Atlanta Travel Guide

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Atlanta, Georgia for the 18th ESSCA Space Policy Workshop. The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) is located in Midtown Atlanta, with many hotels and restaurants in close walking distance to campus.

Getting Here:
Attendees traveling to the workshop should fly into the Atlanta-Hartsfield International Airport (ATL). As the busiest passenger airport in the world, ATL offers direct flights to a wide array of global cities.

From the airport, you can reach campus by taxi (approximately $40), or by using the MARTA public transportation system. There is a MARTA station located inside the airport. The closest stops to campus are the North Avenue Station and the Midtown Station.
Website: https://www.itsmarta.com/

Accommodations:
There are many hotels located near campus with a range of pricing options. Some of the hotels most frequently used by Georgia Tech guests are mentioned here:

- Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center
  - Address: 800 Spring St NW, Atlanta, GA 30308
  - Reservations: http://www.gatechhotel.com/ or (404) 838-2100
  - Complimentary amenities: Business center, fitness center, newspapers, pool and hot tub, and Wi-Fi
- Hampton Inn Atlanta – Georgia Tech
  - Address: 244 North Avenue NW, Atlanta, GA 30313
  - Reservations: http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/hampton-inn-atlanta-georgia-tech-downtown-ATLGTHX/index.html or (404) 881-0881
  - Complimentary amenities: Breakfast, business center, fitness center, and Wi-Fi
- Renaissance Atlanta Midtown
  - Address: 866 W Peachtree St NW, Atlanta, GA 30308
  - Reservations: http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/atlbd-renaissance-atlanta-midtown-hotel/ or (678) 412-2400
  - Complimentary amenities: Business center, concierge, fitness center, and newspapers
- Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Midtown
  - Address: 97 10th St NW, Atlanta, GA 30309

- Reservations: http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/hilton-garden-inn-atlanta-midtown-ATLAMGI/index.html or 404) 524-4006
  - Complimentary amenities: Business center, fitness center, pool, and Wi-Fi
- Homewood Suites by Hilton Atlanta Midtown
  - Address: 97 10th St NW, Atlanta, GA 30309
  - Reservations: http://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/homewood-suites-by-hilton-atlanta-midtown-ga-ATLMIHW/index.html or (404) 524-4076
  - Complimentary amenities: Breakfast, business center, fitness center, newspapers, pool, and hot tub, and Wi-Fi
- Regency Suites Hotel
  - Address: 975 W Peachtree St, Atlanta, GA 30309
  - Reservations: https://www.regencysuites.com/ or (844) 321-1522
  - Complimentary amenities: Breakfast, business center, fitness center, newspapers, and Wi-Fi

Restaurants

There are numerous restaurants located within walking distance, but here are a few highlights you might consider:

- **The Consulate** – This restaurant features a rotating, international tapas menu and a cozy "James Bond-esque" interior with vintage furniture.
- **Cypress Street Pint & Plate** - neighborhood pub known for its lively atmosphere, expansive patio, and an extensive selection of local and craft beers.
- **South City Kitchen:** If you're interested in trying modern southern food, consider visiting South City Kitchen
- **Mary Mac's Tea Room:** For real home-style southern food, you have to go to Mary Mac's!
- **The Varsity –** For simple hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, and their famous orange drink, the Varsity is a campus institution that's been around for x years.
- **Waffle House** – This southern diner chain is known throughout the south for their simple all-day breakfast offerings – and there is a location on campus!
- **Trader Vic's** – This tiki bar and restaurant first opened in 1934 in California and was the original creator of the Mai Tai. The location in Atlanta is one of only three left in the United States.
- **Gunshow** – Gunshow offers a unique interactive dining experience where each chef specializes in a particular dish. The chefs bring their dishes out to the guests, who can choose which ones to try, similar to Chinese dim sum style.

- **Ponce City Market** and **Krog Street Market:** Ponce City Market and Krog Street Market are both food halls (with shopping as well) located on the Atlanta Beltline – both have an excellent selection of sit-down and fast-casual restaurants, with a wide variety of cuisine including American, Mexican, Indian, and others.
- **Michelin-Rated Restaurants:** Atlanta was added to the Michelin guide in 2024 – so that provides another great place to look for good restaurant options! (https://guide.michelin.com/us/en/georgia/atlanta_2884144/restaurants?sort=distance) Some of my favorites are:

Attractions

If you have some free time during your visit to Atlanta, we encourage you to check out these local attractions!

- **BeltLine:** The Atlanta BeltLine is a massive urban redevelopment project built on a former railway corridor that will eventually form a 22-mile loop of multi-use trails and parks around the city's core. It connects 45 neighborhoods and provides a vibrant public space with access to new restaurants, shops, art, and greenspace, fostering recreation and commerce. Walking the BeltLine is one of the best ways to see the city.
- **Martin Luther King Center:** Situated in Atlanta's Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, the King Center features Dr. King's birth home, final resting place, a library and exhibits highlighting his life and nonviolent teachings. The King Center was established in 1968 by his widow Coretta Scott King.
- **Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum:** The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum is located in Atlanta, Georgia and offers an excellent collection of exhibits about his life and his time in the White House.
- **National Center for Civil and Human Rights:** A cultural institution and museum that explores the connections between the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and the ongoing global human rights struggles. It features immersive, interactive exhibits, and also serves as the exclusive public venue for a rotating collection of personal papers and artifacts from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- **High Museum of Art:** Delight in a truly impressive permanent collection at the High Museum of Art. There are more than 11,000 pieces that range from 19th and 20th century American art and photography to folk art and African art.
- **Georgia Aquarium:** Featuring more sea creatures than any other aquarium in eight million gallons of water, Georgia Aquarium is the largest aquarium in the world. Enjoy tours, programs and more than sixty exhibits, including Coldwater Quest, Ocean Voyager and Tropical Diver.

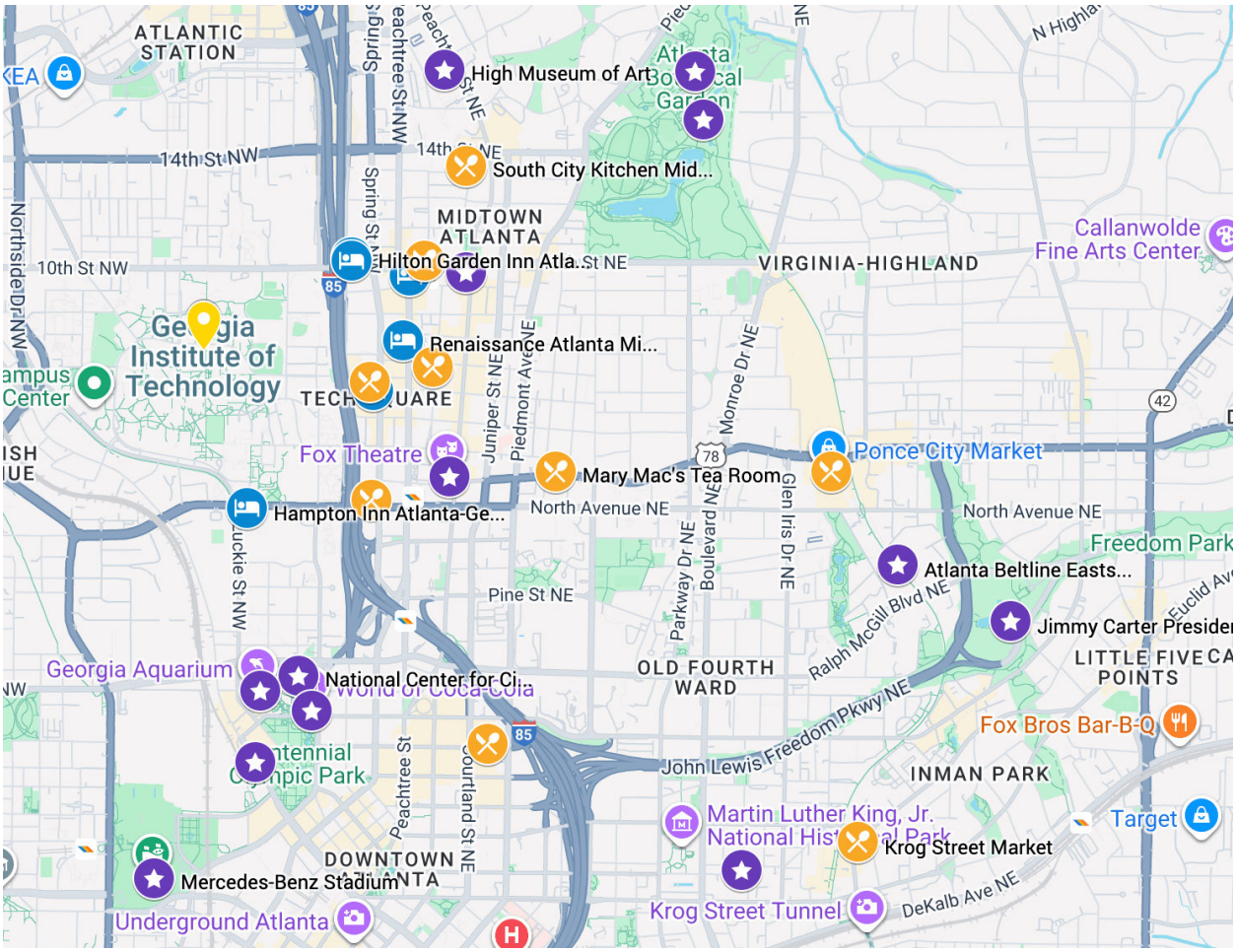
- **Atlanta Botanical Gardens:** Just about every plant and flower you can imagine blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, from the Madagascar Palm and Woolly Groundset to the Georgia Plume and Rain Lily. During the summer months, you can enjoy many fun events, including Cocktails in the Garden.
- **Piedmont Park:** Enjoy an abundance of activities at Piedmont Park, including fishing, swimming, biking, skating, jogging, tennis, picnicking and bird watching. Located in Midtown Atlanta, this verdant oasis has been a favorite of city dwellers since 1904.
- **World of Coca-Cola:** Coca-Cola got its start in Atlanta in 1886 when it was served at a soda fountain in a small pharmacy. Learn all about the history of the world's most pervasive soft drink and check out the largest collection of Coca-Cola memorabilia anywhere on the planet at this most refreshing museum.
- **Fox Theater:** The Fox Theatre is a magnificent, historic performing arts venue in Atlanta, Georgia, renowned for its lavish Moorish and Egyptian-inspired architecture. The interior features a grand auditorium designed to resemble an Arabian courtyard with a starry night sky, making it one of the city's most beloved cultural landmarks. Tours are offered on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Check the calendar for live shows!
- **Margaret Mitchell House**: Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and operated by the Atlanta History Center, the Margaret Mitchell House is a turn-of-the century, three-story, Tudor Revival building where Margaret Mitchell lived and wrote her Pulitzer-Prize winning book, Gone With the Wind. The house has become one of Atlanta's most treasured landmarks, literary centers, special events venue and tourist attraction.
- **Mercedes Benz Stadium:** The Mercedes-Benz Stadium is a world-class sports venue in Atlanta, Georgia, featuring a unique retractable roof inspired by the Roman Pantheon. It is home to both the NFL's Atlanta Falcons and MLS's Atlanta United FC, and has hosted major events like the Super Bowl and the College Football Playoff National Championship. It will host World Cup games in June 2026!
- **College Football Hall of Fame:** The College Football Hall of Fame is an interactive museum in Atlanta, Georgia, that honors the greatest players and coaches in college football history through its exhibits, archives, and induction ceremonies. It features interactive elements like an indoor football field and displays like the three-story Helmet Wall, offering a comprehensive experience for fans of the sport.
- **Atlanta History Center and Cyclorama:** It requires a short drive from Midtown, but visiting the Atlanta History Center provides a comprehensive history of the city, including its role in the Civil War and its hosting of the 1996 Olympic Games. The Atlanta History Center is also home to the Cyclorama, a fully restored, massive 19th-century circular painting of the Battle of Atlanta, presented as an immersive experience.

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While hundreds of cycloramas existed in the 19th century, only about 30 still exist in the world today, and even fewer are on public display.

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