Southern Charm Tour
Amelia Island, Golden Isles of Georgia, Jekyll Island, St. Simons Island, Hilton Head, Savannah, Charleston
April 18 - 24, 2021

Georgia’s Golden Isles offer the ultimate resort escape to one of the undiscovered island corners of America. The Golden Isles of Georgia is a collective name for Jekyll, St. Simmons, and Sea Island explored by Spaniards over 400 years ago. It’s a place of beauty and wonder just waiting for you to explore. We will experience the historical cities of Savannah and Charleston bursting with southern charm. Tour Departs from Gardendale, Alabama.

Day 1: We begin our journey to the east coast’s fantasy islands, the Golden Isles of Georgia. We arrive in Brunswick, GA where we spend the next 3 nights. Hopefully time will allow a visit to the Hofwyl Plantation with its sweeping views of the Altamaha Delta.

Day 2: We depart on a tour of St. Simons Island. Five flags have flown over St. Simons: Spanish, French, British, United States and Confederate States of America, and elements of each culture remain. See and learn about the plantations that flourished here from 1800 until the Civil War. We visit the colonial town of Fort Frederica, one of the largest and most expensive forts ever built by the British in North America. This afternoon we will tour Jekyll Island with ten miles of sparkling beaches and oak-graced beauty. We visit the famous Millionaire’s Village, playground for America’s industrial elite from the 1880’s until World War II. See the opulent former homes of the Rockefellers, Morgans and Goulds.

Day 3: This morning we drive south to explore and enjoy some of Amelia Island’s 13 miles of Appalachian quartz sand beaches. This morning enjoy a relaxing horse drawn carriage ride through the beautiful residential area of Old Town. This afternoon we’ll board a cruise departing from Fernandina’s historic waterfront enjoying breathtaking views of wild horses on Cumberland Island, Georgia. Some sights we may see are salt marshes, wilderness beaches, dolphins, sea turtles, manatees, egrets, herons, spoonbills, along with shrimp boats and luxury yachts. Then we will have time to explore Old Town Fernandina on your own. This area is recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.

Day 4: Today we travel to beautiful Hilton Head Island Harbor where we take a narrated sightseeing and dolphin cruise. We hope to catch a glimpse of bottle-nosed dolphins along the coastline, and view spectacular homes and yachts. This afternoon we arrive in Savannah and begin to explore this historical city. Then we will enjoy a meal at one of the well known local restaurants.

Day 5: Today we take an informative tour of Savannah with a local guide, seeing the major attractions such as the Juliette Gordon Lowe House, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Cotton Exchange and the historic Riverfront. This afternoon, we catch a glimpse of Savannah the way General Edward Oglethorpe saw it in 1733 aboard the Savannah River Queen. Enjoy some time on the waterfront visiting the local shops.

Day 6: Today we explore Historical Charleston. Our guide will help us understand the history and help identify some of the beautifully restored and preserved homes. We will visit the Battery and learn about the settlements early fortification. See St. Michael’s Episcopal Church with a graveyard that dates back to 1752 and learn why Charleston is called the Holy City with its skyline of steeples and palmetto trees. Lunch and shopping at the Old City Market. This afternoon we will visit one of the local plantation and gardens.

Day 7: Today we must leave the Charming South and return home with many memories and new friends. It’s time to think about your next adventure with Koinonia.

Tour Cost: $1450 per person double occupancy. Includes: Motor-coach transportation, lodging, admissions, 4 group meals, breakfast as provided by hotels, guides and those little extras Koinonia is known for. Singe Supplement: $420