



*A private oceanfront garden on Sea Island is one of eight featured on the Cassina Garden Club's 3rd annual Tabby & Tillandsia Garden Walk. Complementing the Mediterranean style of the house it surrounds, the garden is a rustic seaside sanctuary from the hustle and bustle of the modern world.*



The Cassina Garden Club will host its 3rd annual Tabby and Tillandsia Garden Walk Weekend May 2 and 3. The tour will visit eight private gardens on St. Simons and Sea islands, as well as the public gardens tended by the club at the historic Hamilton Plantation tabby cabins on Gascoigne Bluff, point of embarkation for the tour. A garden market will be staged both days under tents on the cabin grounds, where vendors will offer horticultural material, garden and floral-related products and home accessories, and botanical and garden art. The market is open to the public and free to attend.

Tickets are \$30 in advance, and \$35 the day of the tour. Advance tickets are available for purchase online at [www.cassinagardenclub.org](http://www.cassinagardenclub.org).

Proceeds from the sale of tickets are held in trust for the preservation of the circa 1804 tabby cabins that housed slaves assigned to the main house of Hamilton Plantation. The cabin gardens, replicas of what a plantation garden would have looked like, were designed by noted Sea Island landscape architect T. Miesse Baumgardner. The Cassina Garden Club adopted the long-neglected cabins in 1932. "At that point a tree was growing through one of the cabins. There was no roof," says Sharon Flores, chair of this year's Garden Walk. "If the Cassina ladies had not taken over the cabins, they would not be here. They would have long ago crumbled."

Tour hours are from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday. Garden Market hours are from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday.