



GEORGIA - ITALY COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

Georgia serves as headquarters to the Honorary Consulate General of the Italian Republic. Italy has maintained a consular presence in Georgia since 1899. Filiberto Calascibetta has served as the Honorary Consul since August 2020.

The Italy America Chamber of Commerce – Georgia Chapter was founded in 2019 and is based in Atlanta. The chapter is in charge of developing the activities of the chamber in the state.

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.

La Società Italiana, the Italian American Club of Atlanta, was founded in 1986 to perpetuate Italian heritage, culture and ideals through social and charitable events.

In March 2019, Italy's Ambassador to the U.S., Armando Varricchio, visited Atlanta to celebrate the expansion of Aquafil USA, Italy's largest company in Georgia.

In 2024, Governor Brian P. Kemp led an economic development mission to Italy to promote Georgia business and continue relationships with our existing partners.

Georgia has one sister city agreement with Italy: Athens – Cortona.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2024, 103 Italian students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 60 study abroad programs to Italy, where students can study business, art, archeology, education, history, language, literature, architecture, music, art history, classical culture, and agriculture.

Since 1970, the University of Georgia (UGA) academic facility in Cortona, Italy has produced more than 8,000 alumni. UGA is currently partnering with the Insubria Center on International Security to assist European governmental authorities in conducting self-assessments of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear facilities.

The Georgia Institute of Technology partners with the Politecnico di Torino and the University of Trento to offer dual master's degrees in electrical and computer engineering and computer science. The university also offers three undergraduate programs where students can study in Italy.

Kennesaw State University is currently expanding its facilities in Tuscany at its Montepulciano campus.

Emory University provides faculty-led study abroad programs in Rome and Siena where students study art history and chemistry. Emory also provides direct enrollment options at the Accademia dell'Arte in Arezzo.

Arts, Culture and Tourism

In 2023, 12,600 Italian visitors spent over \$17.1 million in the state of Georgia.

In 2019, Cinema Italy celebrated its 13th annual film festival in Atlanta.

In 2021, Georgia Tech presented Amygdala, an audiovisual installation representing the collective emotional state of the Internet and its changes on the basis of events that take place around the world. Amygdala is created by fuse*, an Italian studio and production company.

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra has featured two guest conductors in 2018: Roberto Abbado in February and Carolo Rizzi in April.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2023, Georgia exports to Italy totaled \$592 million. Italy is the 21st largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Italy include kraft paper and paperboard, chemical wood pulp of soda or sulfate, petroleum gases, turbojets, and spectacles.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Italy: kraft paper and paperboard, chemical wood pulp of soda or sulfate, and kaolin.

IMPORTS: In 2023, Georgia imports from Italy totaled \$2.85 billion. Italy ranks 14th among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Italy to Georgia include spectacles, frames and mountings for spectacles, motor cars, machines for dishwashing, and machine tools for working wood.

Investment

More than **20** Georgia companies with operations in Italy, including but not limited to:

- Brand Energy & Infrastructure Services
- Georgia-Pacific
- Immucor
- NCR Corporation
- The Coca-Cola Company
- UPS

More than **70 Italian facilities operating in Georgia** employ over 3,500 Georgians.

Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to Rome, Milan and Venice (seasonal). In 2024, the airport expects 1,106 flights between Georgia and Italy carrying 272,000 passengers.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship with Italy. The Port of Savannah offers direct weekly container ship service to the ports of Genoa, Giaia Tauro, La Spezia, Livorno, Salerno, and Vado Ligure.

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

Ellen Kraft
Managing Director
ekraft@georgia.org

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