



## GEORGIA - FRANCE COUNTRY CONNECTION

### Government and Commerce

Maintained since 1820, Atlanta is home to the Consulate General of France. Ms. Anne-Laure Desjonquères has served as Consul General since August 2022.

Business France, France's trade and investment arm, is co-located with the Consulate General.

The State of Georgia has had continuous representation in Europe since 1973. Since that time the office has assisted hundreds of European firms locating in Georgia and Georgia companies exporting to Europe.

Former Ambassador of France to the United States Philippe Étienne visited Governor Brian P. Kemp in February 2020.

The French American Chamber of Commerce (FACC) has an office in Atlanta. **Katherine Lafourcade** serves as Executive Director. The FACC hosts the annual Crystal Peach Awards which recognizes significant inbound and outbound investments between France and the Southeastern U.S.

Atlanta is also home to Alliance Française d'Atlanta, a non-profit organization committed to the study of French language and culture between Americans and French speakers.

Governor Kemp visited France in June 2023 for visits with existing industries and participated in the Paris Air Show.

Three Georgia cities have sister city agreements with France: Macon – Mâcon; Atlanta – Toulouse; and Augusta – Biarritz.

### Academics

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 72 study abroad programs in France in a variety of disciplines.

The Georgia Institute of Technology has maintained an international campus in Metz, France since 1990. More than 5,000 students have studied at GT-Lorraine. The Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) also maintains a full-time campus in Lacoste, France.

Georgia Tech partners with the French Consulate General to present "France-Atlanta", an annual series of events that foster cooperation in the scientific, business, cultural and humanitarian domains.

### Arts, Culture and Tourism

In 2023, 24,900 French visitors spent \$33.4 million in the state of Georgia.

Atlanta hosts an annual Francophonie Festival that features film, dance, music and cultural events from the French-speaking world.

In late 2023, the High Museum of Art hosted an exhibit titled "In the City of Light: Paris 1850-1920", which served as an illustrated guide through the architecture, people, and culture of the city through that time period.

French conductor Nathalie Stutzmann began her term as the fifth Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 2021.

Georgia is home to Théâtre du Rêve, the only professional Francophone theater company in the U.S.

### International Trade

**EXPORTS:** In 2023, Georgia exports to France totaled \$593 million. France is the 20th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to France include motor vehicles, civilian aircrafts, insecticides, turbojets, and sulfate turpentine.

Georgia leads the nations in the export of the following goods to France: motor vehicles, sulfate turpentine, boats, and cyclic hydrocarbons

**IMPORTS:** In 2023, Georgia imports from France totaled \$3.08 billion. France ranks 13th among Georgia's importer nations.

Top Imports from France to Georgia include aircrafts, medicaments, and immunological products.

### Capital Investment

At least **45** Georgia companies have operations in France, including but not limited to:

- Cryolife
- Exide Technologies
- Georgia-Pacific
- Halyard Health
- King & Spalding
- Mohawk Industries
- Vernay Laboratories
- Zep

There are approximately **340 French facilities operating in Georgia**, employing more than 13,800 Georgians.

One of the largest French investments in Georgia, based on total employment, is Imerys. Located in Georgia since 1986, Imerys processes industrial minerals such as kaolinic clay.

### Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers multiple daily direct flights between Atlanta and Paris. Additionally, Delta offers seasonal service to Nice from May-September.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) has an established relationship with France. The Port of Savannah offers direct weekly container ship service to the ports of Dunkirk, Fos, and Le Havre.

### 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](http://www.georgia.org).

### GDEcD's International Representatives in Europe

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*\*Information valid as of September 2024*