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High Resolution Images Available

Fall into Alpharetta

It's all about free, family-friendly fun and festivals this autumn in Alpharetta.

ALPHARETTA, GA – Crisp leaves, apple cider and pumpkins ring in a season that's all about free, family-friendly fun and festivals galore, especially in Alpharetta, Georgia, located just 22 miles north of Atlanta. A plethora of festivals and 23 upscale – yet affordable – hotels make Alpharetta the go-to destination for family getaways. Add to that a can't-miss calendar of events for the whole family and you have a winning combination that makes any autumn weekend more filling than a hot apple fritter!

Pack your bags! The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau is so excited about your arrival, we're giving away a monogrammed L.L. Bean duffel bag and weekend stay at the Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott Atlanta Alpharetta along with a \$100 Benihana gift card! Register to win at awesomealpharetta.com or stop by the Downtown Alpharetta Welcome Center located at 178 South Main Street and pick up an entry form, maps, brochures, a visitor's guide, and calendar of events. The contest runs from September 1 – October 31 with the winning entry drawn on November 1, 2010.

Park it! Alpharetta is home to more than 750 acres of parkland, which is just the beginning of a day full of outdoor adventure. Besides four playgrounds, including Wacky World at Wills Park, a monstrous, castle-like structure with slides, swings and towers to climb, there are three arboretums, a disc golf course and the Alpharetta Big Creek Greenway. Pick up complimentary walking tour brochures at the Alpharetta Welcome Center and explore the Alpharetta Arboretums at Cogburn Park, Webb Bridge Park and Wills Park. Then, let the Frisbees fly with a round of disc golf. The whole family can play – and it's free! Round out the outdoor explorations by walking, running, inline skating or biking down the 6.1-mile Alpharetta Big Creek Greenway, which meanders along a waterway and includes additional mountain biking trails. Need more adventure? Check out the 13 trails within a 20-mile radius of Alpharetta, all beckoning to be explored! Pack a picnic and learn about the environment at Rock Mill Park, which includes a demonstration of eco-friendly Green Roof technology. Then visit the Walk of Memories, the

only memorial of its kind in Georgia, where kids will enjoy exploring the tank, helicopter and Navy gun on display while parents meander along the more than 7,000 bricks that pay tribute to all Georgians who served in the military and died.

Food! Pick up picnic eats from the Alpharetta Farmers Market, open from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays through October. Brush up on your cooking skills just in time for Thanksgiving by catching a fall class at Publix Apron's Cooking School. The only of its kind in the state of Georgia is located right here in Alpharetta. And if you're the lucky winner of the "Fall into Alpharetta" giveaway, or even if you're not, enjoy dinner at Benihana, where you will be seated at a teppanyaki table and a choice of delicious food options will be grilled to perfection right before your eyes!

Plan to *Fall* into Alpharetta during these autumn events!

2010 Ironkids Alpharetta Triathlon: Celebrate family fitness while having fun on September 12. Your kids will race to the finish of this amazing triathlon designed just for ages 6-15. Cheer nearly 1,000 children on as they swim, bike and run to the finish. The top three winners in each age group qualify for the national triathlon.

Lazy Log Cabin Days: You won't want to miss this afternoon of family fun on Sunday, September 12. After IronKids, head over to the Milton Log Cabin and relive the early days of Milton County. Tour the Log Cabin constructed by the 1934 class of Future Farmers of America at Milton High School and step back in time with a history lesson the whole family will enjoy. Join in old-time games, view demonstrations and fill up on tasty treats!

Alpharetta Rotary FunFest 2010 & Classic Car Show: A Kids Fun Zone, arts and crafts area, live entertainment and laundry list of delectable eats make for an unforgettable fall day, September 25, outside North Point Mall. Car buffs can see plenty of antique cars at the Onion Ring Rally the evening before the event, Friday night, September 24, from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at The Varsity.

Crossroads in Crabapple Antique and Arts Festival: On October 2, spend a day under the oaks hunting for the perfect find at this one-day festival that's become a not-to-be-missed, long-standing community tradition. 50 American Country Antique Dealers and 50 juried local artists showcase their one-of-a-kind work. Plus, food vendors, activities for children and roaming musicians make it a day all ages will enjoy.

Scarecrow Harvest: Pair your outing to the Crossroads Festival with a celebration of a truly autumn icon. Over 75 historically-themed scarecrows created by Alpharetta's school children line the streets. Combine the event with the Alpharetta Farmer's Market for a truly fall family day. Enjoy live folk music, free hayrides, face painting and crafts, not to mention the announcement of the winning scarecrow!

For more information call the Alpharetta CVB toll-free (800) 294-0923, locally (678) 297-0102; or visit www.awesomealpharetta.com. ###

Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau serves as the destination marketing arm for the City, promoting tourism to Alpharetta, Georgia, and attracting visitors to all 23 of Alpharetta's upscale and modern hotels. Visit awesomealpharetta.com for more information.