



*Georgia*  
**BIKE SENSE**  
A GUIDE FOR BICYCLISTS

A PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# VISION

Enhancing Georgia's  
Competitiveness Through  
Leadership in Transportation

# MISSION

The Georgia Department of  
Transportation provides a safe,  
connected, and environmentally  
sensitive transportation system  
that enhances Georgia's economic  
competitiveness by working  
efficiently and communicating  
effectively to create strong  
partnerships



Cover Photo: BikeAthens



This manual serves as a guide to help both motorists and cyclists safely share the road, and to help cyclists of all ages and skill levels better understand how to ride safely and legally on trails and roads in Georgia.

The guide also includes safety suggestions that are not covered by Georgia traffic laws. It is not to be considered a legal authority for bicycle safety, nor is it intended to be a source to cite in a court of law. Local traffic regulations in some communities may vary somewhat from state law, provided they do not conflict with state law.

A PDF version of this document is available on the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) website at [www.dot.ga.gov/DS/Travel/BikePed](http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/Travel/BikePed). For printed copies, contact:

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A listing of Georgia cycling clubs, organizations, and resources is also available on the Bicycle/Pedestrian page on the Georgia Department of Transportation website.

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Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League  
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission  
People for Bikes: Green Lane Project

This guide also draws from cycling information published online and in print in the United States and Canada:

Colorado Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program: **Colorado Bicycling Manual**

Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition:  
**The British Columbia Bicycle Operators Manual**

League of American Bicyclists: **[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)**

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# GEORGIA

is a great place for cycling with varying terrains from the mountains in the north, to the flat coastal regions in the south. This guide covers the situations and conditions you'll likely encounter while cycling here, emphasizing safe and legal riding. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced rider, this guide provides an overview of how you can ride more safely and effectively.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to keeping our roads safe for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. By incorporating the safe cycling practices covered in this guide, cyclists can become **more confident, more predictable, and more visible**, making Georgia's roads safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

*Left Photo: Georgia Department of Economic Development*



# GETTING STARTED

## EQUIPMENT: BIKES

The best bike for starting out might be the one you already have. Make sure that it's safe, in working order, and appropriate for the kind of riding you want to do, and hit the road or the trail. The more you ride, the better idea you'll get of exactly what bike would suit you best.



**Road Bikes** have curved drop handlebars that make for a low, aerodynamic riding position. Road bikes are a good option for everyday cycling and commuting (see Chapter 4 for more information on commuting).



**Mountain Bikes** are set up for off-road use and usually equipped with lower gears for steep ascents, but can be less efficient on paved surfaces (see Chapter 5 for more information on mountain biking).



**Hybrid Bikes** feature characteristics of road and mountain bikes; these are functional for road use as well as urban and smooth trail riding.

John Devine

Left Photo: BikeAthens

## EQUIPMENT: HELMETS

Always wear a bicycle helmet when you ride to help reduce your chances of a serious head or brain injury. For children under the age of 12, it is required by law that they wear a helmet (see Chapter 2). Look for a helmet that has a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission certification. Do not wear a helmet made for sports other than cycling, as these are designed and tested for other types of impact. Replace your helmet if it absorbs an impact in a crash, even if it does not appear to be damaged. Be sure to fit and fasten your helmet correctly:



- Rest the helmet about an inch or less above the eyebrows on the forehead
- Tighten the chin strap until it's snug, so that no more than one or two fingers fit between the strap and your chin
- Tighten the helmet's rear adjuster so that it fits snugly
- Position the strap adjusters directly below the ears

## EQUIPMENT: WHAT TO WEAR

People ride bikes in work attire, gym clothes, cycling-specific gear, and all types of other clothing. Whatever your needs, consider the following tips to help improve safety and comfort.

### Clothing

Wear bright, reflective outer layers to stay visible in all different riding conditions.



*Cycling gloves can provide protection for your hands*

### Cycling Gloves

Gloves can help cushion the vibration from the handlebars, keep your hands warm, and provide protection to your hands if you fall.

### Cycling Shorts

Cycling shorts have built-in padding and are made with moisture-wicking materials.

### Shoes and Pedals

Beginners should start with platform pedals and sturdy shoes. As you gain experience and confidence, you may graduate to toe clips or clipless pedals, which increase power and efficiency by attaching to special cleated cycling shoes.



Mark Doonan

*Toe clips help keep your foot secured to the pedal and provide more leverage*

## EQUIPMENT: SAFETY GEAR

### Lights and Reflectors

A white headlight visible from 300 feet is recommended when riding in low-visibility conditions (fog, dusk) and is required by Georgia law when riding at night. Rear reflectors are also required by Georgia law. Red taillights will help to make you more visible in traffic during low-light or night rides. Using the flashing feature

on your front or rear lights may make you more visible, especially at dawn and dusk.

### Rear-View Mirror

A mirror typically attaches to your bike's handlebars or your helmet. Do not depend solely on a mirror for lane changes – always look over your shoulder and scan behind before making a lateral move. Some cyclists find mirrors distracting; they are optional in Georgia.



Kyssa Heag

*U-locks are the best option for locking up at a bike rack*

### Bike Locks

The right lock can keep your bike relatively safe from theft (no lock is 100% secure). There are many different types of locks, but most common are U-locks and cable locks shown to the right.



Mark Dodson

*Cable locks are better for tying your bike to larger objects*

### Basic Tools & Supplies

Carrying some basic tools and supplies on your bike will reduce your chances of being stranded if you have a flat tire or mechanical problem.

- ID, emergency contact, and cash
- Water bottle/snack
- Cell phone
- Tube and patch kit
- Mini pump
- Tire levers
- Bike-specific multi tool with wrenches, screwdriver, etc.

## GETTING OUT ON THE ROAD

Before getting out on the road, it is important to get comfortable on your bike. One way to do this is by practicing on trails, greenways, paths, and little-used residential roads before venturing out

onto main roads. **Keep in mind that bicyclists are subject to the same traffic laws and have the same rights and responsibilities as motor vehicle drivers.** Adhering to the following tips and riding in a predictable manner will help keep the road safe for all users.

### Hand Signals

Just as when using your turn signal in your car, it is important to indicate to other road users what your next move will be. When riding your bike, use these hand signals to alert others when you are about to make a turn or stop.



Right turn option 1: Point with right hand



Right turn option 2: Raise left hand



Left turn: Point with left hand



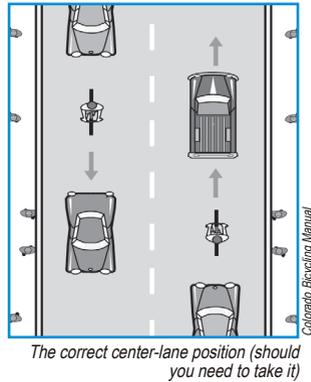
Stop: Lower left hand

### Positioning

When sharing a lane with automobiles, you should be 1.5 to 2 feet out from the curb or edge of pavement (be careful of the “lip” between

Images taken & adapted from Demograph for Noun Project

the asphalt and the gutter). **Always ride in the same direction as traffic, never against it.** If the road has bike lanes, always use the lane on the right side of the road. There are several situations where you'll need to move towards the left or even take the center of the lane:



- Left turns and traveling straight ahead when a through lane becomes a right-turn lane
- Avoiding hazards or debris
- The lane is too narrow to share safely with other vehicles
- Passing standing vehicles

### Taking the Lane

Two-lane roads are often too narrow for two cars and a bicycle to pass safely. It may be safer to move further to the left and “take the lane,” to prevent the vehicle approaching from behind from passing you. When it appears there’s room for them to move left and give you more space, move back toward the right shoulder. You might encounter resistance from motorists, but Georgia law allows this.

### Traffic Lights

Unless you’re in a designated bike lane, do not pass cars to their right or left queueing at a traffic light in order to position yourself at the front of the line. It is safer and more courteous to fall into line with traffic naturally or at the end of the queue. If the lane is narrow, take the entire lane while you wait.

## QUICK TIPS: BASIC ON-ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY STRATEGIES

- Be visible
- Always ride in a predictable manner
- Never ride against traffic
- Signal to other road users with hand signals and eye contact
- Pull entirely off of the road if you need to stop for any reason other than a traffic signal, stopped traffic, or a traffic light
- Use lights in low visibility conditions
- Consider using a rear-view mirror
- Plan to stop when approaching a yellow light
- Pass slower cyclists on the left
- Use extra caution at driveways and curb cuts
- Use extra caution around large vehicles

### Intersections

As you approach an intersection, begin to position yourself in the best part of the lane to proceed. If you are going straight or turning right, stay to the right unless it is a right-turn only lane. If you are turning left, check for traffic coming from behind, then signal your intent to move to the left side of the traffic lane or into the turn lane. Never proceed through an intersection side-by-side with a motor vehicle.

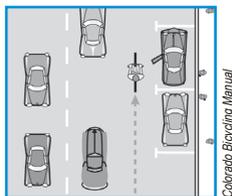
### Bike Lanes and Wide Curb Lanes

Bike lanes are being added in communities throughout Georgia. They vary in width, but typically span 4-5 feet. There are also roads built with wider-than-usual traffic lanes, called wide curb lanes, which help to separate bicycle and

automobile traffic. Be prepared to merge into traffic if the bike lane or wide curb lane comes to an end.

### Parked Cars

When passing parallel parked cars, ride far enough from the cars that you'll avoid being hit by a car door if it opens.



Look for car doors opening as you pass by parallel-parked cars

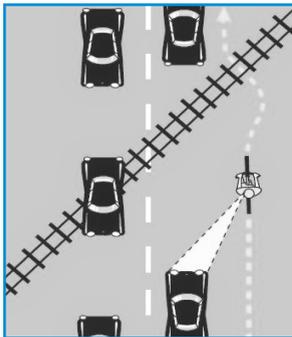
Colorado Bicycling Manual

### Debris and Grates

Cyclists should be on the lookout for dirt, rocks, glass, and other debris, which tends to accumulate more heavily near the curb and in paved shoulders. Cyclists should also be wary of drainage grates, especially those that run parallel to the direction of traffic, as these could easily catch your wheel and cause a crash.

### Railroad Tracks

Slow down and cross railroad tracks at as close to a 90° angle as possible. Accounting for traffic and other road conditions, give yourself enough time and space to approach the tracks head-on because it may be necessary to use the entire travel lane when tracks cross the road diagonally. Wet rails can be especially slippery, so proceed with extra caution.

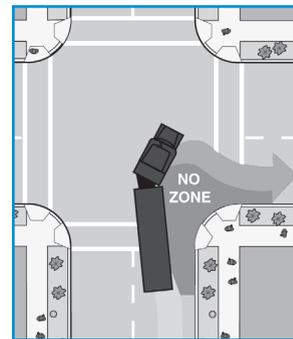


Cross railroad tracks head-on at a 90° angle

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### Sharing the Road with Large Vehicles

When cycling near large vehicles, keep in mind that the driver of a truck or bus has several "blind spots" - certain areas around the vehicle that the driver simply cannot see. Risks can be substantially reduced by avoiding these blind spots when near large vehicles.



Be aware of this "No Zone" when a large truck is making a turn

Colorado Bicycling Manual

### Riding on Sidewalks

It is typically safer to ride in the street or bike lane than on the sidewalk. Further, riding on sidewalks is prohibited, statewide, for anyone over the age of 12 unless permitted by specific local ordinance to operate a bicycle on the sidewalk.

#### GA Law 40-6-144:

"Except as provided by resolution or ordinance of a local government... no person shall drive any vehicle upon a sidewalk."

### What Your Local Bike Shop Can Do For You

Your local bike shop can be a great source of help with most all of your biking needs, including:

- Helping you choose and fit the perfect bike
- Assisting with equipment/gear, bike repairs, and routine maintenance
- Providing seminars and classes
- Connecting you with local cycling groups, advocacy organizations, and group rides in your area

# 2 RIDING WITH KIDS



## YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 1-4)

Children can begin participating in cycling once their head is able to support the extra weight of a well-fitting helmet (usually around one year old), starting out on a front- or rear-mounted child seat or in a trailer. A tricycle or a balance bike can help get a toddler comfortable with riding. A tow-behind or “tag-along” bike that adds an extra wheel and riding position to an adult bicycle can also help a child gain comfort in riding (beginning around age four, depending on tag-a-long model and your child). Training wheels are another useful tool, but if your child uses a balance bike, they may advance straight to a regular two-wheeler.



John Devine

Front-mounted seat



Paul Quack

Bike trailer



Bicycle Ride Across Georgia

Tag-a-long



Bike Athens

Balance Bike

Left Photo: People for Bikes: Green Lane Project

## OLDER CHILDREN (AGES 5-10)

School-age kids can begin to grasp the basics of safe cycling, getting familiar with shifting and braking, as well as maintaining a line and maneuvering around obstacles. This is a good time to begin introducing general concepts of how cyclists and other road or trail users interact with one another. Children may be ready to venture onto low-traffic streets with adult supervision, but at this age, they still don't have the experience to judge how fast other vehicles are moving or approaching, so use extra caution. When crossing a street or busy intersection, have the child dismount and walk across as a pedestrian. Show them how to wear a helmet properly, use a bike lock, clean their bike, and inflate the tires. A bike rodeo, shown below, is an excellent way for your child to learn the skills and precautions needed to ride a bicycle safely.

**GA Law 40-6-296:**

"No person under the age of 16 years shall operate a bicycle.... without wearing a bicycle helmet."



Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

## ADOLESCENTS/TEENS (AGES 11-16)

At this age, kids are getting stronger and now have the physical ability to ride independently. If they have already had some cycling experience, they'll be somewhat familiar with the basics of bike handling and safety. At this age, kids can work on refining and expanding those skills to ride more safely and efficiently. They can also get more involved in maintaining their bikes and learning to make simple adjustments and repairs such as changing or patching a tube. Teens can also begin to get more involved in cycling through youth cycling clubs like the Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) Dream Team.



Tour de Georgia

Georgia teens can get more involved through youth cycling clubs like the Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) Dream Team



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Young girls and women can get involved with cycling programs like the Crank Sisters, an all-female off-road cycling league through the Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League



# 3 STAYING SAFE

Safety should always be the first thing on your mind when cycling. Riding visibly and predictably, adhering to state and local traffic laws, and using appropriate and well-maintained equipment can help keep bicyclists out of harm's way on and off of the road.

## RIDING IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS

### Riding at Night

When night-riding, practice extreme caution and be vigilant of your surroundings. Follow these safety guidelines:

- Adjust your speed
- Wear bright, reflective clothing such as a neon vest
- Apply bicycle-specific front and rear lights when riding from dusk until dawn (many cyclists also use lights during the day)
- Never assume a motorist can see you
- Practice extreme caution when moving through intersections



*It is important to properly use a front light and rear reflector when riding at night*

### GA Law 40-6-296:

"Every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a light on the front... and with a red reflector on the rear..."

*Left Photo: BikeAthens*



*With the right gear, you can ride your bike in most weather conditions*

**Riding in Wet Weather Stay Dry:** Wear or use these items to help keep dry when riding in wet weather:

- Rain jacket
- Rain pants and shoe covers
- Helmet cover
- Fenders

**Be Visible:** Wear bright and reflective clothing, use headlights and taillights, and think carefully about your lane positioning.

**Compensate for Water on the Road:** Wet weather may reduce your bike's braking ability, so give yourself some extra time to brake when the roads are wet. Beware of metal objects like construction plates in the road and manhole covers as they can often be slippery when wet. Try to avoid riding through puddles, as it is often not apparent how deep the puddles are. If you cannot avoid riding through a puddle, slow down and use extra caution.

### **Riding in Hot Weather**

Wear lightweight clothing made of breathable fabrics or materials that wick moisture and dry quickly. It is important to stay hydrated, especially on warm days, so carry a water bottle and drink frequently.

### **Riding in Cold Weather**

Dress in multiple lightweight layers that are easy to shed during the ride. Hydration is still important in cool weather, so don't forget your water bottle. To keep your head, face, and ears

warm, skullcaps and headbands are available that fit underneath a bicycle helmet or wrap around its plastic frame. To keep your hands protected from the wind and cold, it is good to wear a pair of gloves. Insulated, windproof gloves are available for cycling and can be found in most local bike shops along with other cold weather gear.

## **CRASHES**

### **Avoiding a Crash**

Being a cyclist on a road designed for motor vehicles can be intimidating. Even as more cities provide adequate bicycling infrastructure and ridership increases, crashes can still occur. Cyclists can do their part in avoiding crashes by **not:**

- Riding on the sidewalk
- Riding the wrong way, against traffic
- Riding unpredictably or changing lanes abruptly
- Ignoring stop signs and traffic signals

### **If a Crash Occurs**

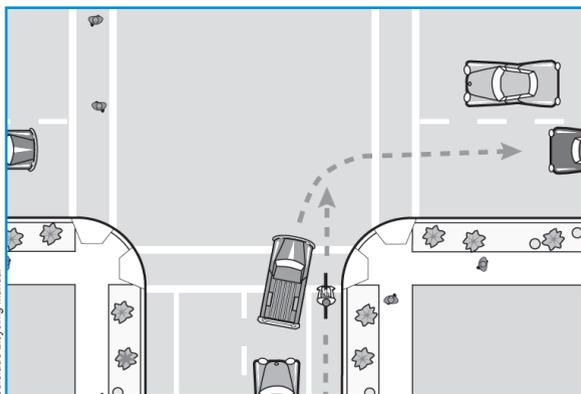
- (If able) Call 911
- Ask all involved to remain at the scene (motorists, cyclists, and witnesses)
- Exchange information with those involved (name, number, insurance information, and driver's license number)
- Be sure to give the officer a report of what occurred
- After the crash, get in touch with your insurance company, the other parties involved, and the police department for the incident report
- After the crash, have your bike inspected by a bike mechanic even if you don't see any damage

# SAFETY AS A MOTORIST

The safety of bicyclists on the road can be highly dependent on behavior. As a driver, scanning for pedestrians and bicyclists should be a normal part of your driving routine.

## Intersections

When approaching an intersection, be aware of cyclists making left or right turns. Drive slowly and use caution when moving through the intersection. When making a right turn, be sure to look for cyclists also turning right. When making a left turn, keep an eye out for cyclists moving straight through the intersection, as shown in the image below.



Both motorists and cyclists should exercise caution, especially at intersections

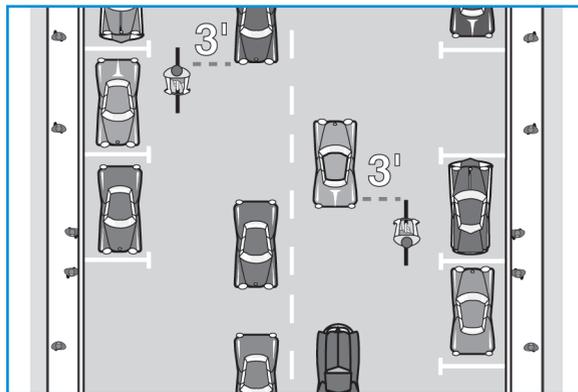
## Passing a Cyclist

- Allow at least three feet between your vehicle and the bicycle
- Be patient and wait until it is safe to pass, as you would with any other slow-moving vehicle

### GA Law 40-6-56:

"The operator of a motor vehicle, when overtaking and passing a bicycle that is proceeding in the same direction on the roadway, shall leave a safe distance (no less than three feet) between such vehicle and the bicycle.."

- Do not speed ahead and cut a cyclist off as you are turning right and a cyclist is proceeding straight through an intersection
- Do not pass a turning cyclist while you are also turning in your vehicle



Georgia State Law states that a motorist must leave a safe distance, at least three feet, between their car and a cyclist

## Overtaking Cyclists on a Narrow Road

When passing a group of cyclists on a narrow, curvy, or hilly road, be patient. Slow to their speed and stay a safe distance behind the group until you can see far enough ahead to pass safely. When passing, use the full opposite lane. If there are significant gaps between the cyclists, you can "leapfrog" them instead of waiting until there is enough space to pass the whole group at once.

## Approaching Cyclists on a Narrow Road

When encountering cyclists coming the opposite direction, slow down and maintain your lane. Resist the temptation to move right. Keep all wheels on the pavement.



# 4 COMMUTING & EVERYDAY CYCLING

Commuting by bike is a great way to get to work or school. It can be a faster alternative to walking or taking the bus, can improve your overall fitness, and will save you money on vehicle and parking costs. The hardest part of making the switch to commuting by bike might be getting started. These tips and essentials can help you begin riding your bike to school, work, and other activities.

## COMMUTING ESSENTIALS & ACCESSORIES

When commuting by bike, it is still essential to have the correct equipment and safety gear as mentioned in Chapter 2. Other useful commuting accessories are:

- Bike lock
- Seat cover
- Rear rack
- Panniers or cycling bag/backpack
- Fenders for wet weather
- Equipment for riding with kids (see Chapter 2 for helpful tips on riding with kids)
- Change of clothes

*Left Photo: BikeAthens*

## QUICK TIPS: "I COULD NEVER COMMUTE BY BICYCLE..."

### "I'm out of shape."

Start out with shorter rides and gradually work up to longer distances. You will find it easier to go farther as your overall fitness and confidence level increases.

### "My workplace is too far away."

You may be surprised at how efficiently and quickly you can cover several miles. If riding the entire distance to work is too much, consider a "combo commute," combining biking with a bus or train ride, or riding your bike to a "park-and-ride" lot to join a carpool.

### "Weather: It's too hot (or cold)."

Riding comfortably is a matter of dressing properly for the conditions and altering your style of riding. See Chapter 2 on appropriate gear for riding in extreme hot or cold weather. With the right gear, extreme wind and lightning might be the only weather that could hold you back. It's also a good idea to carry a change of clothes for work/school with you when you commute.

### "I don't have a good bicycle/the right equipment."

The latest in high-tech bicycling equipment is not required. A used or inexpensive bicycle in good working condition that fits you properly will be perfectly adequate to get around on, especially for shorter in-town trips. (A helmet is essential, as are front and rear lights for riding outside of bright daylight.)

## CYCLING & PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



1. Pull the handle to fold out the rack



2. Load the bike by dropping the wheels into the slot



Kyssia Haag

3. Secure the bike by clamping the bar over the tire

### Using Front-Loaded Bike Racks on Buses

Most transit systems in Georgia accommodate bicycles. A bike rack accommodating 2 or 3 bikes on the front of a bus is the most common setup. Prior to loading your bike onto the front rack, it is important to be sure the bus driver sees you and knows that you are planning to use the bike rack. The images to the left illustrate how to properly load your bike on a front rack on a bus.

### Taking Your Bike on the Train

Most public transit trains will permit bicycles on board (MARTA in metro Atlanta does). You can shorten your commute by riding your bike to the nearest train station and simply walking your bike on to the train as shown below.



Preston Tyree

MARTA permits bikes in their rail cars



# 5 RECREATIONAL CYCLING

## BEGINNER RECREATIONAL RIDING

Most beginning cyclists prefer off-road, shared-use paths (greenways or rail-trails) for their separation from traffic. Little-travelled residential streets also work well for those just starting out. Most bikes suit this type of riding, so don't be shy to ride what you have, but if you're without a bike, then a hybrid might suit you best for getting started. See Chapter 1 on how to pick a bike that suits you best, and take a visit to your local bike shop.

## RECREATIONAL ROAD RIDING

Organized road rides happen across Georgia at speeds and distances of all kinds. To find the right club for you, start at your local bike shop or speak with other cyclists in your community. You'll pick up plenty of good experience riding with a group, but you can also explore routes alone or look for an on-road cycling event. You can ride most any bike on the road, but something specialized to reduce weight and rolling resistance would best suit you for this type of riding.

### QUICK TIPS: GROUP RIDING

When considering riding with a new club or group, ask about their pace, how far they'll go, and whether they're a "no-drop" group that won't leave anyone behind.

*Left Photo: BikeAthens*

## TOURING & BIKEPACKING

Camping, but on your bike! On the road, touring setups typically include racks for front and rear panniers (bags). Often, a touring bike looks like a classic road bike, but you can also use hybrids, mountain bikes, and others that allow you to attach racks to the frame and fork. A touring bike can also make a great commuting bike. In the backcountry, most bikepackers use bags that mount directly to the frame, saddle, handlebars, and other parts of the bike without the need for racks; mountain bikes work great for this because of their fatter, knobbier tires and more obstacle-resistant geometry. You'll want to pack most of the same gear you'd take with you on a backpacking trip.



BikeAthens

*You can mount bags onto your bike for longer trips*

## GRAVEL GRINDING

If you enjoy exploring, but don't relish the rugged terrain of mountain biking, gravel grinding might be right for you. A gravel bike is set up similarly to a road bike, but with more suitable tires that have knobbier treads and wider profiles. Several different bikes would work well for a gravel ride, but just be sure that the tires aren't too bald or too skinny.

## CYCLOCROSS

Riding, dismounting, carrying, running, and clearing obstacles by any means necessary: cyclocross racing is a popular winter activity,

and while most racers have dedicated, cross-specific bikes, a variety of frame types would work well with the right tire choice. Cross bikes also make great commuters, gravel grinders, all-rounders, and light-duty trail bikes.

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

A mountain bike might be the most versatile bicycle you can buy, if you don't mind a slow roll on the road. In-town trails, dedicated bike parks, and longer shared-use trails in natural areas provide plenty of different options for mountain biking, and trails of varying difficulty levels can help you build skill and fitness. Try a fat bike, whose larger tires can handle rough terrain, sand, and snow.

## RECUMBENT & TANDEM BIKES

**Recumbent Bikes** have a reclining seat and sit lower to the ground with the pedals out in front of the rider instead of below. It is recommended to have a flag attached to the back to improve visibility.



*Recumbent Bike*

**Tandem Bikes** are designed to be ridden by two or more people. Tandems are seen frequently in Georgia on recreational rides and tours.



Bicycle Ride Across Georgia

*Tandem Bike*



# 6 GET INVOLVED

## FIND A BIKE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY NEAR YOU

Though you can ride your bike almost anywhere in Georgia, some communities are more bicycle-friendly than others and offer more activities and infrastructure for cyclists. One helpful resource is Georgia Bikes! This organization provides information on Georgia's Bicycle Friendly Communities as designated through the League of American Bicyclists. Access this resource and find a Bicycle-Friendly Community near you at [www.georgiabikes.org/resources/tourism/bicycle-friendly-communities-in-ga](http://www.georgiabikes.org/resources/tourism/bicycle-friendly-communities-in-ga)



Georgia Bikes!

Georgia Bikes!



League of American Bicyclists

League of American Bicyclists

## HELP YOUR COMMUNITY BE MORE BIKE-FRIENDLY

Here again (see Chapter 1), your local bike shop is a great place to start. Staff should be able to help you get involved with local cycling groups and bike advocacy organizations to make your community more bicycle-friendly. The League

Left Photo: Carol Myers

of American Bicyclists also offers great tips and resources to help you become an advocate for cycling in your community:

[www.bikeleague.org/bfa/toolkit](http://www.bikeleague.org/bfa/toolkit)

## QUICK TIPS: DO YOUR PART

- Join local cycling, walking, or complete streets organizations and bike clubs
- Organize rides to work or fun group rides around town or in the country
- Personally practice safe and responsible bike riding on a regular basis
- Attend community and public meetings and advocate for more and better trails, greenways, bike lanes, cycle tracks, and other bike infrastructure

## STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICES

Learn more about bicycling in Georgia!

- Georgia Department of Transportation  
<http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/Travel/BikePed>
- Georgia Bikes! <https://www.georgiabikes.org/>
- Georgia Commute Options  
<https://www.georgiacommuteoptions.org>
- Georgia Safe Routes To School Resource Center  
<http://www.saferoutesga.org/>
- Georgia Trails Alliance  
<https://georgiatrailsummit.com/about/>
- Georgia Tourism & Travel – “Explore Georgia”  
<http://www.exploregeorgia.org/>
- Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League  
<http://www.georgiamtb.org/>

## LOCAL BICYCLE ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS GEORGIA

Check out one of these local bicycle advocacy organizations near you!

- Atlanta Bicycle Coalition (ABC)
- Bicycle Columbus
- Bicycling Club of Milledgeville
- Bike Alpharetta
- Bike Cobb
- Bike Macon
- Bike Roswell
- Bike Walk Dunwoody
- Bike Walk Northwest Georgia
- BikeAthens
- Complete Streets Athens
- Savannah Bicycle Campaign
- Suwanee Bicycle Association
- Trails for Recreation and Economic Development (TRED) of Rome/Floyd County
- Wheel Movement (Augusta)

**Be Confident.  
Be Predictable.  
Be Visible.**

**Ride Safely  
in *Georgia***

