

The **state** Guide

Winter 2005

NEIGHBORHOOD

SERENBE OPEN AND INVITING

Go to its Web site, and you'll know immediately that Serenbe is different. The acorn trademark and earthy tones exude the organic nature of the new 900-acre "urban village," located 32 miles south of downtown Atlanta in the Chattahoochee Hill Country area. The planned community emphasizes its environmental elements. Pedestrian paths encourage strolling; a network of parks and trails offers access to hiking, horseback riding and other outdoor activities; there are neighborhood organic farms. And while it's still building its residential occupancy, Serenbe is ready for visitors.

The Blue-Eyed Daisy Bakeshop is open and serves light fare, as well as baked goodies. Don't miss the signature blue-eyed daisy cookies and truly mouth-watering, light-as-air cupcakes. Next door is the StudioSwan Gallery, exhibiting work by artist/proprietors Gail Foster and Tom Swanston, and other well-known, under-recognized artists.

These shops are just the opening salvo in a master plan that includes a destination restaurant, retail shops and an art center with studios, a media center, a dance room and artist residences. It's quite a vision and well worth a visit to experience this emerging "new urbanist" community.

INFO: 10950 Hutcheson Ferry Rd., Palmetto, Ga., 770-463-9997, serenbecommunity.com, serenbe.com

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