

Explore Nature in the Golden Isles



If you're visiting the Golden Isles and want to immerse yourself in nature, whether you have a weekend or a week, this itinerary is perfect for you.

Day One:

Begin your nature experience with sea turtles on Jekyll Island. Perfect for all ages, explore the center's exhibits on sea turtle conservation and rehabilitation and then visit the pavilion to see the current patients. After grabbing a bite to eat at one of the restaurants on Jekyll Island, venture to the 4-H Tidelands Nature Center where you can touch a horseshoe crab and observe fish, crabs, snakes and more.

[Georgia Sea Turtle Center](#)

March-November / Monday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm / Tuesday-Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

December- February / Monday CLOSED / Tuesday-Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
www.georgiaseaturtlecenter.org (\$5-\$7 pp)

4-H Tidelands Nature Center

Monday-Friday / 9:00 am – 4:00 pm / Saturday-Sunday / 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
www.tidelands4h.org (\$2 pp)

Day Two:

Accessible only by boat, Little St. Simons Island is the ideal spot for a day trip. Enjoy a guided island tour, led by a staff naturalist, and hearty low country lunch. You can also choose to stay overnight at this beautiful secluded retreat.

Little St. Simons Island

Private boat departs from Hampton River Marina on the north end of St. Simons Island.
www.littlestsimonsisland.com

Day Three:

Experience sea kayaking on St. Simons Island with local guides and watch the abundant wildlife in the marshes. Enjoy shelling and bird watching on a remote beach before heading back to land. After your kayak adventure, stretch your legs with a stroll the John Gilbert Nature Trail. Pack a picnic to enjoy under the magnificent live oak, “John’s Oak”, in the center of the trail. Bring your binoculars for bird watching at various points at the marsh border.

SouthEast Adventure Outfitters

www.southeastadventure.com

Stroll on the John Gilbert Nature Trail

Open daily from sunrise to sunset.

Day Four:

Head back out to sea with a fun day on a shrimp boat, on a real shrimp trawler - the only shrimp vessel on the entire east coast that has been certified by the USCG to carry 49 passengers offshore. Help sort the day's catch and then sit back and relax while a shrimp boil is prepared. After a day at sea, drive to an authentic Georgia coast rice plantation and walk along the nature trail along the edge of the marsh. A

stop on the Colonial Coast Birding Trail, this trail is an excellent place to look for egrets, herons and ibis.

Lady Jane Shrimpin' Excursions

www.shrimpcruise.com

Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation

Thursday-Saturday / 9:00 am - 5:00 pm / Last main house tour at 4:00 pm

www.gastateparks.org/info/hofwyl (\$3.50-\$6.50 pp)