

# Bicycling in Georgia: Rights and Rules of the Road

Bicycling can be fun, whether it is done for recreation or to get to work; to make it safe, both cyclists and motorists should follow the rules below.

- A safe bicycle is a **well maintained bicycle**, be sure to check brakes, gears, and tires often.
- When cycling, be safe; **always wear a helmet and bright, reflective clothing**
- **Bicycles are vehicles** and have the same rights and responsibilities on public roads as motorists.
- Motor vehicles must provide at least **three feet of safe passing distance** when overtaking a bicyclist.
- Bicyclists are safest and most visible when they **travel on the roadway, not the sidewalk**. Sidewalk cycling is illegal for anyone over the age of 12 in Georgia.
- **Bicycles must travel in the same direction as motor vehicle traffic**, even when in a designated bike lane.
- **Cyclists can — and should take the whole travel lane where there are poor road conditions**, such as debris or potholes.
- **Bicyclists may lawfully ride two abreast**.
- Verbal & physical **harassment of cyclists can cause life-altering injury or death**.

These rules have been adapted from *Bicycling in Georgia: Rights and Rules*, from Georgia Bikes!, Inc. A full version is available at [www.georgiabikes.org](http://www.georgiabikes.org)

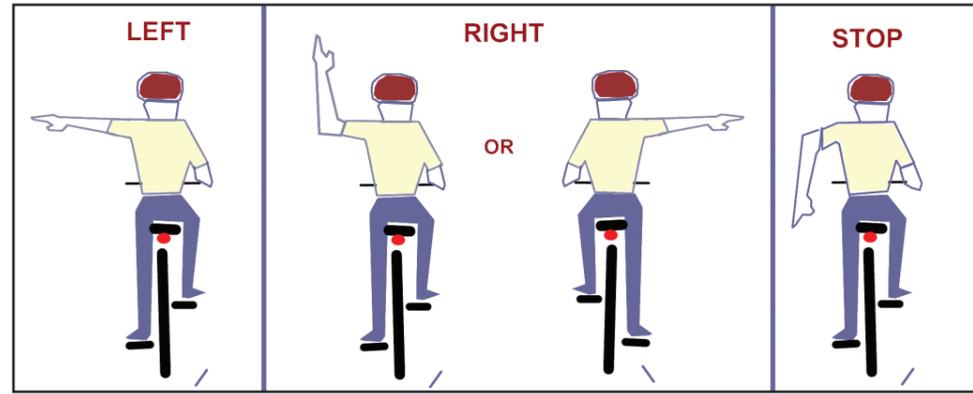
Scan this code with your smart phone or tablet for more Bicycle Routes and Information



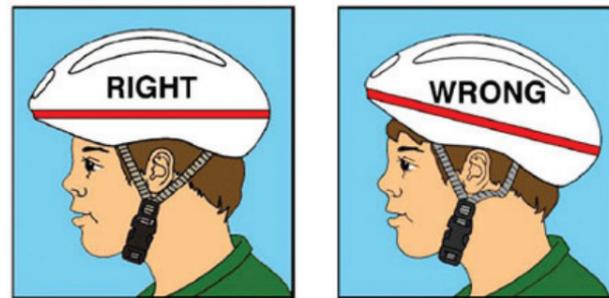
## Georgia Bicycling Resources



## Know Your Hand Signals



## Always Wear A Helmet



Wear the helmet flat on the head, not tilted back at an angle!

Georgia Law: No person under the age of 16 years shall operate or be a passenger on a bicycle on a highway, bicycle path, or sidewalk under the jurisdiction or control of this state or any local political subdivision thereof without wearing a bicycle helmet.



Sources: [www.kootation.com](http://www.kootation.com), [www.nymblog.com](http://www.nymblog.com); [www.buyhelmet.onsugar.com](http://www.buyhelmet.onsugar.com), [www.nj.com](http://www.nj.com); SGRC Bike Map Version 3; 2/2017

## Regional Points of Interest

- Ashburn - Fire Ant Festival
- Douglas - Ashley Slater House
- Fitzgerald - Blue and Grey Museum
- Folkston - Folkston Funnel
- Lakeland - Historic Milltown Murals
- Nashville/Sparks - Horse Creek Winery
- Quitman - Historic Downtown
- Tifton - Georgia Museum of Agriculture
- Valdosta - Wild Adventures Theme Park
- Waycross - Okefenokee Swamp Park
- Waynesville - Confederate Soldiers Park



# Bicycling in Southern Georgia



327 W Savannah Ave. 1725 So. Georgia Pkwy, W  
 Valdosta, GA 31601 Waycross, GA 31503

229-333-5277 912-285-6097

[www.sgrc.us](http://www.sgrc.us)

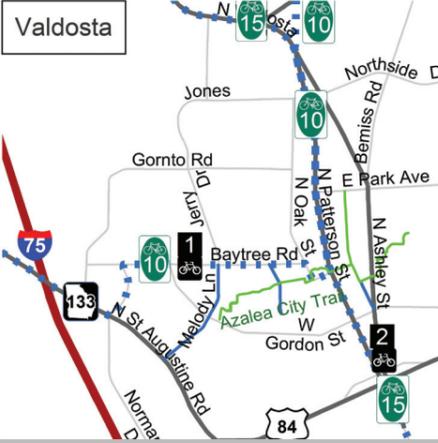
### Wiregrass (Route 20) Blakely, GA to Waycross, GA

This route travels near historic Civil War sites through the southern Georgia countryside. Pause in historic downtowns like Ashburn, Fitzgerald, Douglas, and Waycross for a casual meal on your way to the Great Okefenokee Swamp.



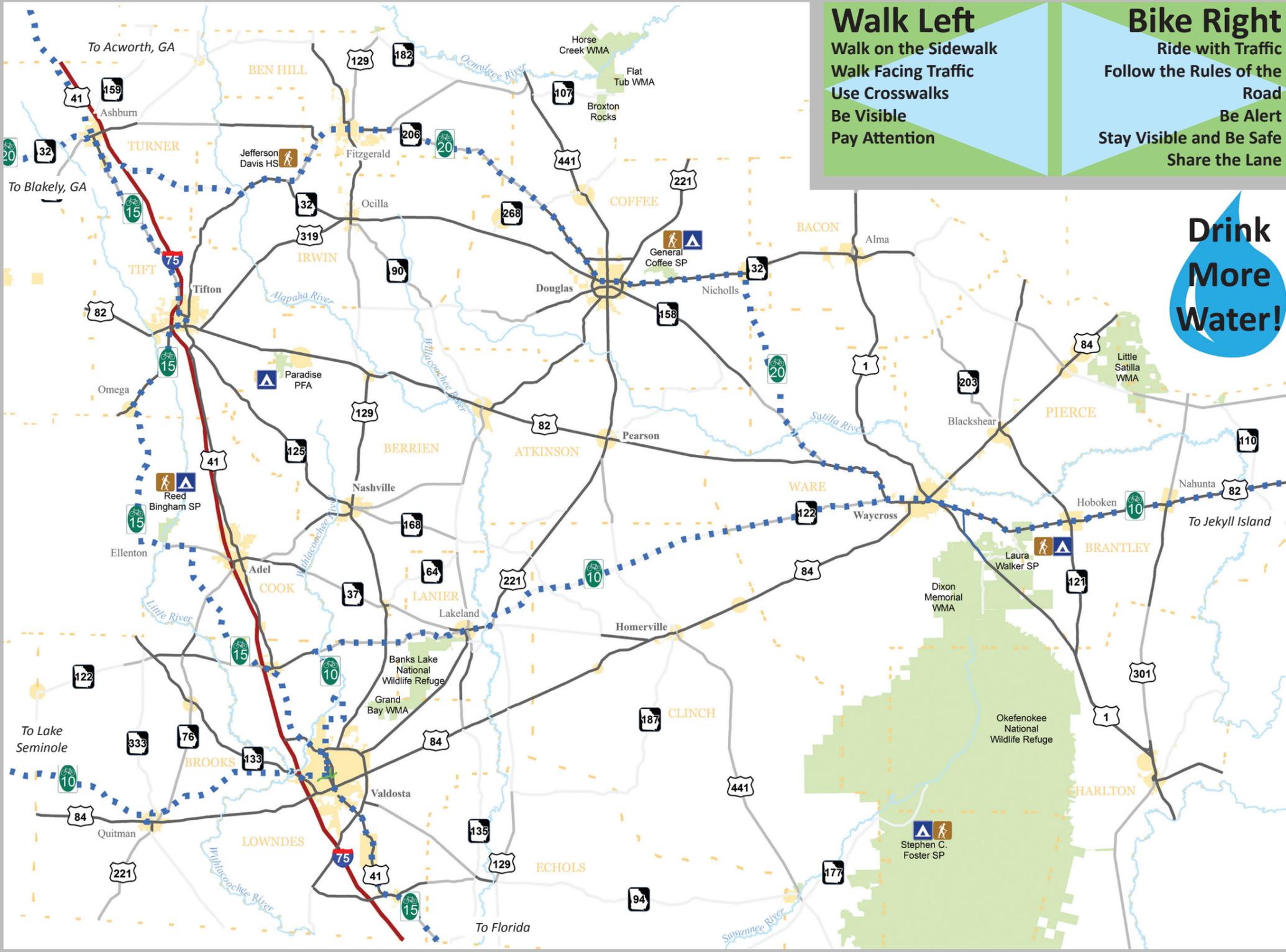
### Southern Crossing (Route 10) Lake Seminole to Jekyll Island

Witness rural life along country roads of the southern Georgia Coastal Plain. The quaint downtowns of Quitman, Lakeland, Waycross and Nahunta are great places to stop for a bite to eat. Shopping and resources abound in and around Valdosta. Be sure to check out the historic murals in Lakeland along your journey.



### Local Area Bicycle Shops

- 1. Valdosta Bike Center, Inc.**  
1907 Baytree Pl., Remerton, GA  
229-253-9050
- 2. Western Auto**  
204 E Central Ave., Valdosta, GA  
229-242-5945
- 3. Dave's Bicyc Repair Center**  
501 S. Main St., Tifton, GA  
229-520-7962



#### Walk Left

- Walk on the Sidewalk
- Walk Facing Traffic
- Use Crosswalks
- Be Visible
- Pay Attention

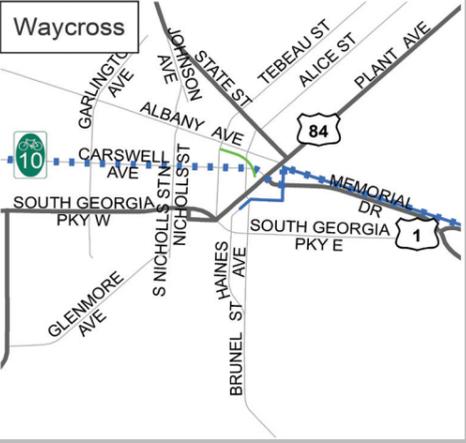
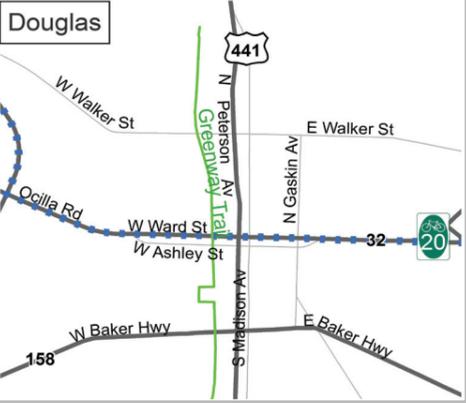
#### Bike Right

- Ride with Traffic
- Follow the Rules of the Road
- Be Alert
- Stay Visible and Be Safe
- Share the Lane



### Share the Road

- Local Bicycle Routes
- Bicycle lanes or areas  
Striped sections of roadway designated as bicycle travel lanes or areas. Marked with a solid or dotted white line, usually on main thoroughfares.
- State Bicycle Routes
- Multi-use Paths  
Physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. Used by bicycles, pedestrians, and other non-motorized travelers.
- Low Traffic: 0-1250 vehicles/day
- Medium Traffic: 1250-3000 vehicles/day
- Heavy Traffic: 3000 and above vehicles/day
- Interstates
- Recreation Areas



### Central (Route 15) Acworth, GA to Florida

Find cotton and peanut fields along historic US 41 and long, straight expanses of the southern Georgia Coastal Plain as you visit historic downtowns in Ashburn, Tifton, Hahira and Valdosta. Enjoy beautiful state and local parks and meet up with cycling clubs for weekly rides in and around Valdosta.

## Bicycle Routes in Southern Georgia

This map is published as an aid for transportation, recreational, and touring cycling. This map indicates designated bicycle routes, major recreational facilities and major roads throughout Southern Georgia. This data is presented so cyclists may choose a route that meets their level of experience and expectations. The Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC) and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) have made efforts to ensure the information contained on this map is correct as of the date of publication. However, actual conditions encountered could vary and SGRC/GDOT make no warranties for accuracy. Unpredictable changes in traffic, road and weather conditions will require cyclists to constantly review all roads for continued suitability. SGRC/GDOT do not warrant the safety of any routes shown. It is the responsibility of the cyclist to take proper precautions when riding, such as wearing a helmet, being visible, and using caution in traffic and near pedestrians.

	Ashburn		Douglas		Fitzgerald		Lakeland		Nahunta		Quitman		Tifton		Valdosta		Waycross	
Ashburn	0																	
Douglas	53	0																
Fitzgerald	24	30	0															
Lakeland	66	38	54	0														
Nahunta	116	67	102	69	0													
Quitman	73	80	86	47	117	0												
Tifton	20	44	28	41	95	54	0											
Valdosta	77	64	64	30	102	20	62	0										
Waycross	92	45	80	45	23	94	72	75	0									

### Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC)

The SGRC is a regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency which serves 45 municipalities and 18 counties in Southern Georgia, including Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner, and Ware. For more than 40 years, the SGRC has provided a comprehensive array of services and resources in response to the needs of member local governments in the areas of workforce training, planning, economic development, transportation, aging services, and much more.