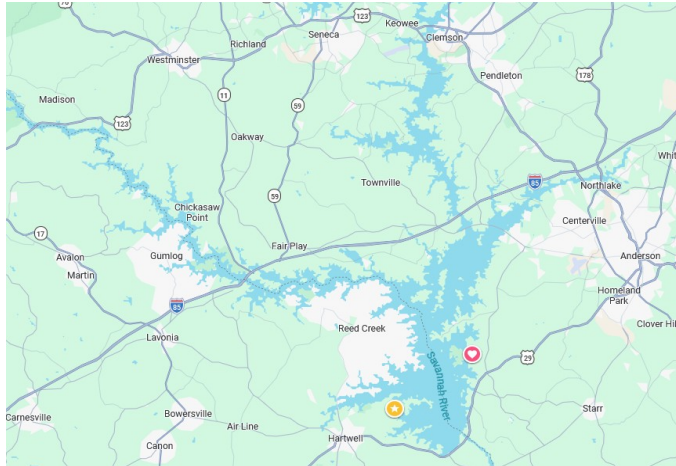




## About Lake Hartwell



**Lake Hartwell** is a man-made reservoir bordering Georgia and South Carolina and encompassing parts of the Savannah, Tugaloo, and Seneca Rivers. Lake Hartwell is one of the largest recreation lakes in the Southeastern United States. It was created by the construction of the Hartwell Dam, completed in 1962 and located on the Savannah River seven miles (11 km) below the point where the Tugaloo and Seneca Rivers join to form the Savannah. Extending

49 miles (79 km) up the Tugaloo and 45 miles (72 km) up the Seneca at normal pool elevation, the lake comprises nearly 56,000 acres (230 km<sup>2</sup>) of water with a shoreline of 962 miles (1,548 km). The entire Hartwell reservoir project contains 76,450 acres (309.4 km<sup>2</sup>) of land and water. Interstate highway 85 bisects Lake Hartwell, making the area easily accessible to visitors.

The Flood Control Act of May 17, 1950, authorized the Hartwell Dam and Reservoir as the second unit in the comprehensive development of the Savannah River Basin. The original project provided for a gravity-type concrete dam 2,415 feet (736 m) long with earth embankments at either end, which would be 6,050 feet (1,840 m) long on the Georgia side and 3,935 feet (1,199 m) long on the South Carolina side. The 12,400-foot-long (3,800 m long) dam was to be topped with a roadway 24 feet (7.3 m) wide. The main dam was to consist of two non-overflow concrete sections on the right and left banks 887 feet (270 m) and 940 feet (290 m) long, respectively; a gravity-type concrete spillway 588 feet (179 m) long equipped with 12 tainter gates 26 by 40 feet (7.9 by 12.2 m) in the channel; and a powerhouse on the South Carolina side of the river. Full-power pool was designed to be 660 feet (200 m) above mean sea level.

Construction of the Hartwell project started in 1955 and was completed in 1963. Construction of the dam started in 1955 and was finished in 1959. Salvage archaeological excavations were conducted at several sites in an effort to recover artifacts and information from prehistoric and historic sites that would be inundated by the lake. Joseph Caldwell led a team from the University of Georgia in this work, especially from 1957 to 1959. Lake Hartwell is named for the American Revolutionary War figure Nancy Hart. Nancy Hart lived in the Georgia frontier, and was known for her devotion to freedom. A county, city, lake, state park, and highway among others, bear her name.