



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. Dr. Heike Fuller has served as Consul General since August 2018. Germany also maintains an Honorary Consulate in Savannah, where Denis Blackburne serves as Honorary Consul.

The German American Chamber of Commerce (GACC-South) is the German government's official representative of industry and trade. Atlanta is also home to Goethe-Zentrum, a German Cultural Center.

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.

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.

GDEcD's Center of Innovation for Aerospace co-hosted the Bavarian American Aerospace Symposium in 2014. Three Georgia cities have sister city agreements with Germany: Atlanta - Nürnberg; Marietta - Linz am Rhein; and Savannah - Halle.

Academics

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 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 a summer study abroad program to Freiburg, Germany.

As of Fall 2018, 274 German students were enrolled in USG schools. 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

About 107,800 Germans visited Georgia in 2018 and spent more than \$181.1 million, making it a top volume tourism market for the state.

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.

Nine of the top 50 2016 films in Germany were filmed in Georgia, and one of Germany's top theme parks features a Georgia-filmed *The Walking Dead* attraction.

In a cross-continental partnership, awarding-winning Georgia singer/songwriter EG Kight and German guitarist and educator Norbert Fuhrmann toured Europe and the U.S. together for more than a decade.

The Georgia State University choir took home 1st place at the Marktoberdorf International Chamber Choir Competition held in Germany in July 2017.

In 2017, Atlanta's High Museum of Art offered the first U.S. presentation of new work from German photographer Thomas Struth.

Atlanta United FC currently has three players from Germany: Julian Gressel (Midfielder), Kevin Kratz (Midfielder), and Gordon Wild (Midfielder/Defender).

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2018, Georgia's exports to Germany totaled **\$2.29 billion**. Germany is currently the 4th largest export market for Georgia. Top exports from Georgia to Germany include civilian aircraft, engines and parts, motor vehicles, optical fibers, parts of airplanes or helicopters and chemical woodpulp. Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Germany: chemical woodpulp and optical fibers.

IMPORTS: In 2018, Georgia's imports from Germany totaled **\$9.8 billion**. Germany ranks second among Georgia's importer nations. Top imports from Germany include motor vehicles, medicaments, powered aircraft, turbojets and motor vehicle parts and accessories.

Capital Investment

There are currently at least **60 Georgia companies** with facilities in Germany, including but not limited to:

AGCO Corporation
Crawford & Company
Delta Air Lines
Exide Technologies
Georgia-Pacific
Invesco
King & Spalding LLP
NCR Corporation
The Coca-Cola Company
Turner Broadcasting System
UPS

Germany is one of Georgia's top three investment partners. At least **519 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.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) has an established relationship with Germany. The Port of Savannah offers regular shipping services to Bremerhaven and one regular service to Hamburg. The Port of Brunswick also offers regular shipping services to Bremerhaven and Hamburg, as well as a monthly service to Emden.

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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