Government and Commerce
The Consulate General of Ireland in Atlanta, which opened in 2010, is the official representation of the Irish Government to the Southeastern United States. Ciara O’Floinn has served as the Consul General since August 2020.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in the UK and Ireland since 1992. Colin McCullagh leads the state’s economic development efforts in this market on Trade and Colm Reilly leads on FDI.

The Atlanta chapter of the Irish Chamber of Commerce promotes the development of economic, commercial, financial and educational relationships between the U.S. and Ireland. IDA Ireland, an Irish government agency responsible for securing international investment also had an office in Atlanta, where John McGeown serves as VP of Industrial Technology and Lifesciences.

Minister of State for Financial Services Michael D’Arcy visited Georgia in March 2018 and met with Former Governor Nathan Deal to discuss and expand upon the economic ties between Georgia and Ireland. Minister D’Arcy also attended the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations held in Savannah.

Former Governor Nathan Deal led an economic development mission to Dublin in 2016 to foster business, trade and tourism opportunities between Ireland and Georgia.

Academics
The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 32 study abroad programs to Ireland in a variety of studies, such as business, engineering, humanities and journalism. As of Fall 2020, 38 Irish students were enrolled in USG schools.

Georgia Southern University is home to the Center for Irish Research and Training and provides one of the largest U.S. summer study programs in Ireland.

Emory University provides multiple study abroad programs to Ireland as well as exchanges with Trinity College, University College in Dublin and the National University of Ireland in Galway.

The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets opened the 2016 college football season in Dublin, Ireland in the Aer Lingus College Football Classic.

Arts, Culture and Tourism
Savannah, Georgia is home to the third-largest St. Patrick’s Day Parade in the world, attracting up to 400,000 visitors every year.

In 2021, Gateway Performance Productions in partnership with the Little 5 Points Center for Art and Community in Atlanta, GA will present We Have Risen commemorating Ireland’s Journey to liberty in drama, dance and song with a historical African American Dimension - originally commissioned by the Irish government through the Consulate General of Ireland in 2016.

In 2021, Irish Bluegrass group We Banjo 3 will perform at the Elm Street Cultural Arts Center in Woodstock, Georgia.
In 2021 the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra presents Celtic Thunder IRELAND, a brand-new revue show that revisits their most popular Irish and Celtic songs of the past decade and celebrates the influence of Irish and Celtic music around the world.

IrishFest Atlanta was launched in 2013 to promote Ireland’s culture through traditional music, song, dance and language.

Aris is Atlanta’s own Irish theatre company presenting an annual season repertoire based on Irish literary traditions, mythology and storytelling.

In 2019, more than 13,900 Irish tourists traveled to Georgia, spending $15.6 million.

International Trade
EXPORTS: In 2020, Georgia exports to Ireland totaled $82.2 million. Ireland is the 60th largest export market for Georgia. Top exports from Georgia to Ireland include medical instruments, centrifuges, chemical woodpulp, aircraft, and apparatus for telephone transmissions.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Ireland: parts of pumps and liquids, chemical woodpulp.

IMPORTS: In 2020, Georgia imports from Ireland totaled $1.58 billion. Ireland ranks 17th among Georgia’s importer nations. Top imports from Ireland to Georgia include immunological products, perfumes and cosmetic goods, fork-lift trucks, medical instruments, and orthopedic appliances.

Capital Investment
At least 27 Georgia companies have operations in Ireland, including but not limited to:

AGCO Corporation
Arris Group
Elavon
Equifax
Exide Technologies
Georgia-Pacific
Invesco

Graphic Packing Corporation
Mohawk Industries
Travelport
UPS

There are at least 43 Irish facilities operating in Georgia. These companies employ more than 4,100 Georgians.

Transportation
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to Dublin. The United States operates border pre-clearance facilities in Shannon and Dublin. 2020 international connectivity was limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections.

About GDEcD
The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. For more information, visit www.georgia.org.

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