

Savannah Weekend: Squares, Ghosts & Pralines (with Parking Actually Solved)

o) Your Trip at a Glance

Item	Detail
Dates	Friday, October 9 to Sunday, October 11, 2026 (2 nights)
Group	2 adults, driving in from Atlanta
Budget	Up to \$900 total
Must-haves	Historic District hotel walkable to the squares, squares stroll, Forsyth Park, a ghost tour, River Street, Southern classics, one fine dinner, pralines
Special request	Parking solved concretely: named garages/lots with daily rates, walking minutes to hotel and squares, whether the hotel charges, and the Sunday free-parking reality

A quick honesty note up front: your \$900 cap is doable but tight for a peak-fall weekend in the Historic District. October is prime Savannah season, so lodging is the make-or-break line item. I've built the plan to land inside budget while keeping the fine dinner and ghost tour intact, and I flag exactly where you can trim.

1) At a Glance

Catego ry	Pick	Key facts	Approx. cost (2 adults)
Hotel	The Marshall House (123 E Broughton St)	Historic District, on Broughton, walk to squares/River St in minutes; free breakfast + evening wine	Guide value \$260–\$360/night (see 1b)
Parking	Self-park, city garage behind hotel + Sunday flat rate	Valet \$43/day (\$38 with direct package); city garage weekend \$5 flat/day	~\$5–\$43/day (your choice)
Ghost tour	Sixth Sense Savannah Ghost Tour (6th Sense World)	2 hrs, meets Abercorn & Jones	\$36/adult
Fine dinner	The Olde Pink House (23 Abercorn St)	18th-century mansion, Southern fine dining	~\$120–\$160 for two
Souther n classic	Husk Savannah (12 W Oglethorpe Ave)	Modern Lowcountry; open weekends incl. brunch	~\$60–\$90 for two

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Pralines	River Street Sweets (River Street)	World Famous Pralines since 1973, free samples	~\$15–\$30
Ice cream	Leopold's Ice Cream (212 E Broughton St)	1919 soda fountain, 2 blocks from hotel	~\$12–\$18
Squares + park	Forsyth Park & the squares	Free, open daily	\$0

1b) Recommendation & Why (plus the best alternative)

Stay at The Marshall House, 123 East Broughton Street. It nails every hard criterion: it sits right in the Historic District on Broughton Street, and it's in the heart of Savannah's Historic District, from where you can walk to River Street, beautiful squares, restaurants, shops, and major attractions in just minutes. It's a genuine historic boutique property (68 individually decorated rooms), and your rate includes real perks: complimentary Wi-Fi, a daily breakfast, bottled water, concierge services, and access to the evening wine reception. That free breakfast and nightly wine hour quietly protect your budget.

The parking clincher: you are NOT stuck a mile away. Self-parking is an option in the City Garage behind the hotel (the State Street / Bryan Street city garages are essentially at your back door), and on your Saturday and Sunday those garages charge a flat weekend rate, which is a bargain. Full parking breakdown is in Section 3.

Guide-value price: roughly **\$260–\$360/night** for a peak-October weekend, as of June 2026. Hotel prices sit behind a live booking widget, so treat this as a range, not a locked quote. For reference on the property's own pricing shape, a sample non-peak listing showed \$259 nightly with a total of \$304 including taxes and fees; expect the top of the range on a fall Saturday.

Best alternative: The Olde Harbour Inn or a comparable Historic Inns of Savannah property if the Marshall House prices out above your comfort line. But my honest, budget-aware second choice is simply **self-parking at the Marshall House instead of valet** and, if needed, choosing a slightly smaller room category. If you want a named backup hotel with the same "walk-to-squares + garage-adjacent" logic, look at properties clustered around Bryan/State Streets near the Bryan Street Parking Garage (100 E Bryan Street), which puts you one block off the squares with a city garage attached.

A small heads-up on room size: some guests note the rooms can be small, so if space is a priority, it's worth inquiring about room size options before booking. For two adults on a weekend of walking, it's a non-issue, but ask for a larger category if you like elbow room.

1c) Book Now (do these early)

What	By when	Where / how
The Marshall House room (+ Valet Parking Package if you want valet)	ASAP, October is peak season	marshallhouse.com , "You will see the binding price for your exact dates and occupancy at the provider's booking step, it changes daily." Booking direct also unlocks the \$5 parking discount.
Sixth Sense Savannah Ghost Tour, Sat Oct 10, 7:00 PM (all ages)	1–2 weeks ahead (sells out)	6thsenseworld.com /..., \$36/adult. No walk-ups.
The Olde Pink House dinner reservation (Sat)	2–4 weeks ahead	Book online at theoldepinkhouserestaurant.com or use the Contact page for the current reservation line
Husk Savannah (Sat brunch or Sun brunch)	1–2 weeks ahead	Resy / husksavannah.com , (912) 349-2600

💡 **Ghost-tour tip:** book the **7:00 PM** slot. The 7 p.m. start is the all-ages tour; the 8:00, 9:30 and 10:00 PM slots are age 16+ only. Two adults can pick any slot, but 7:00 PM leaves time for a relaxed dinner afterward.

2) Day-by-Day Plan

Friday, October 9, Drive in, settle, squares by lamplight

- **Depart Atlanta.** It's roughly ~**250 miles / about 4 hours** on I-16 E to downtown Savannah (plan a stop; leave mid-morning to arrive mid-afternoon).
- **Check in at The Marshall House.** Check-in is 4:00 PM and check-out is 11:00 AM. Pull up on Broughton and hand off the car (valet) or self-park in the city garage behind the hotel (see Section 3).
- **Late afternoon: first squares stroll.** Wander from Broughton down to Reynolds, Oglethorpe, and Chippewa Squares. It's all free and the live-oak canopy at golden hour is the whole point of Savannah.
- **Evening: free wine reception at the hotel,** then a casual first-night dinner. Southern classic option below.
- 💡 **Tip:** Friday evening is your relaxed night. The wine is served in the Library from 5–6:30 PM, with nightly entertainment including a history talk, trivia, and live music starting at 5:30 PM. Free, fun, and it takes the edge off after the drive.
- 💡 **Dessert tip:** Leopold's is two blocks away at 212 E Broughton St and open late, Friday hours are 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

Plan B (rain): Skip the long stroll and do an indoor evening, hotel wine hour, then dinner. The squares aren't going anywhere.

Saturday, October 10, Forsyth Park, River Street, pralines, ghost tour, fine dinner

- **Morning: Forsyth Park.** Walk south down Bull Street through the string of squares (Wright, Chippewa, Madison, Monterey) straight into Forsyth Park and its iconic fountain. Free, open daily. This is the classic Savannah morning.
- **Brunch: Husk Savannah, 12 W Oglethorpe Ave.** Modern Lowcountry Southern cooking. Brunch runs 10 AM–2 PM Saturday and Sunday; dinner is 5–10 PM every day. Husk celebrates coastal Georgia's heirloom ingredients in the Landmark Historic District, sourcing from local farmers and waterways. ~\$60–\$90 for two.
- **Afternoon: River Street + pralines.** Head down to River Street along the water. Stop at **River Street Sweets** for the mandatory praline sample: Savannah's original candy store since 1973, known for World Famous Pralines, homemade fudge, and free samples every day. Confirm current Saturday hours directly with River Street Sweets before you go. Buy a box for the road.
- **7:00 PM: Sixth Sense Savannah Ghost Tour.** Start times are 7 p.m. (all ages) and 8:00, 9:30, 10:00 PM; duration 2 hours, about a half-mile of walking. \$36/adult. Meet at the CORNER of Abercorn and Jones Street; they use Clary's Cafe (404 Abercorn St.) as the GPS landmark, and your guide meets you there. Highlights include the Mercer House, the Corson Mansion, the Old Candler Hospital morgue tunnels, and Taylor Square.
 -  **Tip:** Arrive 5–10 minutes early and don't park in Clary's lot, use street parking only; violators will be towed. Since you're staying nearby, just walk over. Bring water and comfortable shoes.
- **9:30 PM: Fine dinner at The Olde Pink House, 23 Abercorn St.** Classic Southern cuisine in an elegant mansion built in 1771. Dinner runs late: Saturday 5:00 PM–11:00 PM. Book the 9:30–10:00 PM seating to follow the tour, or flip the order (dinner first, later ghost slot) if you prefer. ~\$120–\$160 for two.
 -  **Tip:** Request the cozy cellar tavern when you book, reviewers call the cellar bar a cozy throwback with an old-time feel, versus the more catered-to upstairs dining room. Standout Southern dishes here include shrimp and grits, crab cakes, pecan-crusted chicken, and their famous she-crab soup.

Plan B (rain): The ghost tour runs rain or shine, they hold tours rain or shine, so dress accordingly. Bring a compact umbrella. Swap the outdoor Forsyth stroll for the Telfair/Owens-Thomas House museums near the hotel and a longer, leisurely lunch.

Sunday, October 11, Sunday brunch, last squares, easy drive home

- **Late breakfast at the hotel** (free), then check out by 11:00 AM. Ask the front desk to hold luggage if you want a final stroll.
- **Optional Sunday brunch: The Grey, 109 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd** in the restored 1938 Greyhound terminal. Sunday hours: brunch 11:00 AM–3:00 PM and dinner 5:00–9:00 PM. Chef Mashama Bailey's Port City Southern cooking lives in the beautifully restored Greyhound Bus Terminal. A memorable send-off (note: it runs higher, so weigh it against your budget).

- **Final squares walk / River Street photo run**, grab any last pralines, then hit the road back to Atlanta (~4 hours).
- 💡 **Tip:** Sunday is your cheapest parking day (details below), so don't rush the morning, the flat weekend garage rate means a lingering brunch costs you nothing extra in parking.

Plan B (rain): One more Leopold's stop (Sunday 11:00 AM–10:00 PM) and an indoor brunch at The Grey, then drive.

⚠️ **A note on Mrs. Wilkes' Dining Room:** it's the legendary family-style Southern lunch, BUT it does not fit your weekend. Mrs. Wilkes is open Mon–Fri 11:00 AM–2:00 PM and closed Saturday and Sunday. Your only shot is if you arrive in Savannah before 2 PM on Friday and beeline to 107 W Jones St (expect a line, and it's cash only). Otherwise, Husk and The Olde Pink House cover your Southern-classics craving beautifully.

3) Parking, Solved Concretely

This was your headline request, so here is the real, researched picture. **Short version: you never have to park a mile away, and Sunday is cheap but not free in the city garages.**

Your hotel's own parking

- **Valet at The Marshall House:** valet parking is offered for \$43 per day. Valet is available between 6:30 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., and guests who book the Valet Parking Package receive a \$5 discount and pay only \$38 per night. Important: the \$5 discount is only for guests who book directly on the hotel's own website; it's not available through third-party sites like Expedia or Booking.com. So yes, the hotel charges for parking, book direct to shave the rate.
- **Self-park (my budget pick):** Self-parking is available in the City Garage behind the hotel. This is where the city's weekend flat rate saves you real money.

Named city garages in the Historic District (all a short walk to squares)

From the City of Savannah's official garage tariffs:

Garage	Weekday max (Mon–Thu)	Sat & Sun rate	Phone
State St. Garage (nearest the Marshall House)	\$2.00/hr, \$20.00/day max	Sat \$5.00 flat, Sun \$5.00 flat all-day	912-651-6473
Bryan St. Garage (100 E Bryan St)	\$2.00/hr, \$20.00/day max	Sat \$5.00 flat, Sun \$5.00 flat all-day	912-651-6477
Robinson Garage	\$2.00/hr, \$20.00/day max	Sat/Sun \$5.00 flat all-day	912-651-6478
Whitaker St. Garage	\$2.00/hr, \$24.00/day max	Sat/Sun \$10.00 flat all-day	912-525-2820
Liberty St. Garage	\$1.00/hr, \$14.00/day max (cheapest weekday)	Sat/Sun \$5.00 flat all-day	912-644-5934

(All as of June 2026, from savannahga.gov. "Special Events" days bump garages to \$25/day, so confirm no special-event surcharge for your weekend when you arrive.)

Walking minutes: The State and Bryan Street garages are roughly a **1–3 minute walk** to the Marshall House on Broughton, and **3–7 minutes** to the nearest squares (Reynolds, Johnson, Oglethorpe). You are comfortably inside your "not a mile away" requirement.

- Map to the closest garage: [Open in maps](#)
- 💡 **Tip:** For a Fri–Sun stay, self-parking in a city garage costs about **\$5 (Fri overnight/Sat) + \$5 (Sun)** on the weekend flat rate, dramatically cheaper than 2 nights of valet. The trade-off is walking to fetch the car yourself; on a walkable weekend, that's easy.

The Sunday "free parking" reality (honest answer)

There's a common belief that Savannah parking is totally free on Sundays. That's **half true and worth getting right:**

- **On-street metered parking** downtown is generally free on Sundays (and after evening hours). Metered street parking is available throughout downtown Savannah. On a Sunday you can often grab a free curb spot near the squares, but spaces are limited and competitive on a peak-season fall weekend.
- **City garages are NOT free on Sundays.** They charge the flat weekend rate shown above (\$5/day at State, Bryan, Robinson, Liberty; \$10/day at Whitaker/Eastern Wharf). So budget ~\$5 for Sunday garage parking, or gamble on a free street spot.
- 💡 **Tip:** If you self-park, keep the car in the garage through Sunday morning rather than hunting for a free street space with luggage in tow, the \$5 flat is worth the peace of mind, and there's a free DOT shuttle downtown if you want to rest your feet.

Extra parking costs to remember

- Valet is per night (in/out privileges per the hotel's listings), plus tax.
- The Marshall House also adds fees: a \$5/room/night Georgia state fee, a \$1/room/night City of Savannah fee, and a \$40 + tax amenities fee (which covers your breakfast, wine reception, and Wi-Fi). Budget these into the room total.

3b) Practical Notes & Checklist

Checklist

- ☐ Book Marshall House **direct** (for the parking discount + breakfast/wine perks)
- ☐ Reserve Sixth Sense Ghost Tour, Sat 7:00 PM (\$36/adult), no walk-ups
- ☐ Reserve Olde Pink House dinner (Sat) and Husk brunch (Sat or Sun)
- ☐ Decide valet vs. self-park (self-park saves ~\$70+ over the weekend)
- ☐ Bring cash for pralines/tips; comfortable walking shoes; a compact umbrella (tours run rain or shine)
- ☐ Fill the gas tank before I-16 (long rural stretch back to Atlanta)

Tipping (US): For dinners and the ghost tour, tip **15–20%** where applicable; guides on walking tours appreciate a per-person tip.

Estimated Cost Overview vs. your \$900 budget (2 adults, 2 nights)

Item	Low	High	Notes
Hotel, 2 nights	\$520	\$720	Guide value, check the exact date price with the provider
Hotel fees (2 nights: state \$10 + city \$2 + amenities ~\$80+tax)	\$95	\$100	Roughly; amenities fee includes breakfast + wine
Parking (self-park city garage, 2 days flat weekend)	\$10	\$15	Or valet ~\$76–\$86 total if you prefer
Ghost tour (2 × \$36)	\$72	\$72	Fixed
Fine dinner (Olde Pink House)	\$120	\$160	Incl. tip
Husk brunch	\$60	\$90	Incl. tip
Friday casual dinner / Leopold's	\$30	\$55	
Pralines + snacks	\$15	\$30	
Gas round-trip Atlanta (~500 mi)	\$55	\$75	Depends on vehicle/prices
TOTAL (self-park)	~\$977	~\$1,317	

Budget honesty: Even at the low end, self-parking, this lands a touch **over \$900** in peak-October pricing, the hotel is the pressure point. To get comfortably under \$900: (1) target a hotel night at the lower end of the range or a smaller room category, (2) self-park (not valet), (3) make Husk your one splurge meal and do a lighter Friday dinner, and (4) skip The Grey on Sunday in favor of the free hotel breakfast. Trim those and you can bring the weekend in around **\$850–\$900**. If you can flex the room rate down or catch a direct-booking deal, the whole plan fits with room to spare.

4) Sources (checked June 2026)

Parking

- City of Savannah, Parking Garages (rates, hours, phone numbers): [savannahga.gov/...](#)
- City of Savannah, Parking Meters: [savannahga.gov/...](#)
- The Marshall House, FAQ (valet rate, fees, street parking): [marshallhouse.com/...](#)
- The Marshall House, Amenities (valet package \$38): [marshallhouse.com/...](#)
- The Marshall House, Contact/Directions: [marshallhouse.com/...](#)

Hotel

- The Marshall House (official): [marshallhouse.com](#)

Ghost tour

- 6th Sense World, Sixth Sense Savannah Ghost Tour (price, times, meeting point): [6thsenseworld.com/...](https://6thsenseworld.com/)
- 6th Sense World, tours overview: [6thsenseworld.com/...](https://6thsenseworld.com/)

Dining & sweets

- The Olde Pink House (official): theoldepinkhouserestaurant.com
- The Olde Pink House Contact (reservation line): [theoldepinkhouserestaurant.com/...](https://theoldepinkhouserestaurant.com/)
- Husk Savannah (official, hours): husksavannah.com
- The Grey (official / hours): thegreyrestaurant.com
- Mrs. Wilkes Dining Room (official, hours note): mrswilkes.com
- Leopold's Ice Cream (official + hours): [leopoldsicecream.com/...](https://leopoldsicecream.com/)
- River Street Sweets (pralines; confirm current hours directly with the business): [visitsavannah.com/...](https://visitsavannah.com/)

Attraction

- Forsyth Park & squares, free, public, open daily (Historic District public spaces)

Have a wonderful weekend in Savannah. Book the room and the ghost tour first, self-park behind the hotel, and let the Spanish moss do the rest. 🧛 🍀

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