



GEORGIA - GERMANY COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

The German Consulate General in Atlanta is the official representation of the German government to the Southeastern U.S. The consulate's jurisdiction includes Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Germany has maintained a consular presence in Georgia since 1861. Ms. Melanie Moltmann has served as Consul General since September 2021.

The German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern United States, Inc. (GACC-South) is the German government's official representation of industry and trade. Atlanta is also home to one of Germany's Goethe-Centers across the US. They serve as German Cultural Centers and promote a better understanding of German culture, language, and society.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in Europe since 1973. Georgia's European representatives focus on attracting European investment to the state and assisting Georgia companies with exporting to Europe, as well as developing tourism opportunities.

Bavaria, Germany and Georgia, USA are members of the Regional Leaders Summit (RLS), a strategic alliance of seven international regions from five continents fostering the exchange of best practices on topics of mutual interest. Former Governor Nathan Deal attended the 2016 RLS in Bavaria.

Governor Kemp visited Germany in January of 2020. The Georgia Allies visit Germany regularly as part of their economic missions.

Three Georgia cities have sister city agreements with Germany: Atlanta - Nürnberg; Marietta - Linz am Rhein; and Savannah - Halle.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 233 German students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected study abroad programs around the world, but these programs are expected to return to former participation levels soon. In the past, the University System of Georgia (USG) offered 56 study abroad, exchange, and language programs to Germany in a variety of studies. Emory University provides a study abroad program to Berlin specializing in the study of European politics, and the University of Georgia offers various study abroad programs to Freiburg, Munich, and Heidelberg.

Georgia Tech's College of Computing has a dual degree partnership with the Technical University of Munich.

The University of Georgia teaches more than 500 students German language, literature and culture each semester, and also offers a dual-degree program in German and engineering.

Arts, Culture and Tourism

COVID-19 severely impacted the tourism industry in Georgia, but international visitation is expected to reach past numbers soon. In 2021, 16,477 German visitors spent nearly \$20 million in the state of Georgia.

The North Georgia town Helen is designed as a living replica of a Bavarian alpine town. In 2017 more than 140,000 people visited Helen to experience its annual Oktoberfest celebration.

In August 2022, the Museum of Arts and Sciences hosted an international full dome film festival featuring multimedia artwork and artistic experiences from 14 countries, including Belgium.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2021, Georgia exports to Germany totaled **\$2.5 billion**. Germany is the **4th** largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Germany include civilian aircraft, motor vehicles, optical fibers, chemical woodpulp, and telephone transmission devices.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Germany: insecticides, optical fibers, and chemical woodpulp.

IMPORTS: In 2021, Georgia imports from Germany totaled **\$8.6 billion**. Germany ranks **4th** among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Germany to Georgia include motor vehicles, medicaments, turbojets, optical fibers, and tractors.

Capital Investment

There are at least **58** Georgia companies with operations in Germany, including but not limited to:

- Alimera Sciences
- Bridgestone Golf
- Delta Air Lines
- Eversheds Sutherland
- Graphic Packaging Holding
- Novelis
- Porex Corporation
- WestRock

Germany is one of Georgia's top three investment partners. At least **513 German facilities operate in Georgia**. These German-affiliated companies employ more than 25,000 Georgians.

Heidelberg USA, Inc., located in Cobb County, produces printing machinery and employs more than 700 Georgians. Porsche Cars North America, Inc. opened its 28-acre North American headquarters in Atlanta in May 2015. In January 2015, Mercedes-Benz USA announced it would relocate its North American headquarters to Atlanta.

Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to Frankfurt, Munich, Stuttgart, and Düsseldorf. In 2022, there will be an estimated 961 flights between Georgia and Germany with 232,907 passengers.

There are 16 international cargo flights between Frankfurt, Germany, and Atlanta every week.

International connectivity has been limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) has an established relationship with Germany. The Port of Savannah offers five direct weekly container ship services to Germany, calling the ports of Hamburg and Bremerhaven. The Port of Brunswick offers direct service for Roll-on/Roll-off cargo to Germany, calling the port of Bremerhaven.

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.

GDEcD's International Representatives in Europe

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