

For immediate release

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HIGH ADVENTURE ON THE GEORGIA COAST

Jekyll Is., GA---The Jekyll Island Club Hotel, a Victorian treasure, is located on a Georgia barrier island of great natural beauty. Recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1978, it was recently designated a Historic Hotel of America by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Originally a hunting retreat for the nation's wealthy elite, the hotel today is the resort of choice for those seeking an exciting vacation destination.

"There's enough adventure on a trip to Jekyll Island to fill an entire summer," said a recent young traveler to the Jekyll Island Club Hotel. "My older brother couldn't get enough geocaching, and my dad was in golf heaven. Mom was torn between sea kayaking and trail riding. Every day I did something different in the kids' program. We had a great time."

Bicycle trails, about 22 miles of flat paths, border the Atlantic beach and vast marshlands and wind through the historic district and maritime forest. Raccoons, deer, wild turkeys and other wildlife are not uncommon sights on this semi-tropical island. Bikes in all sizes may be rented at the hotel's front desk for a half or whole day's adventure.

Inshore and offshore fishing, easily arranged through the hotel's concierge, is a great way to spend the day with the whole troupe. Inshore trips within the intra coastal water way for trout, flounder or bass, offer spectacular scenery as well as the opportunity for fishing excitement. For the deep sea fisherman, boats usually go about 30 miles offshore for larger fish and longer time out. Mako, barracuda, or sword fish may be the catch of the day. It is good to make reservations at least a day in advance through the help of the concierge.

Trail rides along the driftwood beach and through the maritime forest are available at Clam Creek during the day. Guides, who know the names of trees and plants along the trail and who have a wealth of knowledge about the island's resources, make sure this is a memorable horseback riding experience.

Sea kayaking, limited only by occasional high winds and lightning, increases in popularity each season. Available year round on Jekyll, single or tandem kayaks afford the best opportunity for "up close and personal" enjoyment of the island coast. Quick, quiet, and maneuverable, these little boats are sporty and allow the most intimate view of shore wild life.

Cumberland Island to the south and Sapelo Island to the north of Jekyll Island each offers a historical past and undisturbed wild life that is unique. The ferry from St. Marys, GA, each morning takes hikers and backpackers to Cumberland Island. Wild horses, the Dungeness ruins, dune bordered beaches, and sweet smelling pine forests are some of the lures of this former island home of the Carnegie family. Sapelo Island, also reachable by ferry (from Meridian, GA), is home to a community of descendants of former slaves, a 5,000 acre estuarine research reserve, the plantation home of Thomas Spalding, and a large circular Indian mound among other fascinating sights. The ferry dock for each of the islands is approximately an hour's drive from Jekyll Island.

Designated by the Audubon Society as one of Georgia's Important Birding Areas (IBA), Jekyll Island is also home to one of the nation's most significant birding events. According to the festival's founder, "Each October Georgia's Colonial Coast Birding & Nature Festival provides a vast spectrum of opportunities for everyone from the casual nature enthusiast to the most experienced birder. Field trips to over twenty-five different natural areas, including barrier islands, and informative seminars on a wide range of topics are the cornerstones of the festival." Jekyll Island is a birder's delight.

Children in the hotel's summer Club Juniors Program have a taste of the action, too. Bicycle safaris, beach explorations, and field trips to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center are planned into their schedule. Summer Waves Water Park and nature shows, are also part of the program Monday through Friday each week in the summer.

The Jekyll Island Club Hotel is truly a center of adventure for every member of the family.

For more information or reservations contact the Jekyll Island Club Hotel, 371 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, GA, 31527, or call 912-635-2600 or 800-535-9547. The Email address is reservations@jekyllclub.com. Visit our website at www.jekyllclub.com.

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