

Hiking, biking, paddling, off-road & equestrian

ALABAMA TOP TRAILS

Your guide to getting off the highways





www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com



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Alabama
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Sweet Home
Alabama

www.tourism.alabama.gov



CONTENTS

Alabama's Regions	2
Where does that road take me?	4
Cycling	6
Paddling	8
Mountain Biking.....	10
Hiking.....	12
Offroading	14
Equestrian	16
Birdwatching	18
State Parks.....	20
US Army Corps of Engineers Parks	22
Alabama Outfitters.....	24



REGIONS

ALABAMA

Photos courtesy of
Alabama Tourism
Department, top row.
Bottom: Nathan Smith



Top left: Ziplines at Birmingham's urban Red Mountain Park. Top right: Startoff in the Cheaha Challenge, a race to the state's highest point. Below: A view along Alabama's Pinhoti Trail, a connector to the Appalachian Trail.

What's it like in the various regions of Alabama?

Alabama offers a lot of variety, especially as you travel up and down the state. In the north you'll find mountains and lakes that gradually become the ridge-and-valley region around Birmingham. Below it lie coastal plain prairies and then the spectacular beaches on the Gulf of Mexico.

The Black Belt is where early planters found the rich black soil to found their extensive cotton plantations. Cradle of the American civil rights movement, the region remains culturally rich. The land contains islands of northern prairie pushed here along with glaciers in a previous ice age.

The Mobile, Tensaw and Alabama rivers become a network of bayous in the upland coastal plain. The darker area shown above Mobile Bay is a rich, wild jungle.

The Central Region is known for ridge-and-valley landscapes with rolling uplands.

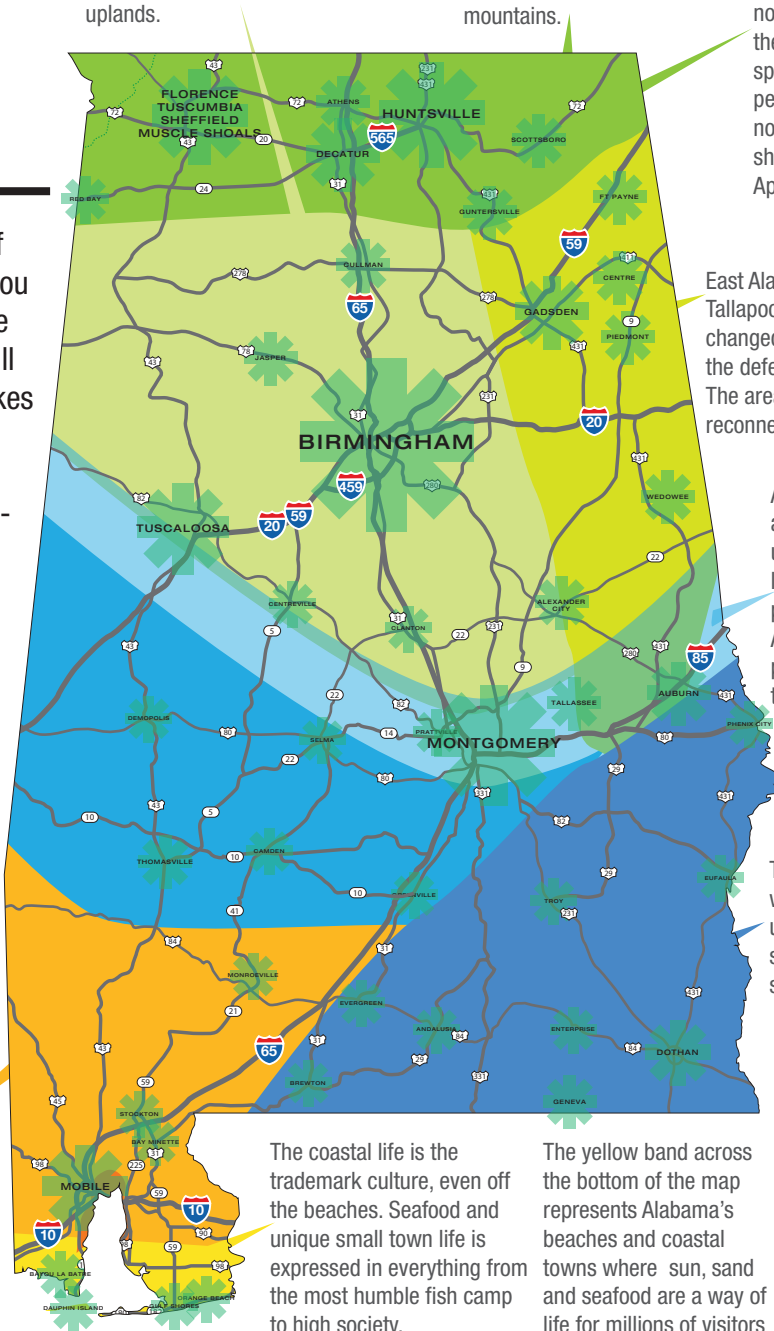
The Tennessee Valley features lakes and mountains.

The underlying sandstone and limestone of north and northeast Alabama make these areas popular for spelunking and climbing. The people of the plateau in the northwest corner of the state share a musically-rich Appalachian culture.

East Alabama's Coosa and Tallapoosa river valleys are little changed in their 200 years since the defeat of the Creek Indians. The area is a great place to reconnect with nature.

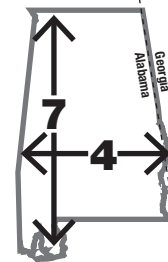
Alabama's fall line sweeps across the state where the underlying upstate rock layers end and the coastal plain begins. Much of Alabama's best whitewater paddling is found on rivers in their rush down the fall line.

The rolling low hills of the wiregrass region impart a unique character to the southeastern corner of the state.



The coastal life is the trademark culture, even off the beaches. Seafood and unique small town life is expressed in everything from the most humble fish camp to high society.

The yellow band across the bottom of the map represents Alabama's beaches and coastal towns where sun, sand and seafood are a way of life for millions of visitors and residents.



Drive times across Alabama (in approximate hours)

ALABAMA BYWAYS



Photos courtesy (top) Alabama Tourism Department, (bottom) Alabama Scenic River Trail

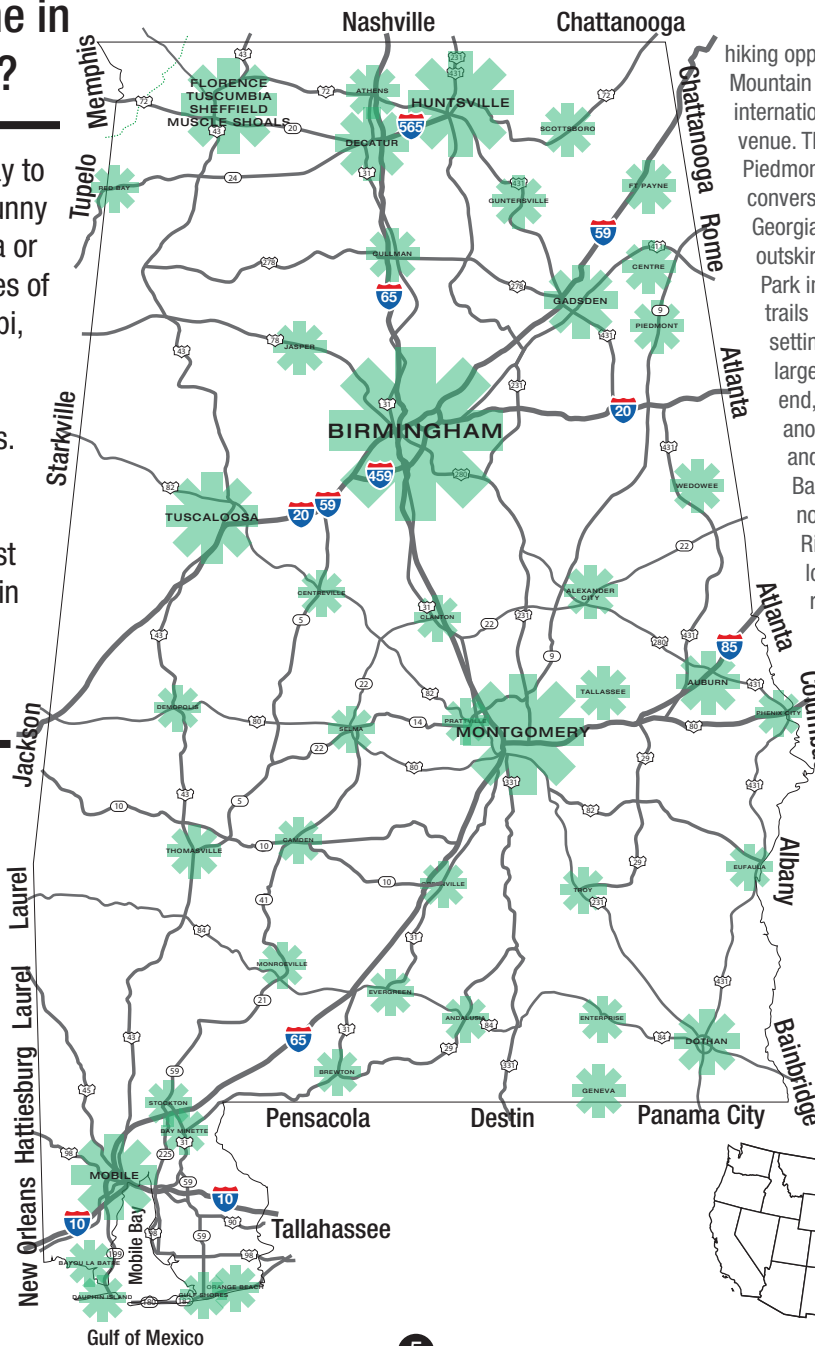


Where will that road take me in Alabama?

If you're on your way to New Orleans, the sunny beaches of Alabama or the adjacent beaches of Florida or Mississippi, you're passing by some excellent outdoor destinations. Hiking, biking paddling and many other pursuits lie just off the roads, often in the serene settings you'd like to find them in.

Everywhere you travel, there are interesting things to see and do that are invisible from the main highways. Alabama is no exception; in fact, our byways lie largely undisturbed in this historically rural and agricultural state. Alabama still has large undeveloped areas, and areas where small farms are receding back into the nature they arose from. Alabama has river laws that allow unfettered travel on our waterways. We have world class mountain biking, whitewater, and

hiking opportunities. Coldwater Mountain near Anniston is an international-class mountain biking venue. The Chief Ladiga Trail in Piedmont is a rails-to-trail conversion that connects with Georgia's Silver Comet Trail to the outskirts of Atlanta. Red Mountain Park in Birmingham has miles of trails in a reclaimed woodland setting in the heart of Alabama's largest city. Hike for days on end, often without seeing another person, in the canyons and old-growth beauty of Bankhead National forest northwest of Birmingham. Ride rough on the world's longest urban whitewater rafting run in Phenix City. Lose yourself among the floating campsites in the wild bayous of the Bartram Canoe Trail just north of Mobile. Cycle or drive the scenic byways of our rural counties to renew your spirits. Explore our four national forests and see everything from carnivorous pitcher plant bogs to rare ferns that survived for millions of years in rocky caves and canyons. Camp in our State Parks and US Army Corps of Engineers riverside campgrounds.



GRAND CENTRAL ALABAMA CYCLING

Alabama has the elevation and the backdrop for your dream ride



Photo courtesy
Flip Flop Photos

The Cheaha Challenge Gran Fondo Century & ULTRA ride upholds the tradition of excellence in 1992 to create a challenging route over the highest point in Alabama—Mount Cheaha—and back. Rides start and finish on the sweeping campus of Jacksonville State University with an option for every level of rider: Century ride (9,714 feet of climbing, depending on distance option) to the ULTRA, for experienced riders only (124 miles/12,835 feet of climbing), to the Chief Ladiga Cruise family ride. Event website: www.cheahachallenge.com

1. Chief Ladiga Trail: Starting near Anniston, this 33 mile rail trail will take you through north central Alabama connecting to Georgia's 61 mile Silver Comet Trail, which takes you to suburban Atlanta.

2. Capital City Trail: Using many of the popular Glassner Autumn Challenge routes, we invite you to explore the rural rolling hills and quiet backroads of central Alabama.

3. Mentone Trail: This route snakes through the southernmost folds of the Appalachian Mountains, delivering challenging ascents, bucolic valleys, and very little traffic.

4. Dixie Spires Trail: With nearly 13,000 feet of climbing this scenic and rugged 200 km ride includes the highest point in Alabama (Mt.Cheaha).

5. Black Belt Trail: Explore Alabama's quiet and historic Black Belt, including Greensboro, Marion and Voting Rights icon Pettus Bridge in Selma. Based on The Hot Hundred Century.

6. Space the Final Frontier Trail: Using all or part of the AYCE Century route, select among several beautiful options for significant and challenging climbs in the lower Tennessee River valley.

7. Champions Trail: Starting on the University Of Alabama campus, pedal through beautiful downtown Tuscaloosa and onto quiet back roads of Tuscaloosa and Greene Counties. Be sure to grab a bite at Robertson's BBQ. Based on the Hot Hundred Century.

8. Gulf Islands Trail: Start your ride at the stunning Bellingrath Gardens, enjoying views of the diverse bayous with your midway stop on Dauphin Island.

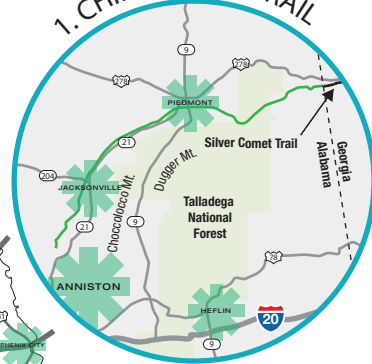
6. SPACE FRONTIER TRAIL



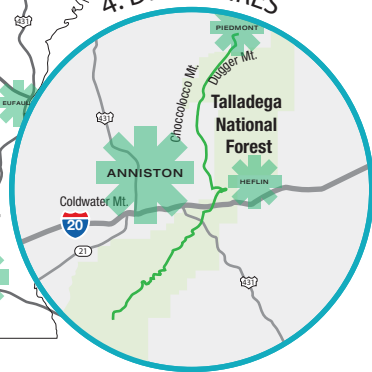
3. MENTONE



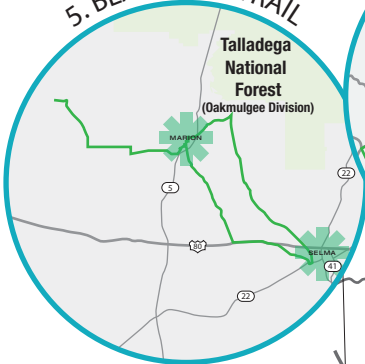
1. CHIEF LADIGA TRAIL



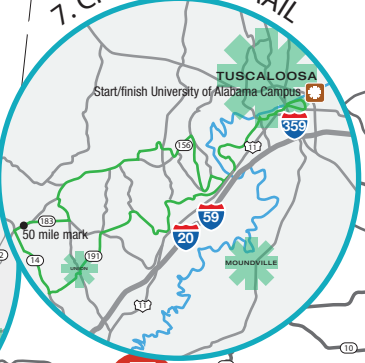
4. DIXIE SPIRES



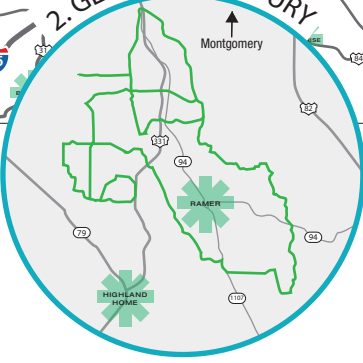
5. BLACK BELT TRAIL



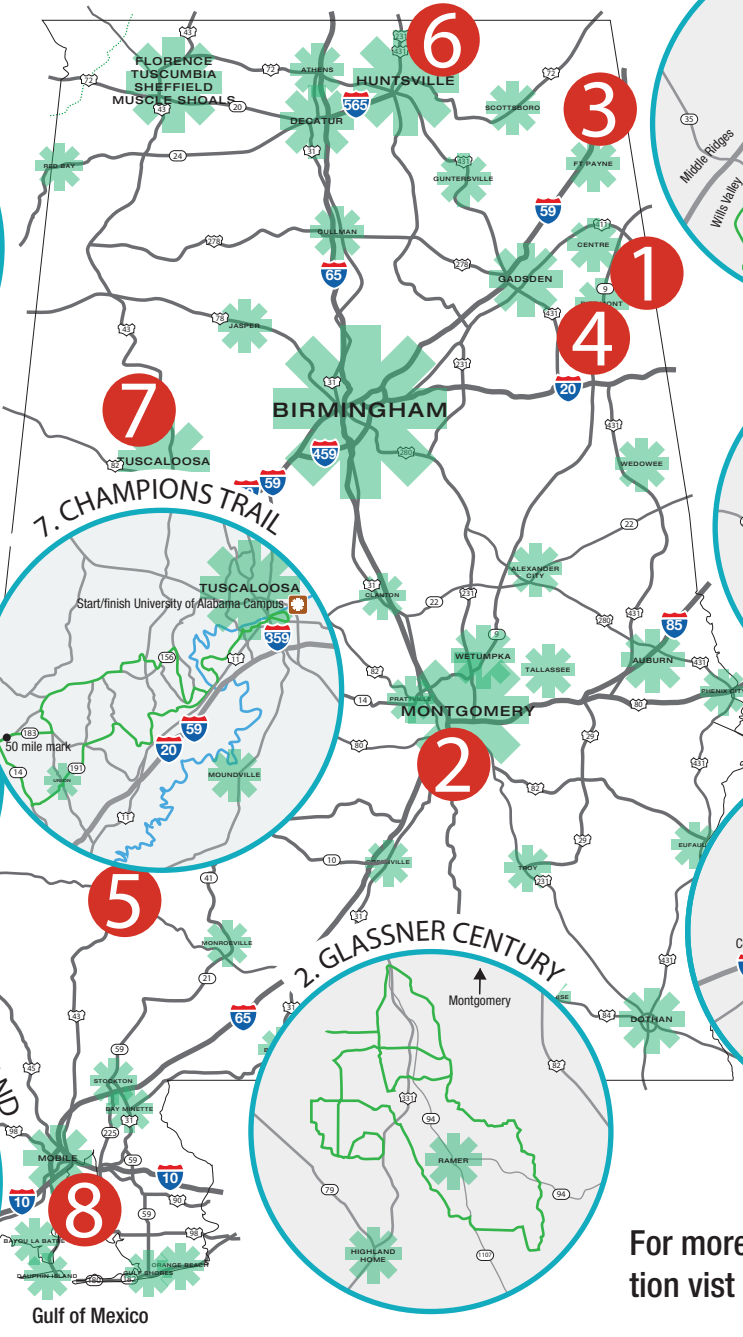
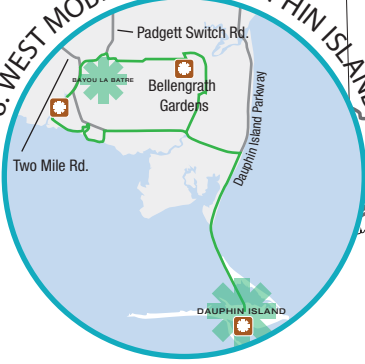
7. CHAMPIONS TRAIL



2. GLASNER CENTURY



8. WEST MOBILE BAY & DAUPHIN ISLAND



For more bicycle touring information visit www.alabike.org/maps

PADDLING

ALABAMA

The Alabama Scenic River Trail is the state's "umbrella" brand for everything from shoals to seagulls

Below: A group of students' first paddle lesson on Bear Creek as part of the Alabama Scenic River Trail/4-H partnership program RiverKids, a statewide initiative to teach any child to paddle for free. Lunch on the scenic and wild Tallapoosa River.



Above: Whitewater rafting in Phenix City on the Chattahoochee River. Sand hill cranes at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge on the Tennessee River.

Photos clockwise from top left:
Alabama Scenic River Trail,
Alabama Tourism Department,
Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge,
Alabama Scenic River Trail



Over 5,000 miles of four-season paddling

1. Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge.

Located on the Tennessee river between Huntsville and Decatur, the 35,400-acre Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge is a big resort for wintering and migrating birds. Around 300 species of birds have been documented here, including sandhill cranes, whooping cranes and eagles.

*Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Highway 67, Decatur AL 35603 256-350-6639
www.fws.gov/wheeler*

2. Terrapin Creek. Twisty and quick with plenty of shoals, rocks and whitewater spots to make for a few fun hours and long enough for a multi-day trip.

*DeSoto State Park (256) 845 9605
Eubanks Welcome Center (Piedmont) Chief Ladiga Cycling Trail (256) 927-8455*

Nelson's Redneck Yacht Club 3850 County Road 175 Piedmont AL (256) 447-8690, (256) 504-8690

No Worries Kayak Rentals 3180 AL Highway 9 South Piedmont AL 36272 (256) 447-3773

Terrapin Outdoor Center 4114 County Road 175 Piedmont AL (256) 447-8383

3. Autauga Creek. The cool underground-fed water and the creek's hallway of near-touching tree canopy make for a cool and shady trip on hot days. A favorite trip begins behind City Hall near the downtown Prattville restaurants and shops and takes out at the beach at the well-marked Canoe Trail Park. Just ten minutes from Montgomery.

www.autaugacreek.org for maps, FAQ, videos and more Prattville Paddle Sports rentals and shuttle service 1548 U.S. 82, Prattville AL 36067 (334) 361-3988

4. Bartram Canoe Trail. Winding through a dazzling maze of estuarine marshes and cypress swamps, the bayous feature a series of land-based and floating campsites that can be linked together into an epic multi-day float trip. Floating platforms require reservations at

www.bartramcanoetrail.com.

Five Rivers Delta Resource Center 30945 Five Rivers Boulevard, Spanish Fort AL 36527 (251) 625-0814

Sunshine Canoe Rentals (gear and guide) (251) 367-4144

5. Tallapoosa River. Dancing water. History. Eagles. Fish. Spectacular views, picnic spots and camping. The Tallapoosa flows over shoals and layers of quartzite in a waterway that provides everything from days-long solitude to sociable lakes.

Shane Harris, County Extension Coordinator Tallapoosa Alabama Cooperative Extension System 256-825-1050 (office) 256-596-1363 (cell)

J. Harold Banks, Experienced Tallapoosa paddler 256-825-8930 (home) 334-744-4452 (cell)

Wind Creek State Park Alexander City, AL 35010 (256) 329-0845

6. Wetumpka Whitewater. Whitewater fans will love the six-mile stretch known as Moccasin Gap on the Coosa above Wetumpka. Both area outfitters have landings and campsites in Wetumpka with shuttles.

Coosa Outdoor Center 172 River Drive, Wetumpka AL 36092 (334) 567-3788

Coosa River Adventures 415 Company Street, Wetumpka, AL 36092 (334) 514-0279

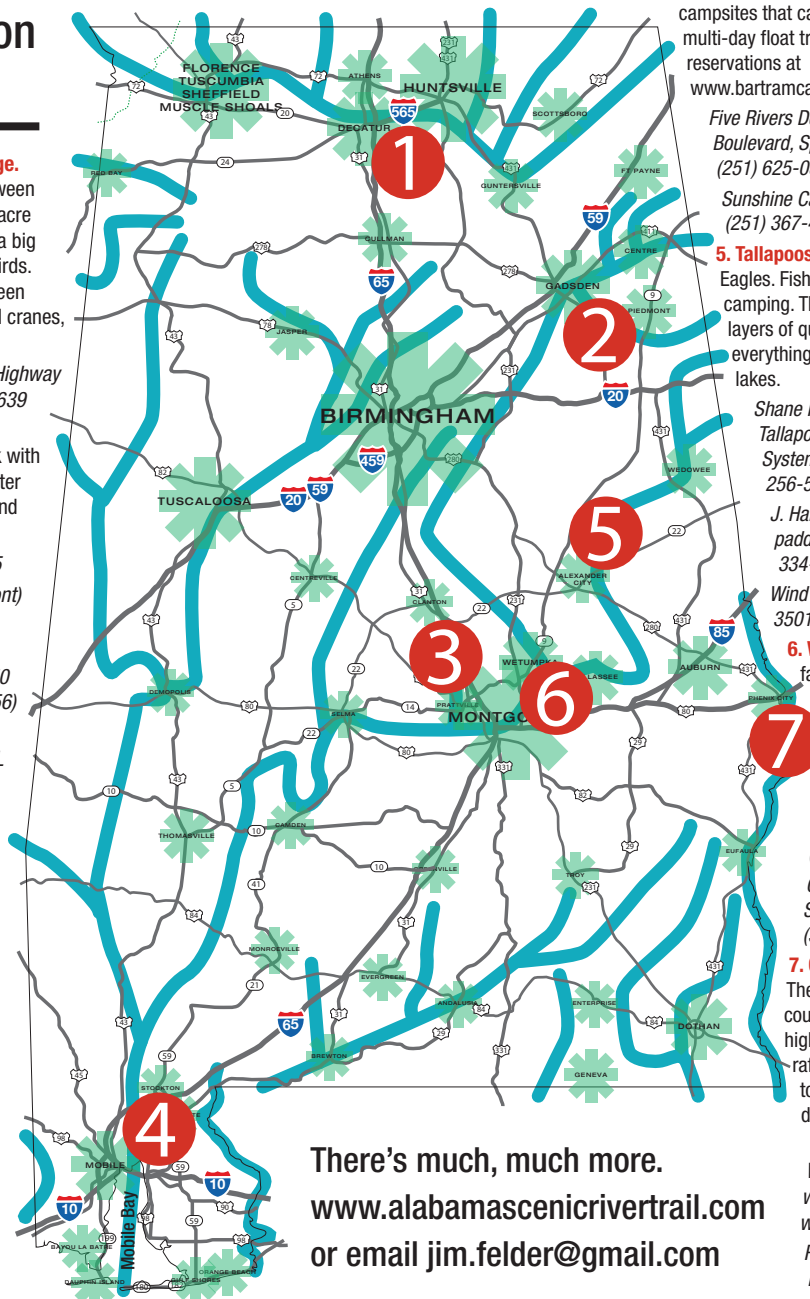
7. Chattahoochee Whitewater Rafting.

The world's longest urban whitewater course includes five rapids of Class IV or higher plus 10 smaller rapids. Commercial rafting trips bounce straight through town. "Lazy river" for tubes and rental duckyies.

Chattahoochee Outdoor Academy/Whitewater Express

*www.whitewaterexpress.com
www.phenixcitywhitewater.com*

Russell County Convention and Visitors Bureau 1107 Broad Street Phenix City, AL 36867 (334) 298-3639



There's much, much more.
www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com
or email jim.felder@gmail.com

ALABAMA MOUNTAIN BIKE

You'll be surprised at how much and how good.



Chewacla State Park



Coldwater Mountain

Top: A small part of the extensive mountain bike trail system within Chewacla State Park near Auburn.

Bottom: Stunning new 4,000-acre IMBA showcase at Coldwater Mountain near Anniston features the latest trail technologies.

1. Chewacla State Park, Auburn

Open all year.

2:10 average time for 14.9 miles.

Day use \$2 weekdays, \$3 weekend.
Annual pass \$60.

Chewacla State Park is just outside the Auburn city limits with terrain more similar to North Carolina than Central Alabama. Many rock outcrops, lake views, creeks, and historic features Trails range from the very beginner friendly CAMP Trail to our technical, feature-heavy Dell's Trail to intermediate singletrack.

Many of the system's eight separate loops connect to create one single loop, which has been known as "The Race Loop". While at Chewacla you'll find a number of intermediate trails that can be ridden continuously for about 15 miles.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/4334999/chewacla-state-park>

2. Coldwater Mountain, Anniston

1:21 average time for 11.3 miles. Details

The big loop at Coldwater, including two miles of phenomenal downhill flow trail. The Bomb Dog Loop. IMBA Silver Trail venue with some of the newest technology in singletrack trails.

The ride starts out on rollers from the trailhead, providing a good introduction to the kind of trail and forest that you'll encounter throughout the ride. Take your choice of the middle trails and then climb gradually to an intersection with the Papa Bear loop then you're on the longest stretch of singletrack on the ride.

Be prepared for contouring and climbing for a few miles through the Alabama hardwood forest.

Beyond are some of the newest and best flow-style descents available anywhere for about two miles with features plenty of rollers, camel and table-top jumps, and a handful of black diamond rated optional lines.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/238251/bomb-dog-loop-coldwater-mountain>

3. IMBA Epic. Featured Ride in Oak Mountain State Park

Park Hours: 7 am until sundown
Park Fee: \$3
2:55 average time for 27.0 miles ,
Sylacauga

In the ridge-and-valley section of central Alabama, Double Oak Mountain lies at the core of the nearly 10,000 acre Oak Mountain State Park just 20 minutes south of Birmingham. The slopes and valleys of the parallel ridgelines serve up miles of blissful singletrack and technical diversity.

The trails vary technically and range from smooth singletrack with minimal texture to those that might require a hike-a-bike for some riders.

The ride starts out with a good warm up on the Lake Trail, a 4-5 foot wide trail suitable for all abilities. It offers some of the best views of the lake and the park.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/99190/oak-mountain-state-park-imba-epic>

4. Tannehill Ironworks. Featured Ride in the Tannehill State Park

A tour of all the best loops at Tannehill.

2:27 average time for 23.4 miles.

Tannehill Historic Ironworks State Park has an atmosphere unlike any other. With the historic furnace, Iron and Steel museum, cotton gin, grist mill and 45 other historic buildings and exhibits, it has a feel of a time when everything moved at a slower pace.

200 feet of elevation change, interesting topography, rock outcroppings and creeks, trails that range from technical and rocky or smooth and fast singletrack to quaint historic doubletrack working its way through the 1500 acres of pine and hardwood forest.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/4419834/tannehill-historic-ironworks-state-park>

5. DeSoto State Park Desoto Trail with Wades Gap Climb

23 miles

Dogs must be leashed

This long series of trails will vary in terrain and difficulty from very technical to fast flowing. The Wades Gap climb at the start of this particular ride is a local favorite.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7003701/desoto-trail-with-wades-gap-climb>

6. Sylaward Trail at Lake Howard, Sylacauga

This is a fast, loop trail that is mostly well-groomed single track.

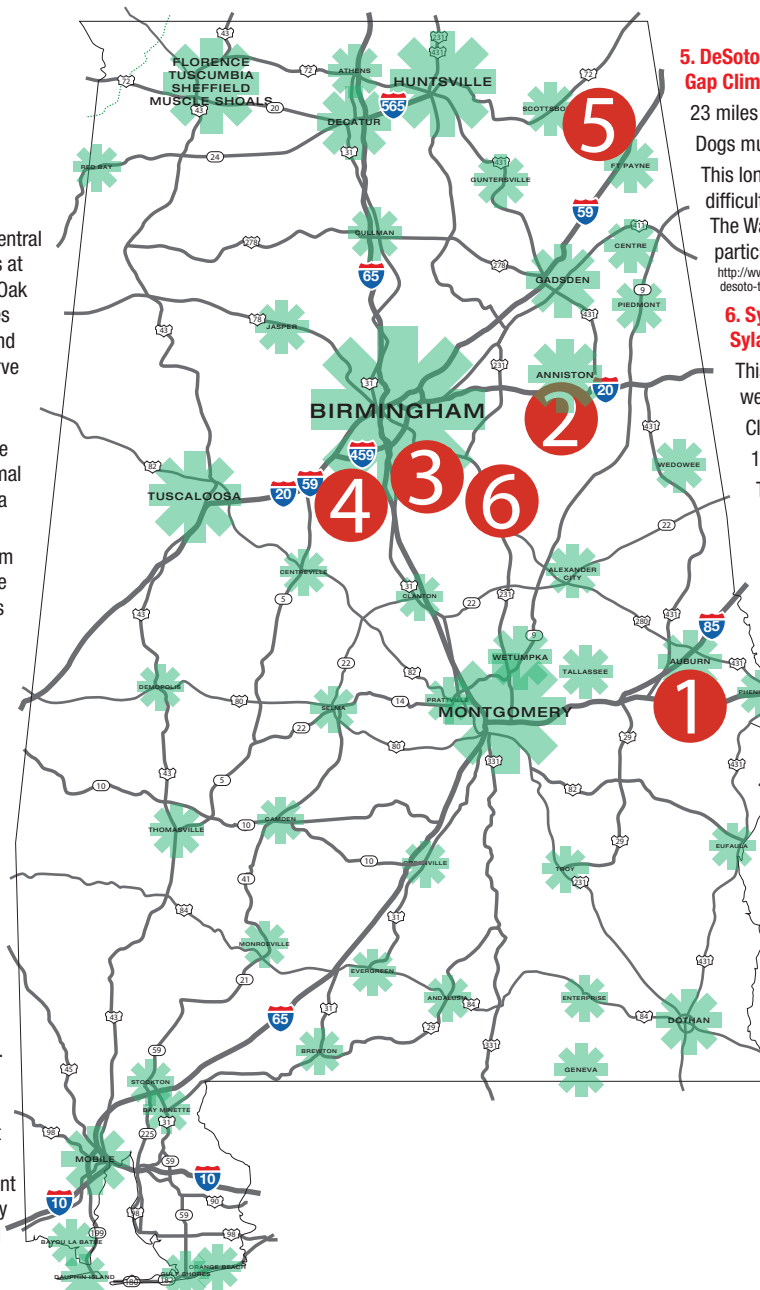
Closed on Mondays, typically.

1:45 average time for 15.2 miles.

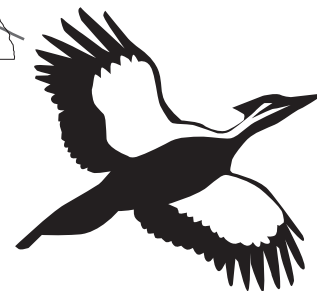
This is a great stacked-loop system that flows very well. There is no prolonged climbing, and the overall character of the trail is fast and smooth, with nice twisty linked turns.

There aren't many technical challenges, but it's a rewarding ride and well worth a trip. Adjacent to hundreds of miles of forest roads in the Talladega National Forest.

<http://www.mtbproject.com/trail/714346/sylaward-trail-at-lake-howard>



Gulf of Mexico

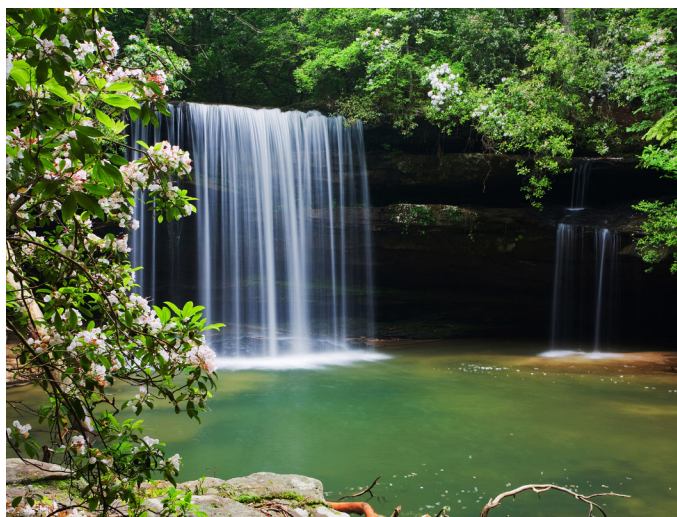


Hike everything between ridgetop and canyon floor



Top: A vista on the Pihhoti Trail.

Right: One of the many waterfalls found throughout the canyons of Bankhead National Forest



Photos courtesy (top) Nathan Smith, (bottom) Alabama Tourism Department

Alabama Favorite Hikes

1. Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve

Visit magnificent rock shelters and bluffs dripping with waterfalls and wildflowers over trails ranging from easy to moderate difficulty in this 700+ acre wonderland. Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve (256) 381-6301

[facebook.com/Friends-of-Cane-Creek-Canyon-Nature-Preserve-126802417335447/](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Cane-Creek-Canyon-Nature-Preserve-126802417335447/)

2. Land Trust of North Alabama Trails

You're sure to find your "favorite spot" hiking the miles and miles of trails at one of the five Land Trust of North Alabama preserves. These preserves offer a little something for everyone from novice to seasoned hikers—tall rock bluffs, cascading waterfalls, historic structures, panoramic views, and amazing wildflowers all within a short drive of downtown Huntsville. Be sure to visit their website for their regularly scheduled guided hikes.

Land Trust of North Alabama (256) 534-5263
www.landtrustna.org/

3. Walls of Jericho

The "Walls" is an amazing bowl canyon with a tiered waterfall that disappears into a rock wall then shoots out of the base. The canyon is accessible on a 7-mile moderate to difficult out-and-back trail. Primitive backcountry camping is allowed just a short distance from the canyon.

Alabama Forever Wild
(334) 242-3484

www.outdooralabama.com/forever-wild-land-trust

4. Sipsey Wilderness

The 25K+ acre Sipsey Wilderness is nestled within Alabama's Bankhead National Forest and sports over 45 miles of trails ranging in difficulty from easy to difficult. Known as the "Land of a Thousand Waterfalls" the trails of Sipsey follow along and cross an intertwining network of creeks, streams, and rivers through tall rock canyons with a waterfall around just about every bend.

Sipsey Wilderness Hiking Club www.sipsewilderness.org
 Bankhead National Forest
 (205) 489-5111
www.fs.usda.gov/alabama

5. Talladega National Forest / Cheaha State Park

The mountains of Alabama await you when you take to the trails in the Talladega National Forest. Catch breathtaking views of the mountains and valleys along the DeSoto Scout Trail; get lost in the roar of a three tier cascade at Devil's Den gorge on the Chinabee Silent Trail; or get a panoramic view from Bald Rock along the handicap accessible Doug Ghee Boardwalk atop the state's highest mountain, Cheaha. Or take one of a dozen other trails to create your own adventures and explore. And don't forget to visit the summit of Cheaha and the C.C.C. fire tower and museum at Cheaha State Park.

Cheaha State Park (256) 488-5115
www.alapark.com/cheaha-state-park/
 Talladega National Forest (256) 362-2909
www.fs.usda.gov/alabama

6. Pinhoti Trail

Alabama's premier long trail, the Pinhoti, is over 130 miles long and follows the ridges of the southern-most Appalachian Mountains. The trail is perfect for a quick weekend backpacking trip or longer extended trips, in fact, the trail is used by Appalachian Trail hikers getting ready for their hike. The trail winds its way across the mountain tops from central Alabama at Flagg Mountain in Weogufka to the Georgia state line near Piedmont. For a true backpacking adventure the Pinhoti connects to the Georgia Pinhoti Trail, the Benton MacKaye Trail, and the Appalachian Trail so you can hike the entire Appalachians from Alabama to Maine.

Pinhoti Trail Alliance www.pinhotitrailalliance.org
 Talladega National Forest (256) 362-2909
www.fs.usda.gov/alabama

7. Conecuh National Forest

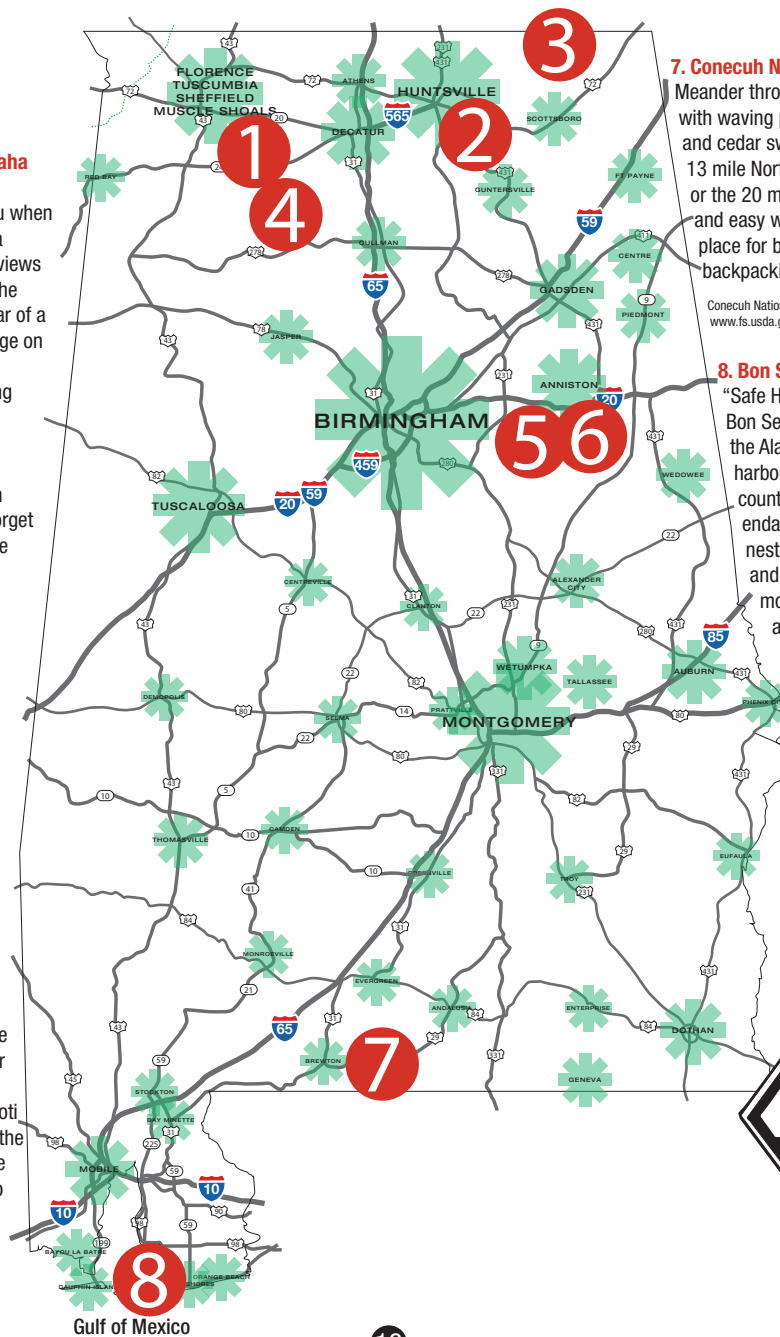
Meander through a beautiful long leaf pine forest with waving pine savannah, black water rivers, and cedar swamps over one of three trails – the 13 mile North Loop, 5 mile Five Runs Creek Loop, or the 20 mile Conecuh Trail. All trails are level and easy walking making Conecuh the perfect place for beginners to learn about hiking and backpacking.

Conecuh National Forest (334) 832-4470
www.fs.usda.gov/alabama

8. Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge

"Safe Harbor". That's what the French words Bon Secour mean and this refuge right on the Alabama Gulf Coast is just that – a safe harbor for over 370 species of birds, countless mammals, and many rare and endangered animals. The refuge is a prime nesting ground for logger head sea turtles and the endangered Alabama beach mouse also finds sanctuary here. Oh, and you may also cross paths with an American alligator. Your hike takes you through a serene transitional environment from maritime forests to wildflower covered wetlands to the pristine white beaches of the Gulf of Mexico.

Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge (251) 540-7301
www.fws.gov/refuge/bon_secour/



OFF-ROAD ALABAMA

Family-oriented, sustainable off-road fun



Top: Dirt bike riding at Flint Creek Trails.

Right: Fall is a beautiful time to visit Kentucky OHV Park.



Photos Cheaha Trail Riders

1. Kentucky OHV Trails. Kentucky OHV trail system in Alabama's Talladega National Forest is a great place for riding ATVs and motorcycles. There are trails for all sorts of rider levels and all types of terrain with 23 miles of trails ranging from difficult steep climbs to smooth graded trails. Camping is allowed along the trail. Helmets must be worn at all times. The park is open from daylight until dusk every day but closed January 1 to March 31. Take I-20 west from Atlanta to Alabama Exit 185. Cross under I-20 and go 2 miles, turn left across from a BP on Buckhorn Road. Turn left at the dead end. Go 1 or 2 miles to a forest service sign pointing to the trails. A roller coaster for mountain bikes. Nothing technical, however there are some very steep climbs/descents. Designed for four wheelers so it is all at least 48" wide. You just have to yield to the motorized vehicles, REMEMBER you can hear them coming but they can't hear you!!!

Talladega Ranger District - 256-362-2909

2. Stony Lonesome OHV Park. Stony Lonesome is the first public OHV park of its kind in the state. Open year-round, the 1456+ acre park features trails for ATVs, rock crawlers, dirt bikes, mountain bikes, equestrians, hikers, pedestrians, and much more. Dedicated to being a family oriented safe, environmentally friendly park, it is open Thursday through Monday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Over 150 miles of trails for a variety of outdoor activities. Some sections of trail require trail skill and experience.

<http://www.stonylonesomeohv.us/>

3. Top Trails. This park has challenging off-road trails for quads, side by sides and single track bikes that wind through thousands of acres at the foot of Alabama's highest point on the old Coosa River/Brecon Annex property. Breathtaking vistas on more than 2,800 acres in north Talladega County, Alabama, centrally located between Birmingham and Atlanta just a 15-minute drive off I-20.

<http://www.toptrails.net/>

4. The Ridge. A challenging riding area through unusual rock formations gives this riding area the appropriate name, "The Ridge" From Springville take Hwy 174 West for approximately 5 miles and turn left on Pine Mountain Road, The Ridge is the 4th driveway on the right. This OHV Park features Dirt Bike, ATV and Side by Side Trails, Motocross Tracks, Single Track, Races, Mud Bog, Cabins, Fishing, Disc Golf, Rappelling, Zip Lines, ATV Rentals, Side by Side Rentals, Mud Runs, Concerts, Hotel Rooms, Banquet Rental Space, Riding Gear, Motorcycle Repair Shop, and Grill/Restaurant.

The Ridge has over 35 miles of one-way OHV trails all marked by difficulty. The trails are available to motorcycles, four wheelers, and side by sides. There are also over 15 miles of motorcycle-only single track. The entire single track is marked difficult, and has turned out to be some of the most technically challenging around. The old motocross track has turned into a one mile plus motocross track with lots of elevation changes, natural terrain, and plenty of jumps. There is also a kid's only motocross track, a pee-wee track just for beginners, and another supercross/motocross track called Area 51. They have two cabins, five hotel rooms, and plenty of primitive camping sites with fire pits. The campground has two stocked fishing ponds that you're welcome to fish, and a bathhouse with hot showers. There is even a disc golf course, Pro Shop with bikes and gear for sale, a grill/restaurant, and a motorcycle/ATV repair shop. We also hold events like Hare Scramble Races, Kids Motocross, and trail running races as well.

<http://www.ridgeriding.com/>

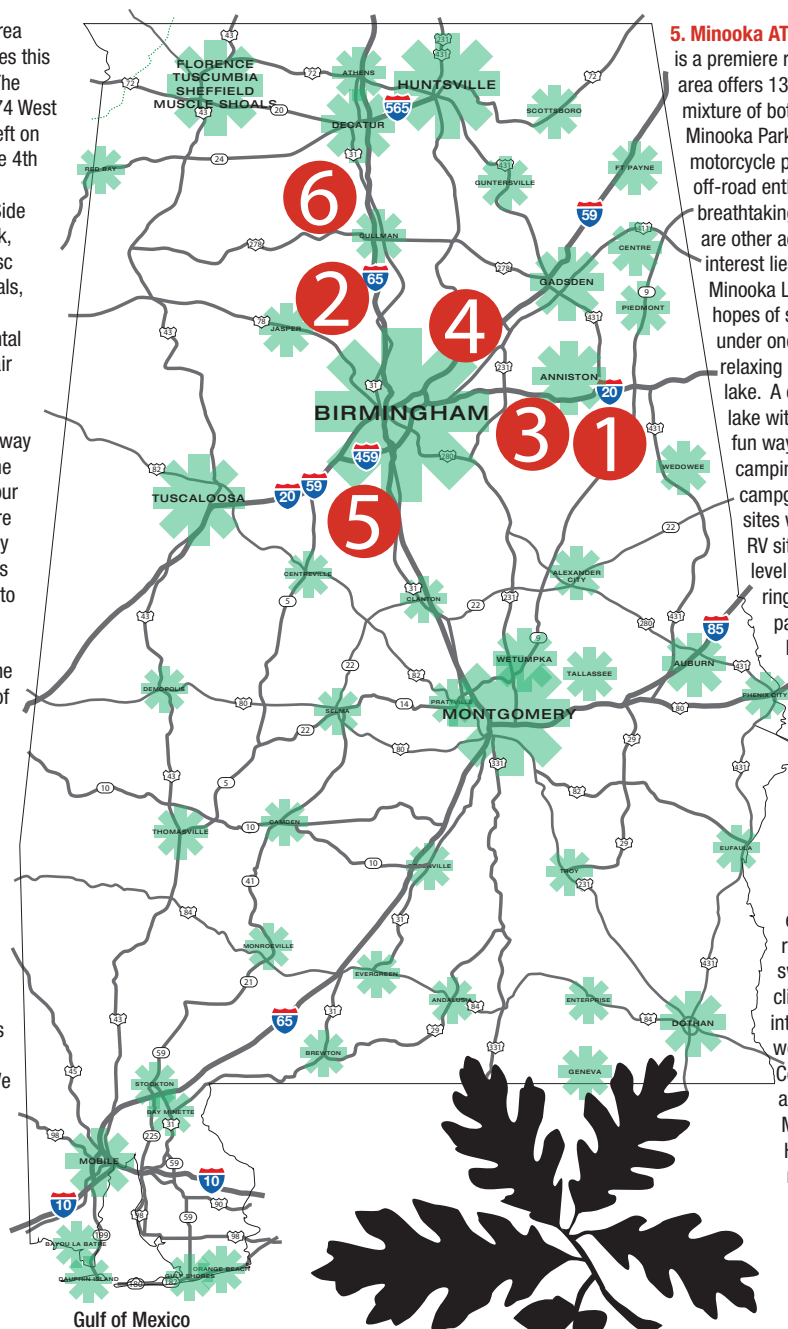
5. Minooka ATV and Dirt Bike Park. Minooka Park is a premiere riding area in central Alabama. The area offers 13 miles of interconnecting trails with a mixture of both one way and two way trails. Minooka Park is primarily an ATV/Off-road motorcycle park with miles of trails dedicated to off-road enthusiasts. The ATV trails feature breathtaking scenery and varying terrain. There are other activities available whether your interest lies in fishing for largemouth bass in Minooka Lake, hiking through natural areas in hopes of spotting a white-tail deer, grilling out under one of the many pavilions, or just relaxing on a scenic deck overlooking the lake. A one mile walking trail around the lake with plenty of resting points provides a fun way to get your exercise. Primitive camping is also available. The RV campground features several full hookup sites with water, power, and sewage. Each RV site has plenty of room for privacy, a level concrete slab, concrete patio, fire ring, and picnic table. Wednesday – The park is open Sunday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM. Fees vary by usage. Primitive camping is \$10.00/night.

<http://www.minookapark.org/>

6. Flint Creek Multi-Use Trail.

Fee: \$3.00. Open to horses, hikers, OHV, and Bicycles. Closed to wagons, and full size 4 X 4 Vehicles. "A" Loop – 1 Mile, "B" Loop – 5.6 Miles. As of 2016, three loops are in excellent condition. The descents are really fast and frequent with lots of switchbacks that usually lead into a climb. From Danville, at the intersection of 36 and 157, take 36 west. Turn left at the first stop sign on County Rd 81. The park will be approximately 5 miles on right. The Monte Sano State Park trail system in Huntsville is another nearby recommended ride—especially McKay Hollow—if you are up for technical, rocky descents.

<http://www.bamatrails.com/pages/lawrence-county-trails.asp>

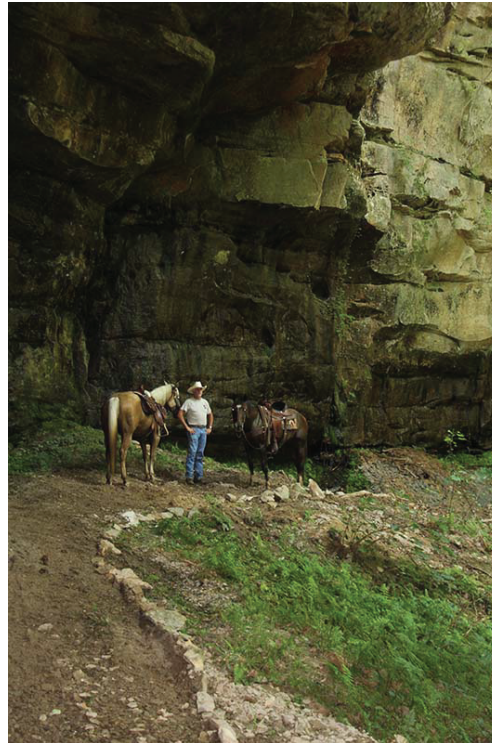


Didn't bring horses? Not a problem.



Top: The ancient dead town of St. Stephens, once an Alabama territorial capital, sits high on a bluff above the Alabama River. This historical site has lots to see and do from horseback.

Right: Rock Bridge Canyon is a purpose-made paradise for equestrian adventure.



Trail riding in Alabama accounts for a majority of the nearly \$2.4 billion spent on equine related activities in our State. Between privately-owned and state-operated facilities, Alabama's resources provide vast diversity for trail riding.

1. Rock Bridge Canyon in northwest Alabama has rental houses, campsites, stalls, a professional size arena, miles of trail, rock formations, waterfalls, and beautiful plant life.

www.rockbridgecanyon.com; 205 935-3499)

2. Oak Mountain State Park (just off I-65 in south Birmingham) has a new campground with stalls and over 27 miles of trails, a golf course, swimming, boating and more. Fall and spring are particularly good times to see wonderful views and in the summer, the foliage provides much relief from the heat.

www.alaparks.com/oak-mountain-state-park
205 620-2524)

3. Heart of Dixie in central Alabama/Troy offers numerous options: rental houses and horses, stalls, swimming and fishing, a professional size riding arena, a driving range for golfers and even a salt-water swimming pool and is south of Montgomery off Highway 231.

www.heartofdixie.com
334 670-0005

Photos courtesy Alabama Horse Council

4. Wind Creek State Park also in central Alabama near Alexander City is right on Lake Martin, just 8 miles off Highway 280 and has miles and miles of trails, horse camping and fishing.
www.alapark.com/windcreek.com; 256- 750-0087

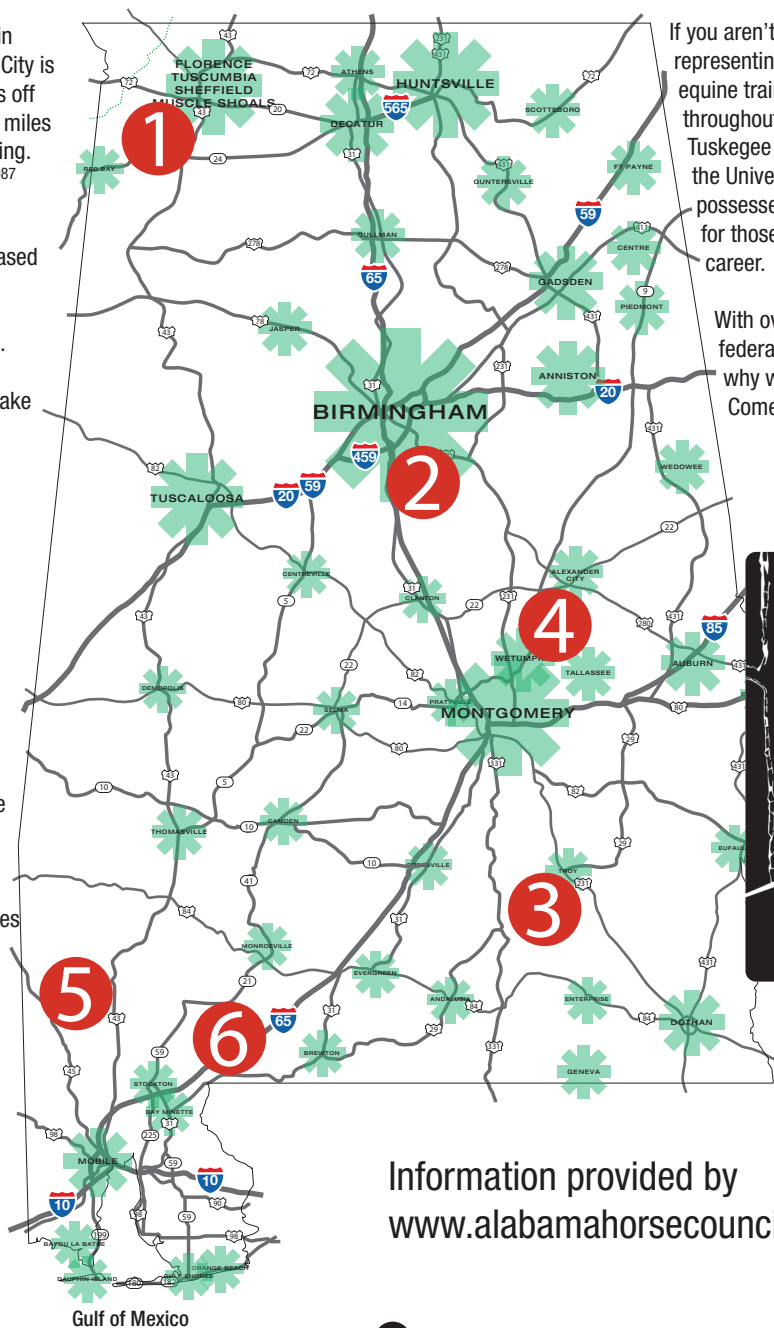
South Alabama offers a totally different landscape with sand-based trails.

5. St. Stephens Historical Park. Here you can either bring your horses or rent theirs to ride the lake trails and along the Tombigbee River.
www.usgulfcoaststatesgeotourism.com/content/old-st-stephens-historical-park
 251 247-2622

6. Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve. Although the horse trails are closed during hunting season, Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve located in Atmore offers trail riding, camping, horse stalls and more. Come observe pristine country and scenic views of water on the Big Escambia Creek. Bring the family for a day of riding, tubing, canoeing, hiking, zip lines and much more on almost 6,000 acres of timberland.
www.magnoliabranch.com
 251-446-3423

If you aren't trail riding, there are horse shows representing various breeds and disciplines, equine training facilities, etc. located throughout the State. With Auburn and Tuskegee Universities, Judson College, and the University of West Alabama, Alabama possesses great educational opportunities for those interested in an equine-related career.

With over 40 private, county, state, and federal trail riding facilities, you know why we say "horses are Alabama". Come ride with us!



Information provided by
www.alabamahorsecouncil.org

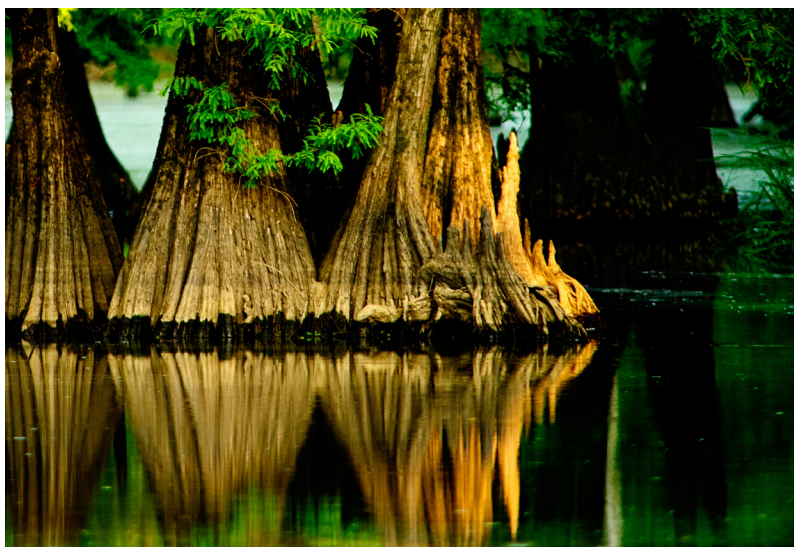
Places to go, birds to see.

With 270 sites covering Alabama from the mountains to the gulf, the Alabama Birding Trails provide a roadmap of the best public lands to watch the birds. Over 430 different bird species have been spotted in Alabama.

Right: Great Egret in Gulf State Park.

Below: Backbone Branch cypress swamp near Demopolis.

Photos top: Joe Watts courtesy Alabamabirdingtrails.com. Bottom courtesy Paul H. Franklin.



1. North Alabama 50 sites. Landscapes in the region range from tupelo swamps to blazing fields of wildflowers, and towering forests of oak and hickory to vast sheets of open water replete with loafing waterfowl.

As the habitats vary through the valley, so do the seasons. Spring is heralded by the return of neotropical songbirds that stop in while on their journey northward. Summer is filled with breeding woodland species such as flashy Pileated and Red-headed woodpeckers, boisterous Great-crested Flycatchers and Carolina Wrens, and skulking Kentucky and Swainson's warblers. In the fall, migrant waterfowl, Sandhill Cranes, and a variety of raptors return to spend the winter in the valley, or at least pass through on their way farther south.

Once winter's chill is in the air, large roosts of Bald Eagles form and stragglers from farther north can be found with the abundant waterfowl and gulls.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge near Decatur sits on land protected for so long it has become a stop for migratory and nesting birds. One-way glass observation building allows gawking and photography up close and in comfort. 256-353-7243

2. West Alabama 28 sites
 Nine county region in West Alabama where you'll find lakes, deep forests and free-flowing rivers, all filled with a wide variety of birds.

From the campus of the University of Alabama, to the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge, the ruins of two Civil War era ironworks and a wide swath of National Forest, prepare for the unexpected.

Any season can turn up great birds. But this part of Alabama holds some particularly interesting finds during the summer months, when birding can be quiet in other parts of the state. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Swallow-tailed Kites and Wood Storks are commonly seen during the hottest part of the year.

3. Appalachian Highlands 35 sites. From the forested hills of the Ridge and Valley region to the rich pastures and farmlands of its river-carved valleys, the Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail provides a wide diversity of habitats for birds, including the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Especially noteworthy for bird-lovers are the many rivers that flow through this region, including the Black Warrior, the Cahaba, the Coosa, and the Tallapoosa.

4. Piedmont Plateau 32 sites. The Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail in East Central Alabama has 34 sites, from Alabama's highest mountain to the shores of Lake Martin, the state's first Treasured Alabama Lake.

The bird habitat found here is as varied as the scenery. From a paved walking trail in the middle of a city park to an adventurous float down a scenic river, you'll find an activity that fits your interest.

5. Black Belt 32 sites. Sites stretch along a narrow swath of 11 counties across the south-central part of Alabama's rural farm country. Names for the thin layer of long-depleted soil that make the region famously rich in plantation days.

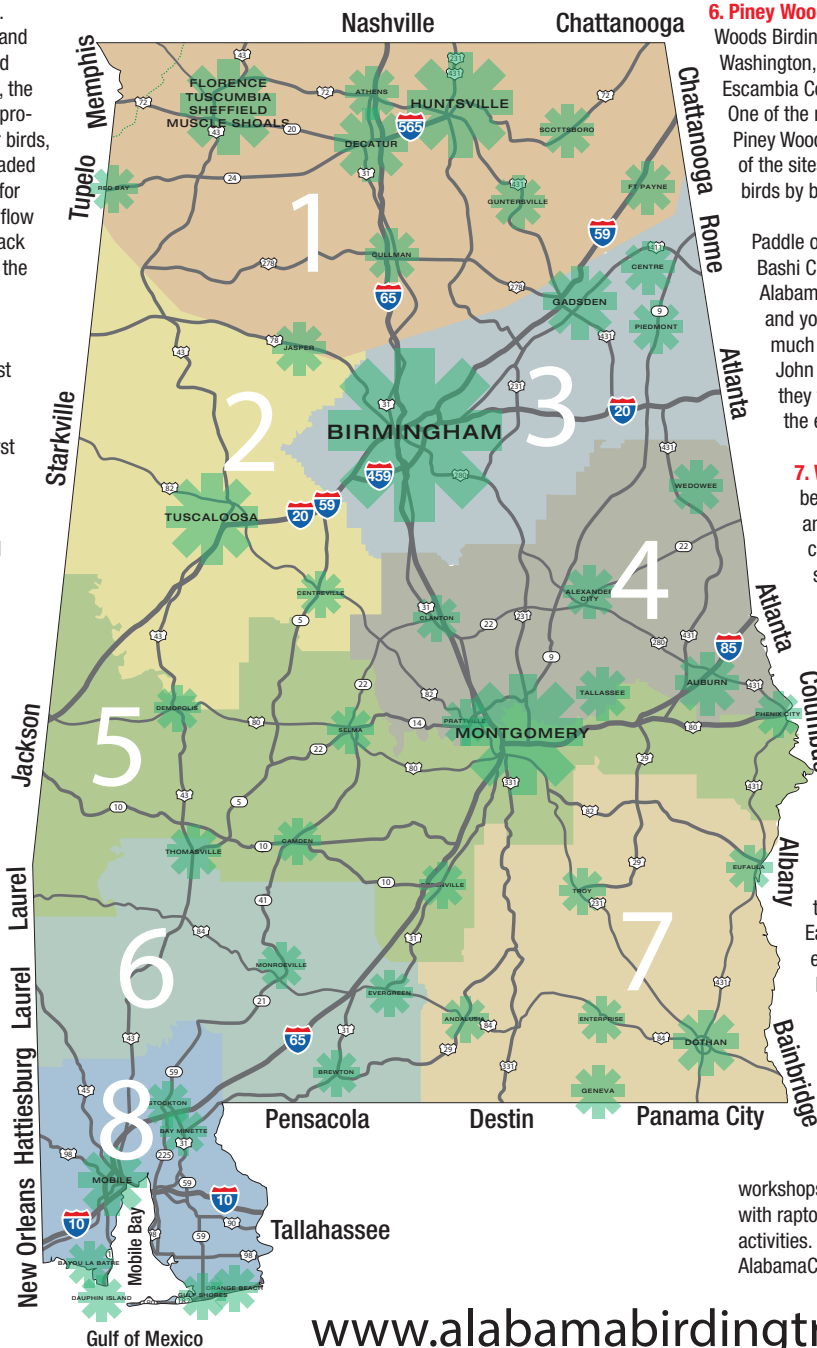
With locations as varied as simple boat ramps—where you can launch a canoe to explore the deep recesses of one of Alabama's river system—to state parks, National Wildlife Refuges and city parks, there is much to see and do.

6. Piney Woods 22 sites. The Piney Woods Birding Trail links birding sites in Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, and Escambia Counties in southwest Alabama. One of the most unique features of the Piney Woods Birding Trail is that so many of the sites offer the opportunity to view birds by boat.

Paddle on Parker and Kimbell Lakes, Bashi Creek, Tallatchee Creek, the Alabama River, and the Sepulga River, and you'll see a landscape that looks much the way early naturalists like John James Audubon saw it when they traveled through this region in the early 1800s.

7. Wiregrass 20 sites. So named because tough grass once grew among pine forest, this ten county region is nestled in the southeastern part of Alabama and features 20 sites located in national forests, state parks, and other public lands. The grassy rolling landscape of this region is a joy to observe no matter what your form of transportation.

8. Coastal 50 sites. The Coastal Birding Trail features six birding loops in Baldwin and Mobile counties totaling over 200 miles. Each loop covers different ecological regions and enables birders to experience different assemblages of bird species within each region. Every October, thousands gather for four days of guided bird & nature tours on land and by boat plus speakers, evening events, workshops, and family-friendly Expo with raptors, snakes, exhibits, hands-on activities. 251-625-0814 or www.AlabamaCoastalBirdFest.com



www.alabamabirdingtrails.com

STATE PARKS

ALABAMA

As many personalities as the land itself.

Alabama has the richest biodiversity this side of the Mississippi river and the state parks are no exception. From breathtaking vistas of the Appalachian foothills to the sugar sand beaches of the Gulf of Mexico, the Alabama State Parks are showcases of nature. The state parks are a combination of both contemporary and traditional amenities that provide conference facilities, lodges, cabins, cottages and spacious campgrounds. Our activities continue to center around the outdoors with a renewed enthusiasm for alternative forms of outdoor recreation and our trails program. Visit alapark.com to learn about the aerial adventure zip lines and our new "Dirt Pass" trails program.

Right: Family fun on the beach at Gulf State Park.

Photo courtesy Alabama Tourism Department

Below: The Alabama State Parks offers more than 250 miles of multi-use trails.

Photo courtesy Alabama State Parks



1. Joe Wheeler State Park

4401 McLean Drive, Rogersville
Lodge 256-247-5461 or 1-800-544-JOEWE
Campground 256-247-1184
Marina 256-247-6971
Cabins 256-685-2656
Elk River Group Lodge 256-247-5466
Golf Pro Shop 256-247-9308

Personality: Waterfront lodge, restaurant, golf, camping and other activities on the Tennessee River adjacent to Wheeler Dam.

2. Monte Sano State Park

5105 Nolen Avenue, Huntsville
Information 256-534-3757
Campground 256-534-6589

Personality: Many miles of mountaintop hiking, mountain biking inside Alabama's Space Capital and third largest city, Huntsville. CCC cabins and great views of surrounding valleys.

3. Lake Guntersville State Park

1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville
Lodge number 256-571-5440
Lodge reservations 256-505-6621
Camping reservations 256-571-5455
Town Creek Fishing Center 256-582-8358
Eagle's Nest Pro Shop 256-582-0379

Personality: Nature, camping, golf, fishing, boating on lake Guntersville with a spectacular river view from the lodge in the north Alabama hills.

4. Cathedral Caverns

637 Cave Road, Woodville
256-728-8193

Personality: Outstanding cave with guided tours and children's activities.

5. DeSoto State Park

7104 DeSoto Parkway NE, Fort Payne
Lodging 1-800-568-8840
Camping 1-800-760-4089
General information 256-845-5380

Personality: Hiking, waterfalls, with lodge and lodging, restaurant and nature center.

6. Rickwood Caverns State Park

370 Rickwood Park Road, Warrior
205-647-9692

Personality: Located between Birmingham and Huntsville off I-65, the park features a cavern with guided tours, swimming, and the Mountain Fossil hiking trail.

7. Lake Lurleen State Park

13226 Lake Lurleen Road, Coker
205-339-1558

Personality: 250-acre lake with lots of rental activities surrounded by 23 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails. Near the University of Alabama.

8. Oak Mountain State Park

200 Terrace Drive, Pelham
Park information 205-620-2520
Cabin/pavilion 205-620-2524
Campground 205-620-2527

Personality: Camping, road biking, mountain biking, fishing, golf, horseback riding and children's zoo in this well-loved mountainous park just south of Birmingham.

9. Cheaha State Park

19644 Hwy 281, Delta
Lodge 256-488-5111 or
800-610-5801

Personality: 2,799-acre mountaintop retreat in quiet surroundings. Lodge for family and group functions. At 2,407 feet above sea level, Cheaha Resort State Park offers breathtaking views and recreational activities. Scenic drives, restaurant and unique mountain rim swimming pool.

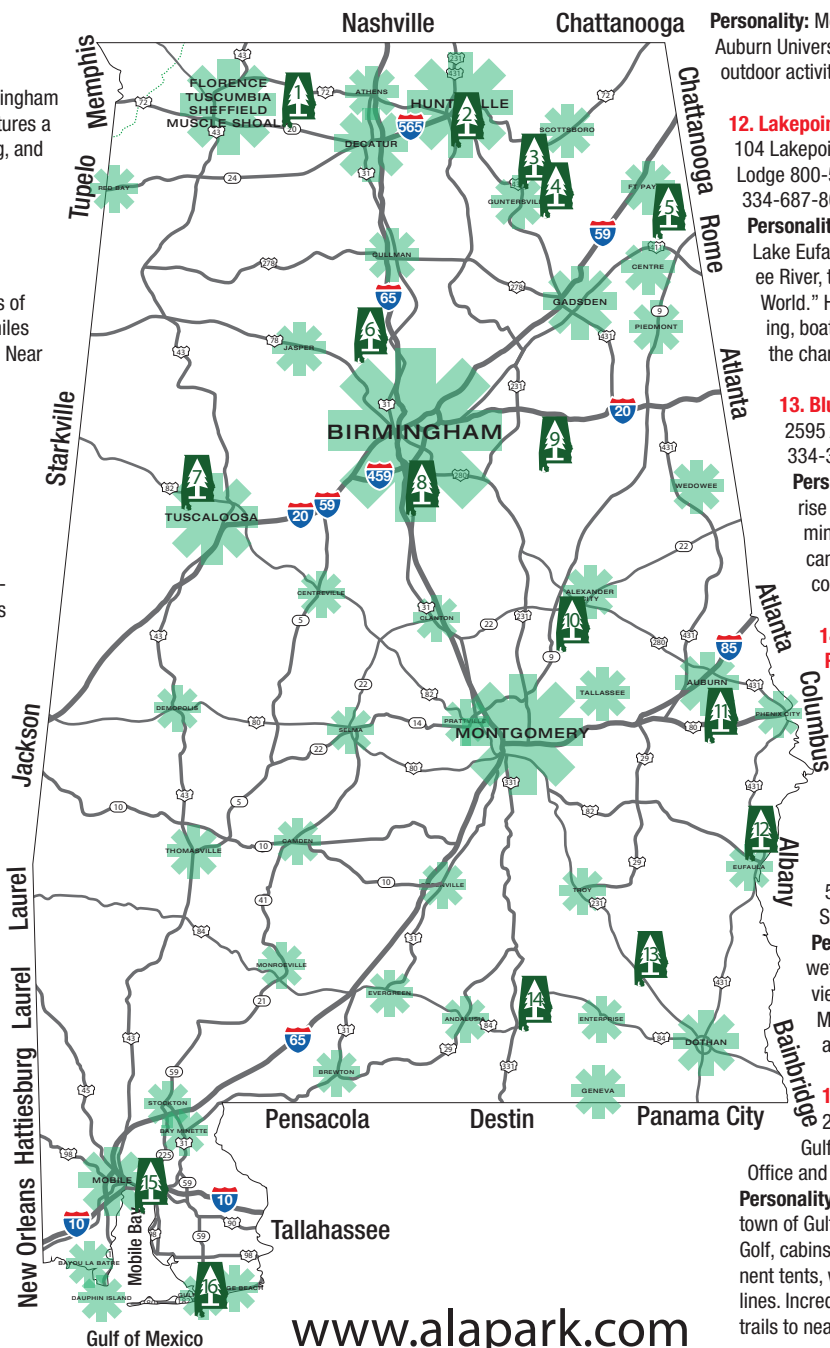
10. Wind Creek State Park

4325 Alabama Highway 128
Alexander City
256-329-0845

Personality: Located on Lake Martin on the Tallapoosa River, this park is a gateway to Alabama lake recreation lifestyle at its best.

11. Chewacla State Park

124 Shell Toomer Parkway, Auburn
334-887-5621



Personality: Mountain bike mecca near Auburn University. Lake, hiking and other outdoor activities.

12. Lakepoint State Park

104 Lakepoint Drive, Eufaula
Lodge 800-544-5253 or
334-687-8011

Personality: Situated on 45,000-acre Lake Eufaula, part of the Chattahoochee River, the "Bass Capital of the World." Hiking, swimming, birdwatching, boating, marina. Minutes from the charming town of Eufaula.

13. Blue Springs State Park

2595 AL Highway 10, Clio
334-397-4875

Personality: Cool natural springs rise from the ground in a swimming pool type setting. Small campground. A favorite place to cool off.

14. Frank Jackson State Park

100 Jerry Adams Drive, Opp
334-493-6988

Personality: Lakefront RV camping on 1,000-acre Lake Jackson. Fishing, boating, hiking, camping.

15. Meaher State Park

5200 Battleship Parkway East
Spanish Fort 251-626-5529

Personality: Situated in the wetlands of Mobile Bay. Alligator viewing from boardwalk. Microcabins on the water, great access to the bay.

16. Gulf State Park

20115 State Highway 135,
Gulf Shores

Office and reservations 251-948-7275
Personality: Located in the beach resort town of Gulf Shores near Orange Beach. Golf, cabins, "glamping" upscale permanent tents, wildlife watching, cycling, zip lines. Incredible beaches within the park, trails to nearby shopping.

www.alapark.com



Every campground is on the water so everyone can enjoy the water.

When the US Army Corps of Engineers acquired the land for the dams they operate throughout the state, they also acquired the most beautiful property in the state and a mandate to serve the public's recreational interest.

Here is a selection of full-service, spacious campgrounds that are one of Alabama's best gateways to hunting, fishing, boating and enjoying our major river regions. All the campgrounds shown here have facilities for primitive and RV camping, showers and bathrooms, picnic pavilions and access to the water. Many have other amenities including playgrounds and accessible playgrounds and trails.

Pickensville Campground on the Tenn-Tom Waterway.

Photo courtesy ES Army Corps of Engineers



1. Pickensville Campground

61 Camping Road
Carrolton AL 35447

Information 205-373-6328

From Tuscaloosa, take Highway 82 west to the junction with Highway 86. Turn left on 86 west to Pickensville. Entrance road is 2.5 miles from the yellow caution light.

2. Burchfield Branch Campground

15036 Bankhead Road, Adger
Information 205-497-9828

From Tuscaloosa: From I-59, take exit 86 toward Brookwood on Tuscaloosa County Road 59. Turn right at the traffic light in Brookwood on Highway 216. Turn left (northeast) onto County Road 59, then left at the stop sign onto Lock 17 Road. Turn left at Lock 17 Grocery on Lock 17 Road and proceed to the park entrance (approximately 23 miles from Brookwood).

3. Cochrane Campground

707 Tenn Tom Park Road, Aliceville
Information: 205-373-8806

Located on the West bank of Gainesville Lake on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. From Aliceville, take Highway 17 South for approximately 10 miles. Turn right onto Perry Long Road. Follow signs to campground.

4. Deerlick Creek Campground

12421 Deerlick Road, Tuscaloosa
Information 205-759-1591

From I-59 in Alabama, take Exit 73 (MacFarland Boulevard). Go west on MacFarland Blvd./ Highway 82 for approximately 4.2 miles. Veer right onto Rice Mine Road. At the stoplight turn left onto Rice Mine Rd. Turn right at the stoplight onto New Watermelon Road and follow it for 3.4 miles. Turn right at the stop sign onto Lake Nicol Road, and follow Lake Nicol Rd. for 3.4 miles to Deerlick Road. Turn right onto Deerlick Rd. for approximately 3.2 miles.

5. Amity Campground

1001 County Road 393, Lanett
Information 334-499-2404

From West Point and Lanett, Georgia, travel north on Stateline Road/County Road 212 for approximately 7 miles and watch for a sign for the campground on the right side of the road.

6. Jennings Ferry Campground

1001 Jennings Ferry Rd., Akron
Information 205-372-1217
From Demopolis take Highway 43 north towards Eutaw. At Highway 14, turn right. Proceed for approximately five miles.

7. Forkland Campground

1365 Forkland Park Road, Forkland
Information 334-289-5530
From Demopolis go nine miles north on U.S. Highway 43, then turn left on County Road. Continue about a mile to the campground entrance.

8. Foscoe Park Campground

1800 Lock and Dam Road, Demopolis
Information 334-289-5535
From Demopolis drive three miles west on U.S. Highway 80, and turn right at Maria Street. Go approximately two miles and follow signs.

9. Millers Ferry Campground

111 East Bank Park, Camden
Information 334-682-4191
From Camden take State Route 28 northwest for 12 miles. Turn right before the Lee Long Bridge.

10. Chilatchee Creek Campground

2267 Chilatchee Creek Rd., Alberta
Information 334-573-2562
From Alberta take State Route 5. Turn onto Wilcox County Road 29 and travel southeast for 11 miles. Left on Chilatchee Creek Road, continue for 2 miles.

11. Six Mile Creek Campground

6485 County Road 77, Selma
Information 334-872-9554
From Selma follow US-41 south for 9 miles. Turn right on County Road 139 and follow signs.

12. Prairie Creek Campground

582 Prairie Creek Rd., Lowndesboro
Information 334-418-4919
From Montgomery follow Highway 80 west for approximately 25 miles. Turn right on County Road 29 and follow signs.

13. Gunter Hill Campground

561 Booth Road, Montgomery
Information 334-269-1053
From I-65 take exit 167 onto US-80 west. Continue for 9 miles, then turn right on County Road 7 and follow signs.

14. Bluff Creek Campground

144 Bluff Creek Road, Pittsview
Information 334-855-2746
From Eufaula follow US 431 north. Turn right on State Route 165 and continue for 18 miles, then follow sign.

15. Service Park Campground

451 Service Park Rd., Silas
Information 251-753-6935
From Coffeerville drive about four miles west on U.S. Highway 84 and follow signs.

16. Isaac Creek Campground

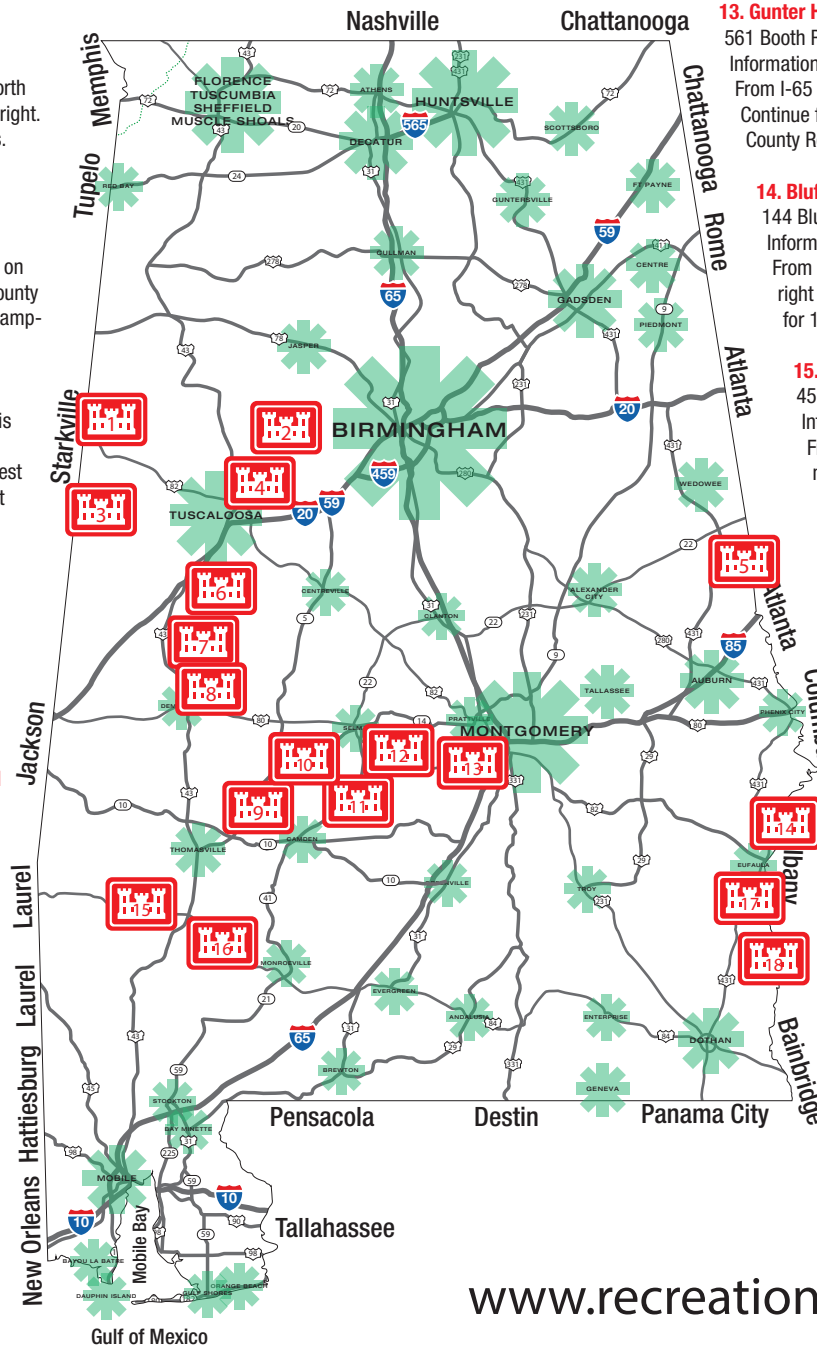
5030 Lock & Dam Road
Unit 4, Franklin
Information 251-282-4254
From Monroeville take State Route 41 north for 8 miles. Turn west onto County Road 17 and follow signs.

17. White Oak Campground

395 Highway 95, Eufaula
Information 334-687-3101
From Eufaula take US 431 south. Turn left on SR 95 and continue for 2 miles.

18. Hardridge Creek Park

592 U.S. Government Road,
Abbeville
Information 334-585-5945
From Eufaula take US 431 south. Turn left on SR-95, then turn left on CR-97 and continue for 10 miles. Follow signs.



www.recreation.gov

OUTFITTERS

Wherever you're headed, you'll find the adventure you want.

If you're traveling to or through Alabama you probably won't be lugging a lot of gear. If you're an Alabamian who wants to try something new, you probably want to get your feet wet in your next passion before diving into a major purchase. Here's a list of places around the state that can provide adventure services and assist you with your trip even if you just stepped off a plane.

The very popular "bat paddle" to Hamrick Cave on Lake Guntersville on the Tennessee River.

Photo courtesy Phil Walton/Unfiltered Kayaking.



North Alabama—Tennessee River

Alabama Eco Adventures Complete EcoTourism outfitters on the Tennessee River, Decatur area. 256-656-9209, www.alabamaecoventures.com

North Alabama Canoe and Kayak (NACK) Upper Flint River, Madison County near Huntsville. 256-529-0357

Eagle Vision Outfitters Liquid Logic demo center located in central and north Alabama (Decatur and Steele locations, serves Sand Mountain streams, Locust Fork River, Little River Canyon, Sipsey River, Flint River and Bear Creeks). Mobile outfitting services available as well as gear at the river. Facebook: Eagle Vision Outfitters. 205-743-8866 256-606-9556

Northwest Alabama

Unfiltered Kayaking Lake Guntersville guide, instructor and rental offering personalized tours. 256-270-3080. 2941 Old Highway 431, Owens Cross Roads.

Fort Hampton Outfitters Elk River access to the Limestone County Canoe and Kayak Trail. 256-431-8988. 25427 Children Street, Elkmont. forthamptonoutfitters@gmail.com, www.forthamptonoutfitters.com.

Bear Creek Canoe Run Recreational release of TVA water. 36676 US 43, Hackleburg, 205-993-4459

Riverside Fly Shop Sipsey Fork Full service fly fishing shop and a paddle outfitter on the Sipsey Fork in Bremen Alabama. 256-287-9582 riverside@riversideflyshop.com

Northeast Alabama

Tallapoosa River Outfitters Heflin, AL. Lloyd Owens Canoe Trail. 256-239-6399. www.tallapoosariveroutfitters.com. paddle@tallapoosariveroutfitters.com

Off The Beaten Path Alabama Kayak, Canoe and tube rentals. Serving the Tallapoosa River, Saughatchee Creek, Hatchet Creek and Lake Martin areas. Guide and shuttle services available for single person or group trips. Dadeville. 334-703-2536.

Southern Canoe Outfitters Lloyd Owens Canoe Trail. 338 County Road 827, Heflin. 256-453-1924 also 678-662/5724

Coosa Hiker Hostel Guided trips, lodging and shuttle service for the Hatchet and Weogufka Creek 256-786-0894. Visit us at www.coosahikerhostel.weebly.com for more information.

No Worries Kayak Rentals Walk-ins and appointments welcome. 3180 AL Highway 9 South Piedmont. 256-447-3773 or 256-452-1094. www.noworrieskayakrentals.com.

Redneck Yacht Club Canoe and Kayak Rental Campsites available now on Terrapin Creek. Developed campsites are \$375.00/month. 256-447-8690 or 256-504-8690. Cabin rentals also available. 3112 County Road 59, Piedmont.

Terrapin Outdoor Center (Terrapin Creek) Sales and rental of canoes, kayaks, gear. Outfitter to groups of all kinds. 256-447-8383. 4114 County Rd. 175, Piedmont. terrapinoutdoorcenter@yahoo.com.

Big Wills Outfitters Wesson Gap Road, Gadsden. Canoe/kayak rentals, or a shuttle for your own boat. Scenic 6 mile float with primitive camping. 256-438-7172.

Cherokee Outfitters 9385 County Road 19 Centre 256-927-5390 bamagirimisty@yahoo.com. Thursday - Sunday rental hours 8-2.

Floating Fun Tube Choccolocco Creek near Anniston. Interstate 20, Exit 179, half mile south, turn left, half mile to 460 Bobwhite Drive, Oxford. 256-589-4418. www.floatingfun.net.

Choccolocco Park 954 Leon Smith Parkway, Oxford (Anniston area). Kayak floats in Choccolocco Creek. Kayak rentals. 256-831-2660. oxfordpard@cablone.net.

One World Adventure Lookout Mountain in Alabama. Paddle wild & scenic Little River, climb and rappel on sandstone bluffs, hike to historic locations. Desoto Falls boat shack open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day Weekend. 256-634-8370 Directions at <http://goo.gl/maps/G4hqq> www.oneworldadventureco.org

Nippersink Lodge Bed & Breakfast located on top of Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama one half mile from DeSoto Falls. 706-346-9170.

True Adventure Sports Serving the Alabama Scenic River Trail in the Little River area with a variety of outdoor activities. 256-997-9577. lori@trueadventuresports.com. Camping, paddling, hiking, climbing and more. info@trueadventuresports.com. 13102 AL Hwy. 176, Fort Payne. www.trueadventuresports.com/.

North Central Alabama (near Birmingham)

Five Mile Creek Canoeing Company 26 miles of some of spring and early summer canoeing and kayaking located within 20 minutes of downtown Birmingham. Camping. 205-674-9275. www.brooksidealabama.com, www.fivemilecreekpartnership.org.

Limestone Park Tours, expeditions on the Little Cahaba and Cahaba Rivers. 205-926-9672. 1531 Limestone Pkwy., Brierfield.

Canoe the Cahaba Five mile trip that starts from Buck Creek and a 9.9 mile run on the Cahaba River. 205-874-5623. 2370 County Road 52, Helena.

Ski N Stuff 205-823-6349.1021 Montgomery Hwy., Vestavia Hills.

UAB-University of Alabama Birmingham Backpacking, climbing, wild caving, canoeing. 205-996-4914 www.uab.edu/campusrecreation/adventure-rec-home. wlpierce@uab.edu.

PaddleSouth SUP Rents, instructs and sells paddleboards. 205-530-0787

River Beach Outfitters Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River (Blount County, near Oneonta) Kayak and canoe rentals with shuttle service for families, groups and individuals. Camping and fishing. 205-429-5455. 2325 County Road 14, Snead. www.riverbeachoutfitters.com

Southeastern Outings A non-commercial, social media-based organization that schedules about ten canoe and kayak trips each year. Dan Fredericks 205-631-4680 to talk further about Southeastern Outings. Visit the SEO website for much more information and full trip schedule. <http://seoutings.blogspot.com>. South Central Alabama (Montgomery area).

Coosa Outdoor Center Boat rental and transportation between the Jordan Dam area and Selma, Alabama. Guides through famous Moccasin Gap. 334-567-3788. 172 River Dr, Wetumpka.

Coosa River Adventures Canoe or sit-on-top kayak and transportation to the launch site, paddles, and life jackets. Guides through famous Moccasin Gap. 334 514-0279. 415 Company St., Wetumpka.

Delta Section/Southwest Alabama

Orange Beach Wind and Water Learning Center Sailing and paddling opportunity and instruction. 251-424-5909. 26267 Canal Rd., Orange Beach.

5 Rivers Delta Safaris Guided kayak tours offered daily, year round. Tours include Delta Wildlife, Champion Cypress and Bottle Creek Indian Mound tours. Bartram Canoe Trail. Motor boat tours available. (251) 259-8531. 30841 Five Rivers Blvd, Spanish Fort, AL 36527. www.5rds.com

WildNative Delta Safaris Delta wildlife eco boat tour, Port of Mobile tour, delta sunset/relaxation cruise, Bottle Creek Indian Mound tour. Two locations: Bartram Landing at 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 30841 5 Rivers Boulevard, Spanish Fort 251-259-8531 or Happy Harbor Pizza and Subs, 4205 County Road 6, Gulf Shores 251-272-4088. Tickets must be purchased via phone or online. wildnativetours.com.

Sunshine Canoe Rentals Upper and lower delta adventures including the Bartram Canoe Trail. Also operates an outfitters on the secluded Escatawpa blackwater river with its magnificent sandbars on the Alabama-Mississippi line west of Mobile. 251-344-8664 or 251-367-4144.

Escatawpa Hollow Campground and Canoe Rental Blackwater river with its magnificent sandbars on the Alabama-Mississippi line west of Mobile. 15551 Moffett Road, Wilmer. 251-649-4233

Ike's Beach Service, Inc. Beach chairs, umbrellas, full size cribs and beach wheelchairs, kayaks, high chairs, beach bikes, and parasailing. 800 West Beach Blvd., Gulf Shores. 251-948-3757.

Go Go Kayaks Daily, weekly kayak rentals and stand up paddle boards. 921 Gulf Shores Parkway, Gulf Shores. 251-752-5500.

Gulf shores Beach Rentals Delivers beach chairs, umbrellas, tents, kayaks, baby equipment, groceries, bicycles, grills and much more. Sailing charters. 3873 Gulf Shores Pkwy., Gulf Shores. 888-896-9854, 251-609-4577.

Dauphin Island Kayak & Bicycle Rentals Serves all levels of experience and ages. Delivery & pickup anywhere on Dauphin Island. 251-422-5285.

Coastal Kayak Excursions LLC Dolphins and scenery on a 40' pontoon boat in Wolf Bay. Family-oriented and provides each guest individual attention. 28101 Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach. 251-253-2430.

BeachnRiver Kayak Rentals Explore still-water rivers and experience old-fashioned hospitality on the historic Bon Secour River. 18743 Keller Road, Foley, AL 36535. 251-971-8359.

Holmes Creek Canoe Livery and Water Park Choctawhatchee River in the area near Vernon, Florida up to or beyond the Alabama-Florida line. Canoe rentals. Zip line. Guided River Swamp Tours for hunting, fishing and photography. Guides available. State Road 79 in Vernon, Florida. 850-210-7001. www.HolmesCreekCanoeLivery.com or www.WaltonOutdoors.com.

17 Turtles Outfitters Boat rentals, guided tours. Two locations: Main store location (for rentals and paddle tours) at 850 Sea Cliff Drive, Fairhope 36532. Powerboat tours conducted by experienced guide Jimbo Meador launch from 3775 Battleship Parkway next to Bluegill's restaurant. (251) 928-8623 to contact either location. www.17turtle-soutfitters.org.

Southeast/Central Coastal Alabama

Pea River Outdoors (Enterprise area) 331 Old Samson Rd, Elba, Alabama. 334-447-2236. www.peariveroutdoors.com.

Rivers Edge Campground East Fork of the Choctawhatchee. County Road 67 N., Midland City. 334-714- 6703, 334-714-6941. Canoeing, kayaking, tubing and camping.

Whitewater Express 500 13th St, Phenix City. 334-298-9521. Wild rafting rides on the longest urban whitewater venue in the world. Zip line between Alabama and Georgia.

