

# TRAVEL

## Holiday shopping in Savannah-in your pajamas!

By Sherry Jackson

In a city where “everything is haunted”(according to locals), Savannah is an elegant, mysterious and sultry southern belle. Established in 1733, Savannah is known as America’s first “planned” city with founder James Oglethorpe laying out the streets with 22 tree-filled squares. This bustling port was the place to export cotton and visitors can



enjoy strolling down cobblestone streets under century-old live oak trees dripping with Spanish moss.

Always unique, Savannah is offering an unusual holiday shopping experience. There’s nothing better than putting on your p.j.’s and hanging out with your girlfriends, right? Well in Savannah, during the month of December, do all your holiday shopping in your pajamas! Over 60 stores, galleries, restaurants, bars and tours are taking part in this event that raises money for Toys for Tots. Sponsored by the Savannah Inns, a collection of four unique bed and breakfast inns, this brand-new event only has two requirements, that you shop in your p.j.’s and have an “official” Pajama Shop Hop Passport. You will receive a thank you or a discount from each participating business owner.

The first stop is to pick up your Passport at one of the four historic Savannah Inns. Each inn is not only historic but unique. The Dressler Palmer House built in 1876 is the largest with sixteen rooms and was originally two separate homes. The Green Palm Inn was originally a duplex built in 1897 by two sea captains and has four rooms and a carriage

house down the street. The Azalea Inn was built in 1885 and is the only one of the four inns that has a pool. It has eight rooms and a carriage house. The Ziegler House Inn is the oldest of the inns and was built in 1856. All seven rooms at this former bordello and boarding house are suites.

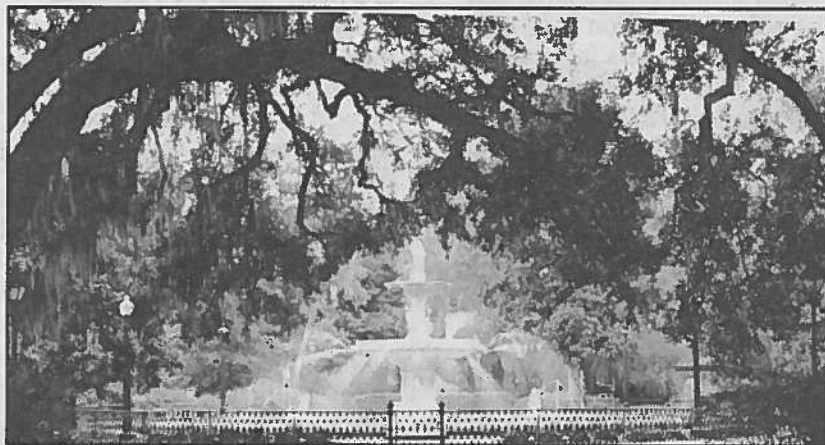
Once you have your shopping passport in hand, it’s time to get down to business. Savannah offers charming local boutiques, antique stores with one-of-a-kind treasures and an eclectic assortment of everything from wine to apparel. While there are shops tucked away on every square, the main shopping area in Savannah is Broughton Street.

Your first must-stop is Nourish, a natural bath products company that began thirteen years ago in Florida. Here owners Shoshanna and Corey Walker sell soaps Shoshanna’s



mom perfected over the years using only natural ingredients. The company has three locations (the other two are in Hilton Head, SC and Melbourne, FL) and while they have expanded their product line to include soy candles, moisturizers and other bath products, the bar soaps are still their most popular item. And, with soaps like chocolate, vanilla coffee and ginger lime, they smell as good as they look.

Another must-do on your shopping itinerary is the Savannah Bee Company. Owner Ted Dennard has had a passion for beekeeping and honey since his neighbor introduced him to it when he



was 12 years old. Ted’s mission is to “redefine honey” and share his passion through both education and the bottling of his premium products. The company’s flagship store is also located on Broughton Street and has an amazing selection of honey products ranging from honey teas to moisturizers and lip balm. There’s also a honey tasting bar where you can experience the flavors of over ten different honeys like Tupelo and Sourwood Honey.

Before leaving Broughton Street, stop in for a tasty treat at Leopold’s Ice Cream. Founded in 1919 by three immigrant brothers from Greece, Stratton and Mary Leopold are continuing the family tradition of “sharing a little bit of frozen happiness with everyone.” They make everything from scratch including the chocolate syrup. Their signature creation, tutti-frutti, a rum-based ice cream, is a local favorite.

Next, head over to the Downtown Design District for some



antique and boutique shopping. C.H. Brown Antiques has a small but great collection of 18th and 19th century American

and English silver and crystal while the Savannah Shoe Company has a unique selection of locally designed custom shoes. ShopSCAD features artwork by local SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design) students and staff and E. Shaver Booksellers has 12 rooms full of an extensive collection of both hardback and paperback books.

After you’ve shopped till you dropped, jump on an Old Savannah Tours trolley to ride around for a little while and learn about Savannah’s history. It’s the only locally owned and operated trolley tour company in Savannah and has been in business for over thirty years. You’ll learn about Tomochichi, a seventeenth century Creek Indian leader who is credited with establishing peaceful relations between the Georgia settlers and his tribe. You’ll also learn more about James Edward Oglethorpe and drive by Chippewa Square and see where Forrest Gump sat and ate his box of chocolates.

The most popular tour is a hop-on, hop-off tour which has fifteen stops around the city and trolleys come by about every 15 minutes.

When you’ve worked up an appetite, you can’t miss the famous Mrs. Wilkes Dining Room, 107 Jones Street. This former boarding house

has been open since the 1940’s and visitors line up on the sidewalk every day to get a spot at a family-style table where

southern comfort food is served. Mrs. Wilkes is open for lunch from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and only accepts cash so plan accordingly.

Stores tend to close early in Savannah, which means your evenings will be free. Dinner options include the Pirates House which has been welcoming diners since 1733. Of course, in the early days those were mostly pirates who came to drink and the downstairs rum cellar is considered to be haunted. Today, sampling of their famous pecan crusted fried chicken with honey might be more in order. Or, if you are looking for some



thing a little more upscale, Victoria on the River (26 E. Bay Street) was a former cotton warehouse in 1859 and now has a two-level dining room with spectacular views of the Savannah River.

After dinner, visit Mata Hari’s. You must have a special key to gain entrance into this by-invitation-only underground speakeasy (hint: if you stay at one of the Savannah Inn’s, each innkeeper has one of the exclusive keys to get in). The underground nightclub offers classic cocktails such as absinthe (served with melting sugar over the glass), old fashioned or try a Mata Hari Martini. Sultry jazz singers and entertaining burlesque shows will make it a night to remember.

For other great southern destinations visit See the South at [www.seethesouth.com](http://www.seethesouth.com).

See the South  
Uniquely Southern destination information.  
Visit our website  
[www.seethesouth.com](http://www.seethesouth.com)

## OBITUARIES

**MSG (Ret) Warren Ed (Fast Eddy) Fisler, D553L-SOA1933CL,**

Ed passed away the morning of Nov 15th at Hospice Covenant House, Pensacola, FL. He had fought a long, hard and courageous battle with Agent Orange

Central America. With his military experience and personality, he was recognized as a unique individual and served as the basis for the novel “Hunting with Tigers,” along with CSM Gene Basilici and Wade Ishimoto. It’s his likeness on the cover of the novel

**George William (Bill) Guirl 1920 – 2012**

After a long and fruitful life, Bill Guirl died in his sleep on November 28th, 2012 in Rockford Illinois. Bill was father of Jim Guirl, father-in-law of Wayne Guirl, grandfather to

his favorite pastimes was the upkeep of the family farm in Belvidere Illinois, where his oldest son Tom has had a successful pottery business for 30 years. He is survived by two brothers, five of his children, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild. Most of the

Solution from page 4B

C	O	B	B			D	A	U	B		C	S	C		
A	L	A	I			R	E	C	T	I		H	A	O	
L	I	M	A			A	O	R	T	A	L		A	V	E
F	O	A	L			D	Y	E	S		L	I	P	I	D
		S	K	Y	J	A	C	K			O	L	E	O	S