

MANSIONS MOONSHINE & Gold Mines

Roswell, Dawsonville & Dahlonega, Georgia



And the award goes to . . .

“Mansions, Moonshine and Gold Mines” was recently awarded a prestigious **Shining Example Award** from Southeast Tourism Society. The inaugural “Partnership Award” was given to the **Roswell CVB, the Dawson County Office of Tourism Development, and the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber & Visitors Bureau**, all located in Georgia.

The three partnered together to create a **promotion for group tour operators** and a package that enables a group to easily tour all three communities within four days. A detailed itinerary is included. The city of Roswell is represented by “Mansions” for its three beautiful and stately antebellum homes that survived the Civil War. “Moonshine” describes Dawsonville where visitors can learn about the making of moonshine and its link to early auto racing in Georgia. Dahlonega is represented by “Gold Mines” because it was the site of the first major U.S. gold rush.

Groups can start the tour in Roswell which is only 20 minutes north of downtown Atlanta. From there, Dawsonville is 35 miles north, and Dahlonega is just a few miles further. The tour highlights the best all three communities have to offer. Each has accommodations for groups as well as diverse attractions to keep them enthralled for hours. The tour has generated buzz among tour operators looking to offer their clients a unique and authentic experience.

Since 1985, the Southeast Tourism Society (STS) has presented Shining Example Awards annually to salute achievements in tourism, which ranks in the top three industries in each of the 12 STS states. These awards applaud various aspects of the industry, including marketing, governmental support of tourism, leadership, new talent and sustainability. This was the first year a partnership award was presented to recognize tourism groups that exemplify successful partnership in tourism promotion.

“Television has Emmy Awards, movies have Academy Awards and STS has Shining Example Awards,” STS President and CEO Bill Hardman states. “Organizations and individuals receiving STS Shining Examples are being pointed out as achievers of great merit. They are coveted awards.”