

## Alpharetta

**Website:**

[www.alpharetta.ga.us](http://www.alpharetta.ga.us)

**Incorporated Date:**

December 11, 1858

**Population:**

57,551

**Total Area:**

23.0 sq mi

Alpharetta, located in Fulton County, was incorporated December 11, 1858. Years ago, Alpharetta was the county seat of the former Milton County. In 1932, Milton County merged into Fulton County. The city's name is a variation of a fictional Indian girl, Alfarata, in a 19th century song, The Blue Juniata. The name of the city is also believed to have been derived from the first letter of the Greek alphabet.

The Autrey Mill Nature Preserve and Heritage Center is located in Alpharetta. This 46-acre forest has an abundance of animal life and a scenic creek. There are 1.5 miles of walking trails, picnic areas and historic sites for visitors to enjoy. The Environmental Education Center is located in Alpharetta. The Center operates as a community service center providing information on environmental topics and features a library with hundreds of valuable resource materials.

Alpharetta is home to the campus of DeVry Institute of Technology, as well as a campus of Georgia State University.

## Kennesaw

**Website:**

[www.kennesaw-ga.gov](http://www.kennesaw-ga.gov)

**Incorporated Date:**

January 1, 1887

**Population:**

29,783

**Total Area:**

8.5 sq mi

In the 1830s, the railroad building craze hit Cobb County, and as more and more rail workers came to the county, Kennesaw grew up around that industry. Residents later founded the city in 1887.

During the Civil War, Kennesaw served as the staging ground for the Great Locomotive Chase, an event now recounted at the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

**History and culture thrive**

Kennesaw takes great pride in protecting and managing its historical and cultural resources for future generations. Attractions include the Smithsonian affiliated Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History, Smith-Gilbert Gardens, and improved public areas and renovated buildings with delightfully eclectic shops and restaurants.

**Kennesaw delivers on quality of life**

Kennesaw's Parks & Recreation programs, special events and facilities, efficient street and sanitation services, environmental initiatives, and a strong, caring Police Department play central roles in supporting and sustaining our livability and economic vitality.

## **Marietta**

**Website:**

[www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov)

**Incorporated Date:**

December 19, 1834

**Population:**

56,579

**Total Area:**

22.0 sq mi

Incorporated on December 19, 1834, Marietta is the Cobb County seat of government. While the origin of the city's name is somewhat a mystery, prevailing wisdom has it that the name remembers Mary Moore, the wife of U.S. Senator and Supreme Court Judge, Thomas Willis Cobb. If this origin is correct, it seems apt, as Judge Cobb is the namesake of the county itself.

When, in 1864, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman marched through Marietta, he spared the city before going to burn Atlanta.

Crowned the 2006 All-America City, Marietta was considered one of the nation's 10 best communities, as reviewed by The National Civic League—the country's oldest and most respected community recognition award. Marietta's sound economic foundation is rooted in its base of over one hundred Fortune 500 companies, and a longstanding aeronautics industry. Furthermore, expanding economic clusters in health services, hospitality, tourism, and entertainment, keep Marietta well positioned for continuing private sector investment, new business, and industry development.

## Roswell

**Website:**

[www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com)

**Incorporated Date:**

February 16, 1854

**Population:**

88,346

**Total Area:**

39.0

Incorporated on February 16, 1854, Roswell remembers an original settler of the area, Roswell King. King and others traveled from the Georgia coast with the hopes of investing in mining. After discovering that this area lay near the Chattahoochee River, King decided instead to build a major textile mill powered by the water. The Roswell Manufacturing Co. and the Roswell Mill played key roles in the development of the town during its earlier history.

Roswell maintains a number of historic homes, notably Bulloch Hall, the childhood home of President Theodore Roosevelt's mother, Martha "Mittie" Bulloch. Also of interest are the Archibald Smith Plantation, the preserved home of one of Roswell's founding families, and Barrington Hall, the home of Barrington King, Roswell King's son.

For visitors who'd rather spend time outdoors, the Chattahoochee Nature Center encompasses 127 acres and offers four nature trails that wind through wetlands and woodlands.

Throughout the year Roswell hosts a number of events including the annual Roswell Arts Festival in September, the Youth Day Parade in October, Holiday on the Square in December and the Roswell Roots Festival in February. The city also sponsors the Riverside Sounds Concert Series the first Saturday of the month from May through October and the Roswell Magnolia Storytelling Festival in the spring.