia. (1916 Foxfire Drive, 912.538.1110) Or, put your kayak or canoe in any of the Altamaha, Oconee or Ochoopee river landings and enjoy a sunny day along the river.

Are you a history buff? If so, then you'll definitely want to visit Montgomery County! **The Montgomery County Courthouse** in **Mount Vernon** has never had a fire, despite originally having paper-wrapped wiring and four furnaces. Their records date back to 1793. Take the backroads and follow the history through Mount Vernon, Ailey, and Uvalda.

Brewton-Parker College, a four-year, liberal arts college with a Christian atmosphere, is located in Mount Vernon on Highway 280. Brewton-Parker College hosts year-round events such as performing arts, musical performances, lectures, and collegiate athletics. Performances at the **Saliba Chapel** and new **Student Activities Center**. (For more information, contact the college at 912.583.2241, or visit www.bpc.edu.)

If you're traveling along US Highway 1, take a break and stop in **Lyons**, a designated *Georgia Better Hometown*. Stroll through downtown and visit the shops of the local merchants. Delicious gourmet coffee is served daily at the *Blue Marquéé coffee shop*, located next door to the newly renovated **Blue Marquéé Theatre**. Check with the Better Hometown office for performances throughout the year at the Blue Marquéé Theatre. Lyons hosts the annual **Southeastern Soap Box Derby** and the **Children's Art Festival**, both held in May. (For more information, contact the Lyons Better Hometown office and Welcome Center, 134 NW Broad Street, 912.526.6445)

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus"... and it is right here in Georgia! While traveling south along US Highway 1, visit the **Santa Claus, Georgia City Hall** in December to have your Christmas cards marked as a special treat for your loved ones.

Looking for a place to stay overnight? Need directions? Hotel numbers and directions are listed on the back of this brochure for your convenience. If you need more information about the area, annual events throughout the Vidalia area, or where to have your next conference or meeting, please contact the **Vidalia Area Convention and Visitors Bureau** at 912.538.8687, or vacvb@bellsouth.net. Or, stop by and see us at the Welcome Center, just off of Highway 280 and next door to the Toombs-Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.