

GEORGIA (GA)

Peach State



State Flag



Fast Facts

State Capital: Atlanta
Population: 8,186,453 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 57,906 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1788

Georgia was named after King George II of England. Founded by General James Oglethorpe, it was the last of the 13 original colonies. The state's two main cities, Savannah and Atlanta, represent much of Georgia's identity and history. In 1863 during the Civil War, General William Tecumseh Sherman led his Union soldiers (fighting on the North's side) on the "March to the Sea," burning much of Georgia to the ground, including Atlanta.



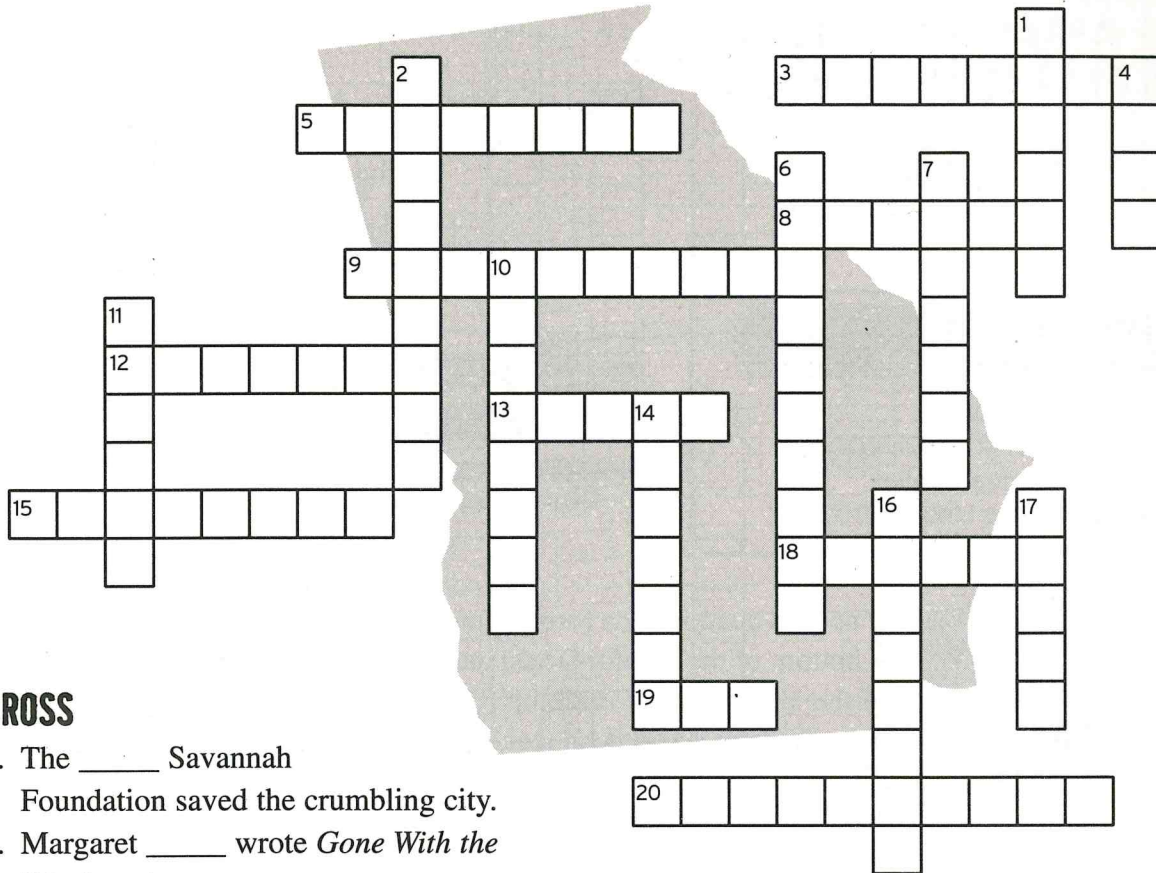
Today, rebuilt Atlanta is a major transportation center and has become one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation. Home to more than 400 corporations, the city also serves as headquarters to 24-hour Cable News Network (CNN) and Coca-Cola. To accommodate the Olympic Summer Games in 1996, the city built the Centennial Olympic Park. Baseball fans regularly flock to Turner Field nearby to watch the Atlanta Braves.

Sports figures are not the only famous Georgians celebrated in Atlanta. Jimmy Carter, former U.S. president and peanut farmer, hailed from Plains, Georgia, but his library is located in Atlanta. *Gone With the Wind* author Margaret Mitchell's house and museum can be seen on Peachtree Street. Civil-rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in the Sweet Auburn section of Atlanta. He is buried there near the Ebenezer Baptist Church where he preached. Atlanta also honors its war heroes. Carvings of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson can be found at Stone Mountain, the largest granite monolith in the world. The Antebellum Plantation nearby features 19 restored pre-Civil War buildings.



After destroying much of Atlanta, General Sherman and his army reached Savannah, where they stopped. Impressed by its beauty, Sherman decided to leave the city intact. By 1955, however, Savannah was in ruins. Fearing the wrecking ball, a group of women began The Historic Savannah Foundation. Through their resourcefulness, the city was once again saved.

Georgia Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3. The _____ Savannah Foundation saved the crumbling city.
5. Margaret _____ wrote *Gone With the Wind*.
8. Georgia was named after _____ II of England.
9. _____ Olympic Park was built for the 1996 Summer Olympics.
12. Sherman burned the city of _____.
13. During the Civil War, _____ soldiers were from the North.
15. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached at the _____ Baptist Church.
18. Jimmy Carter was a _____ farmer before becoming president.
19. _____ stands for Cable News Network.
20. Near Stone Mountain, you can visit the Antebellum _____.

DOWN

1. The Atlanta _____ are the city's baseball team.
2. _____ Jackson and Robert E. Lee were Civil War generals.
4. Coca-_____ has its corporate headquarters in Atlanta.
6. General James _____ founded Georgia.
7. Atlanta is one of the fastest _____ cities in the U.S.
10. General William _____ Sherman led the "March to the Sea."
11. President _____ was from Plains, Georgia.
14. In 1996, Atlanta hosted the Summer _____ Games.
16. Sherman stopped his "March to the Sea" when he reached _____.
17. _____ Mountain is a giant granite monolith.