

PLANT YOURSELF

Grow memories while exploring
Gainesville's nature and gardens!

Morning: Rise and shine! Grab a biscuit at Longstreet and then make your way up Thompson Bridge Road to Linwood Nature Preserve! This hidden gem offers two miles of trails to explore through an urban oak-hickory forest. Be sure to check out the native plant specimen garden that is also home to an Audubon Bird Sanctuary where one can spy nearly 40 species of birds.

Side Note: Be sure to go to ExploreGainesville.org and find a map under Gainesville Parks and Recreation that features information and trail guide for Linwood Nature Preserve.

Lunch: Call ahead to Mellow Mushroom, located on Green Street and order a pizza to go and then head across the street to Gardens on the Green to enjoy a native garden. Be sure to get an order of the pretzel knots with beer cheese! Grab a seat in the serene picnic bench area and enjoy lunch followed by exploration. This hidden garden is located in the heart of Gainesville and offers a variety of plants native to our area. In addition, there's a pollinator garden that is buzzing with bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. The conifer garden is planted with sensory-friendly trees that are both prickly and soft to the touch!

Side Note: The Reading Garden is located adjacent to the Gardens on the Green and perfect for children to unlock their imagination. Dr. Seuss welcomes you to the reading garden where you'll also find various stations featuring stories of Peter Rabbit, The Tortoise and the Hare and more!

Afternoon: While on Green Street, head over to the Quinlan Visual Arts center where you can stroll for a few moments in the sculpture garden and reflect a moment on one of the friendship benches. Another great location to check out is the Freedom Garden at the Northeast Georgia History Center, filled with memorials to those that serve our country.

Linwood Nature Preserve



Gardens
on Green



Northeast Georgia History Center
Freedom Garden

Children's Reading Garden



**MORE GARDEN
ADVENTURES....**

DAY TWO

Sunrise: Check out the Butterfly Garden at Lake Lanier Olympic Park, though small in size, coupled with an amazing sunrise on the lake, it's definitely worth a view!

Morning: Brunches are amazing at Avocados or the Inked Pig, be sure to check them out if you are here on a Sunday morning! The Atlanta Botanical Garden Gainesville location is certainly one of the finest gardens in the region! This woodland garden features acres of native plants. Wind through the paths and spy many reflection areas, waterfalls and exhibits on display. There is a large lawn area for games and an amphitheater for concerts and events. In addition, be sure to check out the gift shop where you can purchase honey that is actually harvested on the



Elachee



Brunch at Avocados



Atlanta Botanical Garden- GVL



Lake Lanier Olympic Park Sunrise



LNB Brewery

property! New this year is a children's garden, featuring a 25 foot climbable dragon sculpture and play areas. Plan to spend several hours and attendants are there to guide and answer any questions that you have.

Afternoon: After the Botanical Garden, you might be feeling the need for something sweet! Head over to Diletto's Bakery, located on Jesse Jewel and try some home made pastries! We recommend the macarons! Make your way over to Elachee Nature Science Center and enjoy another of Gainesville's natural treasures! Not only are there miles of beautiful trails, there are marked specimens of trees, plants and fauna that are native to this region. Learn about trees and care of trees from the horticulturalists on site and also the animal life. Inside the facility, there is a museum that features a live honey bee hive, native animals and plant specimens. Don't miss a photo opportunity at the hanging bridge!

Side Note: *Elachee is one of very few facilities that offers nature based learning for young students. Children learn in the natural setting of the forest, learn about math and science while exploring creeks and trails. This program is one of very few in the world!*

Wrapping it Up: After your day of nature, you might want to wind down with an award winning craft beer from Gainesville's first brewery LNB. This brewery is located in a restored Johnson and Johnson factory and the owner is always glad to share about the history of this building!

For more nature adventures, staycations and more check out ExploreGainesville.org!