

Contact: Jane Sales
Toll Free (888) 448-8849
email info@hamilton-turnerinn.com

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Awesome August Vacation at Savannah's Hamilton-Turner Inn Mansion.

Comfortable luxuries ... peaceful leisure, slices of history and southern cuisine ... and the Savannah bed and breakfast experience

[Savannah Georgia] In an unhurried August, the relaxed beauty of historic Savannah and Hamilton-Turner Inn are revealed subtly ... and at a slower-than-springtime pace. Here one can tempt all the senses with a taste of fresh Georgia peaches and pears, gallivant into nature's late summer escape, leisure amid snippets of American history, feast on southern U.S. cuisine comfort foods, and collect one's own wits ... all-the-while enthralled by the southern city's infamous conviviality.

From the envied park side vantage point of Lafayette Square, Hamilton-Turner Inn guests linger in the antebellum high society neighborhood of the Landmark Savannah Historic District. Here the blended atmosphere of history, culture, leisure, nature and faith come together around one square. Loyal to the noble city's legacies and old Savannah charm, the Hamilton-Turner Inn bed and breakfast mansion typifies the stylishly rich life of Savannah's old town family aristocracies. Quintessential Savannah photographs attract renewed attention to the stately Mid Victorian mansion, as much today as through its one hundred and thirty-two year history.

Intuitively guests of Hamilton-Turner Inn ease into the soul of the "dreamy city of Savannah" that National Geographic describes as a "laid-back town of lush greens and wide boulevards." The family gentleman's manor -- noted for its world famous Mid Victorian and Second French Empire (circa 1873) architecture -- hosts the at ease transformation for busy executives and multi-generational travelers.

Surprisingly, the first impression of a genteel life in the southern city melds into a sophisticated fabric of today's Savannah -- a distinguished international port, garden and architectural showplace, literary and faith-oriented community, culinary and soft adventure destination. It is not uncommon for travelers and new citizens arriving in Savannah to discover that Savannah's yesteryear is immortalized and interwoven into an advanced form of simple coziness. If you don't believe this, take a macro overview of today's Savannah through a sampling of an "August" cross-section of history which mingles so flatteringly into this vibrant international city today.

- With renowned charm, Savannah remains the "gently mannered city by the sea," as described by Margaret Mitchell in *Gone With The Wind*, the epic novel of the old south. On August 25, 1938, Clark Gable signed for the movie role of "Rhett Butler."
- Savannah is synonymous with beautiful landscapes -- azaleas, magnolias, jasmines, live oaks and Georgia pines. In his role as Botanist Royal in America, William Bartram traveled to the southeast

in 1765 and 1766 and named many of coastal Georgia's indigenous plants. On August 26, 1791, Bartram's Travels was copyrighted.

- In the walkable historic district, pubs and restaurants -- like aVida Wine Bar, Garibaldi's, Ye Olde Pink House and Gottlieb's -- are the fashionable togetherness places of today for a toddy and fine dining. In August 1774, Peter Tondee's Tavern (on the corner of Broughton and Whitaker streets) became known as a place where Georgia's Sons of Liberty could gather and talk about British forbearance and American rights. It was a place where Savannahians could eat and drink at the tavern as well as hold club meetings in its spacious rooms. Today casual southern cuisine lunch buffets are found at the Magnolia Restaurant in the DeSoto Hilton (corner of Liberty and Bull Streets) and a family favorite, The Pirates' House (East Broad and Bay Street in Trustees Gardens). Featured on the *Food Network*, The Lady & Sons (corner Congress and Whitaker Streets) is excellent; however, anticipate a long wait.
- Train rails were first introduced to the colonial city as a method to transport the legendary Savannah grey bricks from the Savannah River's Hermitage Plantation (on property that is today International Paper.) Sixteen-inch exterior grey brick walls at Hamilton-Turner mansion are a part of that history. Today, AMTRAC serves Savannah's rail passengers. Complimentarily, modern-day visitors and rail enthusiasts are intrigued by the Roundhouse Railroad Museum and Savannah Visitor's Center, a converted train station. Significantly, on August 13, 1893, the "Nancy Hanks" rail service between Savannah and Atlanta was ended because the rails and rail bed were too rough for high-speed service. A number of the locomotives had left the tracks.
- In the old south, the fall season was the preferred time for weddings in order to take full advantage of the fresh agrarian harvests. Not unlike those charming events of yesteryear, Savannah weddings and high society affairs now serve honored guests with the most expensive foods, in the largest quantity, in the best manner that families or organizations can afford. Hamilton-Turner mansion hosts the classic Savannah destination wedding, now popular as a macro vacation to include the intimate family and the dearest of friends.
- On August 21, 1946, Savannah trolleys made their final run. The Georgia Historical Society has published a nostalgic pictorial book, *Streetcars of Chatham County: Photographs from the Collection of the Georgia Historical Society* by Mary Beth D'Alonzo. To enjoy the essence of downtown streetcars, sightseeing is available today on a 90-minute Old Town Trolley Tour of historic Savannah, including the full length of its riverfront.
- During August of 1942 and 1943, in American-made B-17s, the Eighth Army Air Corps launched World War II mission attacks against German factories and rail yards. Today near the Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport the Mighty Eighth Air Museum, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institute, recalls the *Story of America's Air Power*. Hunter Army Airfield remains an active United States military base today.
- Closing Ceremonies for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta were taking place on August 4, 1996. Today a monument on the east end of Savannah's River Street is the city's faint reminder of Savannah's roles to join Atlanta in hosting the yachting Games of the XXVI Olympiad off of Tybee Island's

Atlantic Ocean coast. Sailing -- formerly called "yachting" before the 2000 Sydney Olympic competition -- has been an Olympic sport since 1900.

- The best-selling novel by John Berendt, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, set a pace of tourist intrigue to explore a titillating side of this sometimes-misbehaving southern haven. Scandalously, the Hamilton-Turner mansion was the party house of attorney Joe Odom and Mandy in the novel. On August 16, 1984, Judge George Oliver denies Jim Williams a new trial.
- The deaths of high-profile Savannahians occurred in August. Their contributions, personal legacies and Savannah's great honor to claim these citizens remain. Pulitzer Prize writer Conrad Aiken died August 5, 1889. He was born in what is now the Savannah College of Art and Design's "Magnolia Hall" on Forsyth Park (Whitaker Street). On August 5, 1893, James Pierpont died. Mr. Peirpont scripted "One Horse Open Sleigh" (aka Jingle Bells) while he served as a church organist in Savannah. August 6, 1914, Savannahian Ellen Axson Wilson, wife of President Woodrow Wilson, died in the White House from complications due to Bright's disease (an obsolete term for kidney disease). The Wilson's were married in Independence Presbyterian Church on Bull Street at Oglethorpe Avenue. A neighbor of Hamilton-Turner mansion, author Mary Flannery O'Connor taught her chicken to walk backwards. She died of lupus on August 3, 1964.
- With forbearance, average Americans found tea as an alternative to illegal beer, wine and alcohol at the dinner table time during the American Prohibition (1920-1933). At the August 22, 1933, Georgia Day at the 1933 Chicago International Exposition, iced tea is likely to have been the refreshing mainstay, aka "house wine of the south," a term jokingly given to the southern region's Sweet Tea. Early 1900 cookbooks recommend, "Iced tea should be served with or without lemon, with a sprig of mint, a strawberry, a cherry, a slice of orange, or pineapple." Freshly brewed Sweet Tea is a midday standard at Hamilton-Turner Inn, a time to refresh and let well enough alone. You may also wish to enjoy the cultural, worldly influences of the Gryphon Tea Room on Madison Square and Savannah Tea Room on Broughton Street, touted to have "cool" atmospheres by fascinated visitors.

As the Savannah visitor will quickly realize, the ongoing fascination with this charmed southern city is rarely about glitz and glitter. The allure extends well beyond the beautiful views. In addition to the contagious ambiance, travelers should anticipate storytelling when in Savannah. From insights shared on an "only true Southerners" listing, this one offers a befitting tip to Savannah-bound travelers: "Only true Southerners make friends while standing in lines. We don't do *queues*, we do *lines*; and when we're *in line*, we talk to everybody!" In spite of its quintessential Savannah legacy and "historically, the talk of the town"(sm) notoriety, the intimacy of the 17-room bed and breakfast mansion means there are never lines.

Savannahians will grin at themselves trying to connect the dots of genealogies, events, people and places. Today, we just might attempt a connection of dots and ponder if Johnny Mercer was talking of his beloved hometown when he scripted his famous lyrics, "You must have been a beautiful baby, 'Cos baby just look at you now." Truly, he could be talking about Savannah, Georgia, in August ... or anytime.

About the Hamilton-Turner Inn.

The world famous post-Civil War mansion (circa 1873) built by businessman extraordinaire and former naval officer, Samuel Pugh Hamilton, maintains its early movers and shakers reputation as a high society mansion. Historically, the talk of the town(sm) from its antebellum days as a Savannah 400 host, the former party mansion of John Berendt's colossal best selling novel "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" is known today as the quintessential 19th century Mid Victorian gentleman's manor, frequently photographed by Savannah travelers and photographers. Reflecting meticulous renovations and affluent estate furnishings, the family-friendly, affordable luxury bed and breakfast inn is a tourist main attraction for its world famous architectural prominence as well as for its status as the first building to install electricity in historic Savannah Georgia.

With a coveted park side setting in the quiet dignity of Lafayette Square, Hamilton-Turner Inn is the refined answer to where to stay in Savannah. The park mansion's Second French Empire architectural craftsmanship permeates 17 guestroom accommodations, formal parlors and carriage house. Peaceful butterfly gardens, culinary trained chefs, and fashionable dining – including a signature “dessert that begins breakfast,” southern cuisine, evening hors d'oeuvres (featuring fresh, local and seasonal fare) and wine – are included in a larger-than-life-style of leisure. The invitation to “Arrive for quiet comfort and inviting pleasures” is extended to the discerning executive traveler, destination wedding party, honeymoon couple, journalist, dignitary; and, most uniquely, to upscale, multi-generational families with young children ... and the well-behaved family pet. Unique amenities include a children's entertainment library and kid-friendly cuisine. Guests requiring wheelchair accommodations find comfortable ADA compliant lodging. Wireless Internet facilitates corporate and business travelers. Email info@hamilton-turnerinn.com. Telephone (888) 448-8849. Internet www.Hamilton-TurnerInn.com.

Resources Links:

[Games of the XXVI Olympiad](#) – Atlanta & Savannah
[Georgia Historical Society](#) – Savannah trolley
[Hamilton-Turner Inn Weddings](#)
[Henry McAlpin](#) - Savannah Grey Bricks
[Luzianne Tea](#) – Sweet Tea background
[Jim Williams Trial Timeline](#) – “Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil”
[Mary Flannery O'Connor](#)
[Mighty Eighth Air Museum](#)
[Old Town Trolley Tours](#)
[Our Georgia History](#) – Event dates
[Roundhouse Railroad Museum](#)

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Contact: Jane Sales, Hamilton-Turner Inn
330 Abercorn Street on Lafayette Square
Savannah Georgia USA 31401-4636
Telephone (912) 233-1833 | Toll Free (888) 448-8849 | Fax (912) 233-0291
email info@hamilton-turnerinn.com Web site: www.hamilton-turnerinn.com