



# Planning for Perry

Georgia will host the 2009 National Junior Angus Show, July 19-25.

by *Kindra Gordon*

**K**nown for peaches, pecans and southern hospitality, Georgia will also put the spotlight on Angus as it hosts the 2009 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) July 19-25 in Perry — just south of Atlanta. A full itinerary is available at [www.njas.info](http://www.njas.info). The theme for the event is “Sweet Southern Showdown,” and Angus juniors will have the opportunity to compete in Perry’s state-of-the-art National Fairgrounds and Agricenter.

The multipurpose complex was built by the state and was specially designed for meetings, conferences, livestock and horse shows, concerts, rodeos, RV rallies and sporting events. It is situated on 1,100 acres and is beautifully landscaped with fountains and lakes.

## Perry landmarks

While Perry is best known for its National Fairgrounds, the charming town also boasts a historic downtown with specialty shops, quaint landscaping and lots of antiques. Perry is located along Georgia’s Antique Trail, which includes 18 beautiful communities in Georgia’s Historic Heartland travel region. Perry is also often called the Crossroads of Georgia because of its location at the intersection of U.S. highways 341 and 41, Georgia 127 and I-75.

One landmark to look for is the New Perry Hotel, which dates back to the early 1800s. Its hotel rooms and courtyard are surrounded by the large magnolias and colorful azaleas common to Southern gardens. The hotel’s restaurant is renowned for its traditional Southern food, which is served in a dining area with garden views.

Brochures for a self-guided walking tour of Perry can be picked up at the hotel. One highlight on the tour is the historic Board of Education Building, which includes an exhibit honoring Perry’s favorite son, retired Sen. Sam Nunn.

Additional highlights in the area include:

- ▶ Henderson Village, located 8 miles south of Perry, featuring gardens, tropical birds, horse-drawn carriage rides and the Gameland hunting preserve.
- ▶ Museum of Aviation, situated on a beautiful 43-acre site, with more than 85 historical aircraft in its collection. Exhibits of aviation memorabilia date from World War I through modern times. Included among the displays are an original Norden bombsight, the “secret weapon of WWII,” and the newly retired SR-71 Blackbird spy plane. An I-MAX Aviation Theater and Aviation Gift Shop are also featured at the free museum.
- ▶ Andersonville National Cemetery is rich in U.S. history and includes 13,669 military graves, as well as Prisoner of War Memorials, a partial reconstruction of the prison stockade of the Confederate “Camp Sumter,” and a Civil War Museum.
- ▶ Lane Southern Orchards, located about 12 miles north of Perry, showcases 4,000 acres of peach and pecan trees. Begun in 1904, this fourth-generation family farm is open daily year-round for visitors. They say they offer the best peaches and pecans you’ll ever taste.

For more information visit [www.perryga.com](http://www.perryga.com). For more information about the 2009 NJAS, visit [www.njas.info](http://www.njas.info).

