



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Farrah R. Senn, Economic Development Director
Wilkinson County Chamber of Commerce
100A Bacon Street/ PO Box 413
Irwinton, GA 31042
Phone: (478) 946-1122
Fax: (478) 946-4394
E-mail: chamber@wilkinsoncounty.net
Website: www.wilkinsoncounty.net/chamber

Wilkinson County, GA

Home of the Everyday South

Wilkinson County is conveniently situated in central Georgia and offers a variety of historical and recreational tourism opportunities. Known for its excellent hunting land and its scenic rolling hills in the heart of kaolin country, what makes Wilkinson County unique is its rural character and the down-home atmosphere that pervades all aspects of the community here.



Named a 2006 and 2007 County of Excellence by *GeorgiaTrend* Magazine, Wilkinson County includes the seven municipalities of Irwinton, Gordon, McIntyre, Ivey, Toombsboro, Allentown and Danville, creating a sense of pride in community throughout the county. The County and its seven municipalities were recently recognized by Governor Sonny Perdue as being named an Entrepreneur Friendly Community.

Wilkinson County's most populated city is **Gordon**, which is host of the annual Fall Line Festival featuring the Skippin' and Poppin' Antique Tractor show held the first weekend of each October. The Gordon Depot Museum has artifacts from the Central Georgia Railroad and the city of Gordon and is open for tours the first and third Saturday of each month. Renovated by the Gordon Better Hometown Society to include a meeting space, the depot was the location for scenes in the film "My Christmas Soldier" which was released December 2006. The Gordon Cemetery with its antebellum graves is the site for the Haunted History Tours also in October of each year.



Gordon's sister city of **Ivey** features beautiful Lake Tchoucolako and the 18-hole Holiday Hills Golf Course.

Irwinton is the county seat, and is known for its Eternal Flame memorial,



the old city well, the antebellum Union Church, and MaeBob's Restaurant.

McIntyre is the home to the county's largest industry and employer B.A.S.F., (formerly Engelhard), a kaolin company.

Allentown and **Danville** are both small cities whose boundaries both lie in four different counties, with Wilkinson being one of those. Both Allentown and Danville are accessible from Interstate-16.



Many of the buildings that visitors have admired for years in historic **Toomsboro** have recently been renovated, including the antebellum Willett Hotel, the Swamp Land Opera and Restaurant and the Syrup Pitcher. The old Toomsboro Drug Store is now an ice cream and sandwich shop and features many antique items from Toomsboro's past.



What's New:

A group of tourism-interested business owners, organizations and citizens are joining forces to have all their tourism-related businesses and sites staffed and open in a collaborative concept called "Wilkinson Weekends." Wilkinson County is full of historically significant venues, many which are not open to the public at present, but this group seeks to identify these places and man them with volunteer tour

guides to be open for tours the first weekend of each month.

Story Ideas:

- **Hall's General Store:** When "Wilkinson Weekends" takes off, Hall's General Store in Toomsboro will be open for tours the first weekend of each month. The store has been featured in the Atlanta Constitution because the store was shut and locked up for years and thus still has antique merchandise, such as a pair of early 1900 shoes, on the shelves, which are actually old ammunition boxes.
- **Historical Union Church:** Also to be a part of "Wilkinson Weekends," historical Union Church in Irwinton may soon be open for visitors. The church was built in 1854 as a shared house of worship for three denominations after arsonists destroyed the Methodist and Baptists churches in town. The architect was catholic, thus patterned the church after Catholic churches of the day, and one Sunday a month was set aside for each denomination's congregation, including Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians, to worship. It is also rumored that near the close of the civil war, Sherman used the church as a camp during his infamous March to the Sea.

Annual Events:

- The Fall Line Festival, featuring the Skippin' and Poppin' Antique Tractor Show, is held each year the first weekend in October in Gordon, Ga., to celebrate the city's birthday.
- Haunted History Tours of the Gordon Cemetery are held each October during Halloween.

Media Services:

Photos and information available upon request at contact information listed above.

