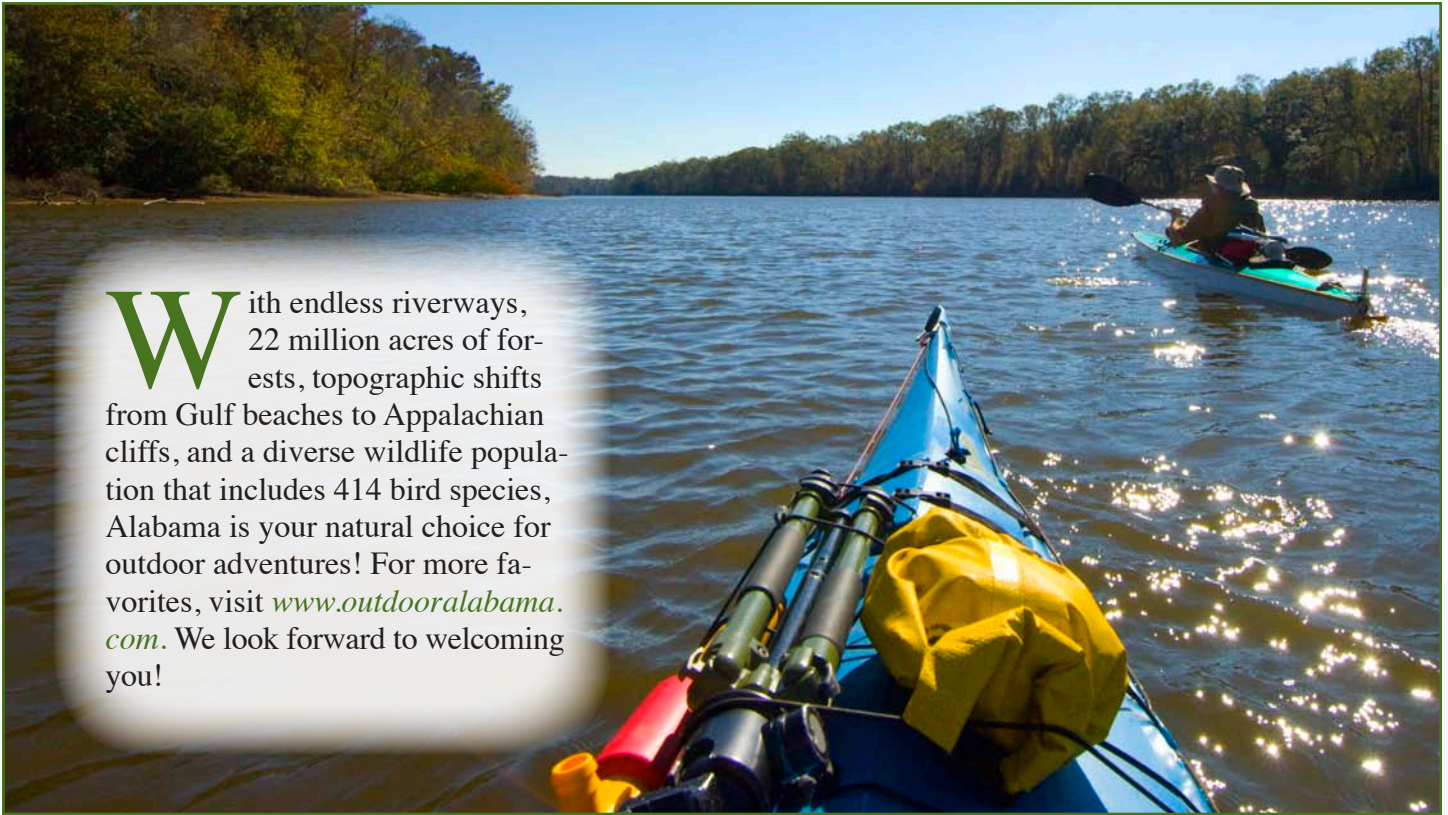


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Alabama Tourism Department
800-Alabama • www.Alabama.travel
Updated 4/10



With endless riverways, 22 million acres of forests, topographic shifts from Gulf beaches to Appalachian cliffs, and a diverse wildlife population that includes 414 bird species, Alabama is your natural choice for outdoor adventures! For more favorites, visit www.outdooralabama.com. We look forward to welcoming you!

Canoeing • Kayaking • Whitewater Paddling:

Adventures with outfitters available:

Andalusia – Float the beautiful and natural Yellow River through the Conecuh National Forest. Bearfoot Outfitters offers canoe rentals with ferry service to beginning point. Suggested day trip of 6 hours with sandbars to stop and rest. Overnight suggested point includes place to park your car with your camping equipment, firewood and other supplies. 334-858-2302.

Birmingham to Cahaba – Kayak down the Cahaba River, the longest free-flowing, pristine river in Alabama. In late May, float through a sea of rare two-foot-tall Cahaba Lilies. Alabama Small Boats www.alsmallboats.com, Limestone Park Canoe 205-977-7010.

Brierfield – The Limestone Canoe Club offers Scenic Little Cahaba River canoe trips with shuttle service. Overnight trips, 1.5-hr. tube float. Minimum age 6. 205-926-9672.

Brookside – Five Mile Creek offers 26 miles of some of Alabama’s finest spring and early summer canoeing and kayaking. Located within 20 minutes of downtown Birmingham, The Five Mile Creek Canoe company rents canoes and offers ferry service. www.canoe5mile.com 205-910-4748.

Dauphin Island – Sea kayak from Dauphin Island to the nearby Barrier Islands. Dauphin Island Kayak and Bike Rentals and Tours, Office: 251-861-2222, Cell: 251-422-5285. DauphinISLKayaks@AOL.com

Fairhope – Shoreline Bikes and Kayaks offers paddling trips in the Fairhope area. Paddle pass the Fairhope Yacht Club or take a trip that includes a dip in the famous “cold hole”, where the coldest water in Baldwin County can be found. Advance reservation required. www.shorelinebikesandkayaks.com 251-591-3553.

Gulf Shores – Gulf Shores Kayaks specializes in the sales, rental and rigging of kayaks. www.gulfshoreskayaks.com 251-948-9257.

Haleyville – Bear Creek Lakes provide a 30 mile float stream which is excellent for canoeing on weekends and holidays. www.bearcreeklakes.com 205- 993-4459.

Heffin – Paddle the 44-mile Loyd Owens Canoe Trail on one of the cleanest rivers in the eastern U.S. This section of the Tallapoosa River features sandbars, steep rocky banks, farms and depression-era bridges. Tallapoosa River Outfitters (weekends), www.tallapoosariveroutfitters.com 256-239-6399. Southern Canoe Outfitters. (Mar 1-Oct 31, Mon-Sat 7am – Dusk.) www.southerncanoeoutfitters.com 256-947-1508.

Piedmont – Terrapin Creek is a favorite for fun-seekers from miles around. The family-friendly people at the Terrapin Outdoor Center make it simple and enjoyable for scout troops, church groups, school groups, families and anyone else interested to take in the wonders of nature afforded by the creek. For canoe rentals, Terrapin Outdoor Center, www.canoeshop.net 256-447-6666. Friends of Terrapin Creek www.geocities.com/Athens/Rhodes/5980/fotc.html.

Spanish Fort – Located in the 5 Rivers Alabama Delta Resource Center, Five Rivers Outfitters overlooks the beautiful

Mobile-Tensaw Delta. Take a guided trip or just rent a canoe or kayak and paddle through the Mobile-Tensaw delta filled with wildlife and flowers. 251-626-8464.

Tallassee – The Tallapoosa River below Thurlow Dam is a remarkable big water run for whitewater rafting. The water is powerful, clear and relatively cold. It is dam-controlled, so it can be run almost any month of the year if you can catch the dam releasing water. Coosa Outdoor Center, www.coosariveradventures 334-514-0279.

Wetumpka – Experience the Coosa River, the best kayak training river in the Southeast with class II rapids and challenging Moccasin Gap. Coosa Outdoor Center, www.coosaoutdoor-center.com 334-272-0952. Coosa River Adventures, www.coosariveradventures.com 334-514-0279.

Wilmer – Canoe rentals:from Escatawpa Hollow Campground and Canoe Rental. 7- or 15-mi. trips or overnight. Canoeing, swimming, fishing. White, sandy beaches. Spacious RV/tent sites on Escatawpa River. 251-649-4233.

Other great adventure locations:



Across Alabama – The Alabama Scenic River Trail is the nation’s longest single state river trail at 631 miles. The Trail begins at the Georgia state line and ends at historic Ft. Morgan. www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com 256-772-9105.

Aliceville – Experience an awesome adventure through a portion of the vast Sipsey Wilderness. One of the most scenic and popular trip consists of 8 winding miles and takes around 4 hours depending on water flow. About 50% of the float will be under a shaded canopy of live oak and cypress trees. www.sharktoothcreek.com 205-373-2605.

Andalusia – A short 3.9 mile stretch of the Conecuh River is a great quick canoe area for novices and above. Conecuh National Forest Ranger Office. 334-222-2555.

Bay Minette – Canoe along the Bartram Canoe Trail in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta region, up Bottle Creek to Mound Island for a fascinating trip in the nation’s second- largest delta. Along the route a one-third-mile walking trail leads to the largest of 18 Indian mounds in the area. Expert water navigation required. Meaher State Park, www.outdooralabama.com 251-626-5529.

Bay Minette – On this long paddle through the fascinating Mobile-Tensaw Delta, you’ll discover why it’s a favorite among local inhabitants. While this trip is an incredible outdoor experience, it must be mentioned up front that it courses through a very remote section of delta wilderness. If you don’t have these credentials or don’t have complete confidence in your ability, you’d be well advised to have a local guide show you the way. Contact Fairhope Boats 251- 928-3417, Mobile Baykeeper 251-433-4229.

Blountsville – Experience class II and III whitewater paddling on the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River. Season is December through May. www.blountoneontachamber.org 205-274-2153.

Blountsville – The Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River is the touchtone whitewater run in Alabama. The Locust is a drop/ pool river with plenty of room between rapids. It has reliable water levels most years from December until April or May. Black Warrior Riverkeeper <http://blackwaterriver.org> 205-458-0095.

Clanton – A 7.2 mile stretch, the Weogulfka Creek, takes visitors past majestic rock bluffs and past the impressive cliff that is part of Big Eddy mountain. Weogulfka Creek serves up some easy white water perfect for beginners during the right conditions. City of Clanton www.clanton.al.us 205-755-1105.

Dothan – The West Fork of the Choctawhatchee River, part of the Alabama River, lets visitors view various geological formations such as soap stone, a soft rock along the banks, and encounter limestone shoals. Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority 800-652-2019.

Double Springs – Brushy Creek is a Class I creek located entirely within the Bankhead National Forest in northwest Alabama. It features steep canyon walls and several waterfalls on small tributary streams, and is suitable for any skill level paddler. 205-489-5111.

Double Springs – Visit the Sipsey River for extremely clear waters, beautiful giant hemlock trees on soaring bluffs over caves. Viewing of wildflowers makes for an extra special run. Sipsey Wilderness Area 256-489-5111.

Enterprise – The Pea River offers great outdoor fun for groups and families with lots of beginners. During decent flow times, the river is relatively fast, making for easy paddling. 334-393-2901 or 334-393-3977.

Evergreen – Fast shoals and a few small falls uncommon this far south combine with lush green flora on the banks, making the Sepulga a surprise white water gem in Alabama’s River Heritage region. Conecuh/Sepulga Watershed Alliance www.ag.auburn.edu/aux/grassroots/cswa 251-867-2445.

Fort Payne – Little River Canyon offers expert level, class III+ to V rapids. Come prepared with all of your own equipment and your own transportation. www.nps.gov/liri 256-845-9605, DeKalb County Tourist Association 256-845-3957.



Gadsden – North of Gadsden, Line Creek is an unusual piece of the Alabama whitewater puzzle. Not only is it the only whitewater run on Sand Mountain that does not flow into the Tennessee River, but also a preponderance of the rapids are formed by creek-bed base rocks rather than the normal Alabama rock jumbles. Line Creek is suitable for the skilled and lucky boater who happens to catch it with water. You must get to Line Creek within one day after a heavy rain or immediately after a rain of 1.5” or so in the winter or spring. Gasden-Etowah Tourism Board (256) 549-0351.

Garden City – A fun, wide river, the Mulberry Fork of the Black Warrior River is probably the most popular play river in the state for whitewater rafters. Several surfing waves and holes occur throughout the run. www.blackwarriorriver.org.

Geraldine – Town Creek on Lake Guntersville in High Falls County Park, is the Alabama destination of choice for class III paddlers who want a taste of creek boating. 256-623-2281.

Gulf Shores – Navy Cove, 3 minutes east of historic Fort Morgan and 20 minutes west of Gulf Shores, is a mostly open bay and marshy grass bayous, you can forge your own paths, set your own timetable, and explore as you go. Fort Morgan Historic Site, 251-540-5257 or 251-540-7202.

Guntersville – Short Creek is a short in length, long on fun stretch with Five major III/IV rapids that are arranged in a user-friendly, drop/pool configuration. Lake Guntersville State Park, www.alapark.com/lakeguntersville

Hackleburg – Rent a canoe at Bear Creek Canoe Run, a 26-mi. public-access creek in northwest Alabama with scenic waterfalls, and sandy beaches. 205-993-4459.

Huntsville – Flint River, located just 7 miles south of the Alabama Tennessee border has Class I rapids suitable for the whole family, regardless of skill level. <http://www.flintriverconservation.com> 256-858-2280.

Jasper – Blackwater Creek is a scenic 4-mile trip with Class II rapids and shoals; it is a great introductory whitewater trip

for the beginner. Blackwater runs often in winter and spring and after many rain events other times of year. Walker County Chamber of Commerce. 205-384-4571.

Mentone – Little River flows atop Lookout Mountain in north-east Alabama. See waterfalls, canyon rims and bluffs, pools, boulders, and sandstone cliffs. The East Fork of the Little River can actually be run as a whitewater overnighiter by anyone with a bit of whitewater experience. Little River Canyon National Preserve 256-845-9605.

Mobile – Half-day, full-day trips or up to five-day trips on the beautiful Escatawpa River. Guided trips by canoe and kayak into Mobile-Tensaw River delta through Sunshine Canoes. 251-334-8664.

Mobile Bay – The Mobile-Tensaw Delta’s 200-mile-long Bartram Canoe Trail is one of the longest in the United States. It offers canoeists and kayakers 13 different routes to choose from, including three routes with floating campsites. Bartram Canoe Trail www.outdooralabama.com/outdoor-adventures

Mobile Bay – Have fun crossing the waters between the Civil War- era fortifications of Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines on the Mobile Bay Ferry. www.mobilebayferry.com 251-861-3000.

Montevallo – This is a very popular river run, and you’ll probably be sharing the river with lots of enthusiastic paddlers en route to fun. Paddlers can expect to find a deep swimming hole with steep cliffs, large rock outcroppings that can be used as stop-off points for resting in this 6.4 mile long stretch. Bulldog Bend Canoe Park 205-926-7382, Limestone Park Canoe Rentals 205-926-9672.

Robertsdale – The Styx River starts out in Baldwin County around Bay Minette and flows for more than 35 miles before it merges with the Perdido River close to the Alabama-Florida state line. Novices and above will enjoy this slow and relaxing river. Styx River Tube and Canoe Rental <http://floatstyx.com> 251-960-1161.

Section – Have a whitewater camping adventure with class III and IV rapids on the south section of South Sauty Creek. Trip ends at Buck’s Pocket State Park. Open Dec-first to May. Alabama State Parks www.alapark.com 256-659-2000.

Sylacauga – Paddle hard through the numerous fast shoals of the North Section of Hatchet Creek. The creek is away from civilization, so there’s no local outfitter to help you get on or off, but that’s part of what makes this run so appealing. Sylacauga Chamber of Commerce www.sylacauga.net 256-249- 0308.

Talladega – Talladega Creek is a beautiful, intermediate-level whitewater run easily accessible to the southern parts of the state. It flows almost entirely through the Talladega National Forest, so the water quality and scenery are both good. Talladega Creek requires recent heavy rains, usually in the winter or spring seasons. Intermediate paddling skills are required to make this run. Talladega National Forest 256-362-2909.

Sailing/Boating:

Outfitter/Rental Locations

Mobile Bay – Take a sailing adventure on the Joshua, a 72-foot wooden schooner. The Joshua is Mobile's official tall ship, with sails reaching 68 feet in height. The vessel is available for both private charter and walk-ons. www.schoonerjoshua.com 251-443-9463.



Orange Beach – Sunsets are even more beautiful when seen from the deck of the Daedalus, a hearty two-masted sailing vessel. Captain Barry and crew with Sail the Daedalus. www.sailthedaedalus.com 251-987-1228.

Wetumpka – Lake Jordan waverunner and pontoon boat rentals at Captain Hooks www.captainhooksboats.com 334-569-1313.

Scuba Diving:

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach – Visitors dive the waters of the Gulf of Mexico looking for exotic fish, majestic sea turtles and shipwrecks. Information on diving and snorkeling in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, Alabama Gulf Coast Area Chamber of Commerce site www.alagulfcoastchamber.com.

Gulf Shores – Scuba dive in the Gulf of Mexico off Gulf Shores with exotic fish, sea turtles and shipwrecks. Down Under Dive Shop www.downunderdiveshop.com 251-968-3483.

Gulf Shores – Full service diving center with rental gear and charter boats for scuba trips, scuba training, spearfishing trips. Gary's Gulf Divers www.gulfdiver.net 251-968-4279.

Rock Climbing & Rappelling:

Adventures with outfitters available:

Birmingham – Mountain High Outfitters offers intro Rock Climbing and Private Guided Climbing Trips at different locations in Alabama. Leave from their Cahaba Villiage/Highway 280 store in Birmingham. www.mountainhighoutfitters.com/Forms/Guiding.html 887-557-5322.

Fort Payne – A private guide service leads up to 43 people rappelling and rock climbing for a group adventure experience. Night hikes available through canyons in the rugged DeSoto State Park area. True Adventure Sports, www.trueadventuresports.com 423-653-8304 or 256-997-9577.

Huntsville – Mountain High Outfitters offers intro Rock Climbing and Private Guided Climbing Trips at different locations in Alabama. Leave from their Bridge Street location in Huntsville. www.mountainhighoutfitters.com 887-557-5322.

Other great adventure locations:

Cheaha – Cheaha State Park's Cheaha Mountain sits 2,407 feet above sea level, making Cheaha Mountain the highest point in Alabama. Cheaha is well suited for beginners and many of the climbs fall somewhere in the easy range with a convenient Top Rope set up. www.alapark.com/cheaharesort 800-610-5801.

Cullman – Hurricane Creek Park along U.S. 31 features 500-foot deep gorges, soaring cliffs, cascading waterfalls and great climbing. www.hurricanecreek.homestead.com. 256-734-2125.

Fort Payne – Rappel 200 feet to the bottom of Little River Canyon National Preserve or go rock climbing on 50-80 feet of bolted sandstone routes. www.nps.gov/liri 256-845-9605.

Hoover – Moss Rock Preserve's Boulder Field is a favorite among rock climbers who love the sport of bouldering.. With numerous technical formations, these boulders appeal to climbers of all skill levels. Moss Rock Preserve is a beautiful 250 acre nature preserve abundant with trees and plants, rock outcroppings, streams, waterfalls, wildlife and other unique natural features. www.hooveral.org 205- 444-7777.

Leesburg – Visit one of Alabama's most popular climbing areas at Cherokee Rock Village/Sand Rock. Beginner to advanced rock climbing and bouldering fields, with scenic views into two states. www.cherokee-chamber.org 256-927-8455.

Oak Mountain – Oak Mountain State Park offers over 9,000 acres for visitors to explore. Oak Mountain is a treasure for rock climbers who wish to experience the thrill of climbing while in a beautiful, scenic setting. www.alapark.com/parks/park.cfm?parkid=9 205-620-2520.

Oneonta – Climb among 100 different routes in Palisades Park off U.S. 231. Great scenic views. www.blountcountypark.com 205-274-0017.

Steele – Scale huge rocks at Horse Pens 40, among the best boulder venues in America. Grades range from V0 to V12. Nature park covers 115 acres off U.S. 11. www.hp40.com 256-570-0076.





River Cruises:

Florence – Cruise the Tennessee River aboard the Pickwick Belle Riverboat. www.pickwickbelle.com 887-936-2355.

Mobile – Located at world-famous Bellingrath Gardens, Alabama Cruises offers trips aboard the 150-passenger ‘Southern Belle’ and the 20 passenger “Kingfisher.” Sightseeing and dinner cruises. www.alabamacruises.com 251-973-1244.

Montgomery – Docked in downtown, the Harriott II is an elegant 19th Century riverboat and part of Montgomery’s entertainment district. Public and private cruises offering food, drinks, music, entertainment, and fun while cruising along the scenic Alabama River. www.montgomeryal.gov 334-241-4400.

Selma – See the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge from the Alabama River aboard the Phoenix, a 50 passenger enclosed vessel with large panoramic window. <http://queencitycruise.com> 334-430-0257.

Tuscaloosa – Cruise on the Black Warrior River on the Bama Belle, a modern day replica of the grand paddlewheel riverboats which graced the nation’s rivers in the early 1900’s. Sightseeing & dinner cruises. www.bamabelle.com 205-339-1108.

Eco Tours:

Josephine – Narrated Orange Beach harbor tours, sailing, dolphin-watch cruises, bird-watching excursions and fishing charters. Dinner cruises available. www.saildolphincruises.com 251-981-9706.

Orange Beach – Cruise, dine and see dauphins on the waters of beautiful Orange Beach aboard a classic yacht. Custom cruises available. www.bananawindcharter.com 251-656-9001.



Orange Beach – Alabama Dolphin Cruises guarantees to see dolphins daily. Comfortable double-deck, 64-foot boat with A/C. www.southernrosedolphintrips.com 251-981-7673.

Orange Beach – Blue Dolphin Cruises offers an awesome dolphin sightseeing tour on a 51-foot, seaworthy, heated/air-conditioned bi-hull boat with inside and outside seating. www.bluedolphincruises.com 251-981-2774.

Orange Beach – Cetacean Cruises 52’ Hawaiian Catamaran sailboat takes groups out for scenic sailing cruises Their 40’ pontoon boat focuses on viewing and education during the dolphin cruises and nature and eco tours. www.cetaceancruises.com 251-550-8000.

Orange Beach – Corsair Charters offers fresh seafood dinners, dolphins and birdwatching on our shrimping adventure cruise. Corsair offers trips on a 65 foot wooden schooner. www.corsaircharters.com 251-504-1958.

Orange Beach – Guaranteed to see dolphins jump beside the Dolphine Cruises boats. Located beside Flippers Seafood & Oyster Bar. www.dolphincruises.com 251-943-3510.

Orange Beach – Guaranteed dolphins with Captain Ritchie Russell, dolphin guide for fifteen years. Watch dolphins jump and play alongside Dolphin Express Curises’ 50-foot Navy patrol boat. www.dolphinexpresscruises.com 251-971-1893.

Orange Beach – Dolphin Queen Cruses offers private dolphin, shrimp, birding and intimate wedding charters for six passengers or less with the area’s only female dolphin caption. Member of the Alabama Dolphin Rescue Network. www.dolphinqueencruises.com 251-747-3290.

Orange Beach – Experience the adventure of sailing or oyster-ing, shrimping, and crabbing, while dolphin-watching with Sail-away Charters. www.geocities.com/salorskip 251-974-5055.

Orange Beach – Take a 2 hour trip through pristine woodlands and natural habitats on one of America’s National Recreational Trails; the Alabama Back Country Trail. Travel on electric golf carts during the tour with knowledgeable guides. By reservations only. www.obparksandrec.com/parkstrails/backcountrytrail.html 251-981-1063.

Spanish Fort – Experience a Delta adventure from the comfort of the covered Delta Explorer eco-tour boat, complete with bench seating and rest room facility. Board the Delta Explorer at historic Blakeley State Park, the site of last major battle of the Civil War. www.blakeleypark.org 251-626-5581.

Spanish Fort – Airboat rides and tours in the Mobile Delta with Delta Airboat Boat Express www.airboatexpress.com 251-370-7089.

Spanish Fort – Unique historical and natural sites are to be found in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta are covered by Five Rivers Delta Safaris’ pontoon boat, Hovercraft and deep delta waverunner safaris. www.5rds.com 251-259-8531.



Skydiving • Ballooning • Air Rides:

Hot-air balloon rides float you above five cities:

Birmingham – Air Alabama, www.airalabama.com
205-567-9800.

Decatur – Sunrise Balloon Company, 256-351-6412.

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach – Taking Off Hot-Air Balloon, 251-970-3598. L.A. Aloft, www.laaloftballoons.com
251-981-2628.

Huntsville – Gone With the Wind Balloon Company, 256-461-8612.

Montgomery – Southern Skies Balloons, 334-264-7600.

Skydiving offers the rush of tandem/single jumps in several cities in Alabama:

Cullman – Skydive Alabama, Cullman Airport, www.skydivealabama.com 256-736-5553.

Elberta – Emerald Coast Skydiving Center, Horak Airport, 251-986-5618.

Tuskegee – Skydive Opelika, Moton Field, www.skydiveopelika.net 334-728-8364.

Historic plane rides are available in a restored 1928 biplane:

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach – Bird of Paradise, www.866mustfly.com , 866-687-8359.



Horseback Riding:

Facilities with rental horses available:

Birmingham – Oak Mountain State Park offers 25 miles of horse trails with rental horses available for guided rides. Stables available for boarding your own horse. Hiking, canoeing, swimming, camping, cabins. www.alapark.com/ 205-620-2524.



Fairhope – Oak Hollow Farm is a scenic 300 acre working farm. Guided trail rides through wooded trails, around ponds, through pastures and nature trails. Ride the 1896 horse drawn school wagon. Oak Hollow Farm is the official stable for guests of Grand Hotel Marriott. www.oakhollowfarm.net.

McCalla – Enjoy one- or two-hour horseback rides through 2,000 acres of scenic trails inside and adjacent to Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park. Rental horses available. www.tannehill.org 205-477-5711, Tannehill Stables www.tannehillstables.com 205-477-6644.

Mentone – Saddle up at Shady Grove Dude Ranch, Alabama's only dude ranch with overnight stays. Guided trails and lodging available. Fish, swim, golf, hike, chalets. www.cloudmont.com 256-634-4344.

Millbrook – Shade Tree Riding features a 35-acre pasture and a 86-acre forest. A relaxed guided tour offered. www.shadetreeriding.com 334-290-3727.

Section – Double J Farms invites you to Spend all day riding on horse trails at The Walls of Jericho. Trip can include hike down to The Walls. Other rides offered include 1 to 2 hour horseback rides in Bucks Pocket State Park. Bring your own horse and let us stable or rent our horses for the ride. By appointment only. 256-228-4275.

Other great riding locations:

Alexander City – A 40 mile long trail on Russell Land available for horse rides, hiking. Near Wind Creek State Park. 256-329-1511.

Alexander City – The 10 miles long Jeff Reed Horse Trail at Wind Creek State Park offers views of wildlife, through a vast forest of mixed hard wood, pines, and ferns along a stream with views of Lake Martin. www.alapark.com 256-329-0845.

Asheville – The Bear John Hollow Ranch has 25 miles of trails with moderate terrain, but virtually every trail is accented with grand views of the canyons or rugged mountains. This trail is for moderate to advanced riders. Fishing, cabin, stabling and camping available. www.bearjohnhollow.net 205-937-7158 or 205-999-3289.

Beaverton – Twenty miles of trails at the Circle S Stables. Trail includes riverside rides. Hookups and stabling. www.circlespieceofheaven.com 205-698-9005.

Boaz – This once a year 10-day journey from Boaz to Montgomery is one of the largest and oldest annual moving wagon trains in America. For 10 days, wagons, horses, livestock and driving teams will wake up at 4:30am and move out by 6am. You don't have to ride the entire 10 days. You may rest and rejoin at a later camp. Most of the ride takes place along the old Jackson Trace Trail and concludes at the Southeastern Livestock Exposition in Montgomery. www.alabamawagontrain.com.

Brent – The Oakmulgee area of the national forest offers 15 miles of easy trails in long leaf forest. Primitive camping. <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama/forests/oakmulgee/index.shtml> 205-926-9765.

Colbert County - Located 5 miles south of Highway 72 near Barton and Cherokee, the riding trail in the Freedom Hills Wildlife Management Area offers a 15-mile trail system with diverse landscapes and conditions. Riders have the option of a 6.5-mile main loop that begins and ends at the trailhead parking area located off County Road 33, near the community of Newsome Springs, and three additional loops that extend from the main trail. Open year-round with the exception of spring turkey hunting season and the fall hunting season. www.outdooralabama.com Lands Division 334-242-3484

Clanton – Creek Valley Trails offers you the opportunity to ride where the Yellow Leaf Creek flows and Creek Indians roamed. You can day-ride or spend the night at campsites. See mountain trails with breath-taking views of 4 counties. Ride at your leisure and enjoy yourself on over 1,300 acres. Horse rentals are not available. 205-755-8218.

Cragford – Ride miles of horse trails on the 200 acres of land at the Alabama Gold Camp. Ride over hills, on trails with tree canopies overhead. Five miles of the trail is located along the creek where you can pan for actual gold. The horse trails also take you through what was once a Native American Village where you can find arrowheads. www.alabamagoldcamp.com.

Double Springs – The unique Owl Creek Horse Trail system in the Bankhead National Forest is for beginners to moderate horseback riders. Riders can enjoy the Owl Creek Horse Camp, which is located on the Key Mill Loop. Riders may choose from loops of varying lengths. <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama/forests/bankhead/index.shtml> 205-489-5111.



Double Springs – K.C. Ranch and Stables. Over 40 miles of moderate trails with elevation from 300 – 1500 feet. With peaceful resting places on trails, you can enjoy wildlife, creeks, springs, waterfalls, and foliage of all kinds. Rental horses not available. www.Kcranchalabama.com 205-489-5474.

Elkmont Rails to Trails – 11 miles of trails that include historic downtown. www.limestoneparks.com 256-732-4211.

Fort Payne – Twenty three miles of trails through pristine forest land in Little River Canyon Preserve. www.nps.gov/liri 256-845-9605.

Fort Rucker – Surrounded by more than 10,000 acres of beautifully wooded trails, the Fort Rucker Equestrian Center is one of the finest facilities of its kind on a military installation. 50 miles of trails, cross country course, restrooms, stalls. www.ft.ruckermwr.com/equestrian-center.htm. 334-598-3384.

Gordon – Located in the Southeast Corner of Alabama, the Chattahoochee Park has several horse trails within the park's 598 acres. The equestrian trails in the park are connected by a series of all-access trails, allowing horses to travel alongside vehicles on connecting trails for full access of the park. www.houstoncounty.org/Houston_County_Parks/Chatahoochee_Park.htm

Heflin – There are 35 miles of horse trails in the Talladega National Forest, Shoal Creek District. Bring your own horse, not rentals available. Shoal Creek Ranger District, 256-463-2272.

Hollins – Hope Country Campground, south of Birmingham. Trails include gravel direct roads to riding the gorgeous Cheaha Mountain. Horses would do best with shoes but trails can be easy as you ride through the mountains and timberlands. 256-249-9920

Huntsville – Ride into a North Alabama sunset on a cowboy weekend with 3 H Stables, riding by day and camping by night. www.3hstables.com 256-883-8615.

Jackson County – Walls of Jericho. This 21,000 acre nature preserve has a 16.4 mile horse trail that meanders off the mountain down into a valley through some rock outcroppings that add to the scenic beauty. Walls of Jericho has been called the "Grand Canyon of the South" and is part of the Forever Wild Land Trust. Jackson County Tourism, www.jacksoncountychamber.com 256-259-5500.

Jasper – Faye Whittemore Farms. Ride season open March through November. Scheduled group rides are in March, May, July and November. This is a working 580 acre farm with an additional 1700 acres available to ride, at this time they have thirty-five miles of pristine, wooded trails ideal for side by side riding, and smooth enough for any pace. Paddocks, shaded campsites, bathhouse, meals available. For moderate to expert riders. www.fayewhittemorefarms.com.

Myrtlewood – Riverbend Trail Ride. Nestled in the countryside of Alabama's historic Blackbelt, you will find the Riverbend Trail Ride, with the serenity of rolling hills and hardwood bottoms with the nearby flowing Tombigbee River. Lodge/stalls available. www.hunriverbend.com 334-295-5842, 334-295-1166.

Rockford – Hatchett Valley Farms offers 2,200 acres of gorgeous forest lands with river views. Camping and stables available. forestowners@wildblue.net 205-377-2656.

Spanish Fort – Ten miles of trails at Historic Blakeley State Park. Shelled roads for riding. This is the site of the last major battle of the Civil War. www.blakeleypark.org 251-626-0798.

St. Stephens – Ten miles of trails for riding past 100 acre lake. Store for supplies. www.oldststephens.com 251-247-2626.

Sterrett – Hidden Creek Adventure. A western adventure ranch with thousands of acres to enjoy. 205-672-2701.

Sterrett – Ride 1,500 acres of land with 3 barns, hot wash rack and outside movies at Son Country Farm. 205-672-7663.

Talladega – Thirty-five miles of trails in Shoal Creek area of the National Forest. There are three trailheads that offer easy to full day rides. Primitive camping. www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama 256-463-2272

Troy – Ride through pines, hardwoods, cross streams and parallel the Conecuh River on the Heart of Dixie Trail Ride. Guided ride with horses provided or bring your own. Campsites/satellite TV, hookups, swimming pool, golf driving range. www.heartofdixietrailride.com 334-670-0005.

Tuscumbia – Miles and miles of picturesque trails spread over 3,000 privately owned acres of woodlands at Seven Springs Lodge. Most trails are shaded and lead to beautiful Indian shelters. email Springlodge@aol.com. www.sevenspring-slodge.net 256-370-7218 or 256-370-7611.

Tuskegee – Tuskegee National Forest, Bold Destiny/Bedford Cash Memorial Trail with 16 miles meandering through pine ridges to hardwood bottom landscapes. No rental horses available. www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama 334-727-2652

Vincent – One-thousand acres with gorgeous views and trails that go through pasture and woods at Bearden Shel-Clair Farm & Ranch. Trout pond. www.shelclairfarms.com 205-965-0264.



Racing:

Birmingham – Located at the Barber Motorsports Track are two exciting motoring schools; the Porsche Sport Driving School and the Kevin Schwantz School for motorcyclist. www.barbermotorsports.com Porsche Driving Experience 888-204-7474, Schwantz School 205-702-2712.

Talladega – Located at Talladega Superspeedway, the Dale Jarret Racing Adventure racing school provides life-changing experiences year-round with a sense of aliveness and energy for each participant. "Full Throttle Living™". www.racingadventure.com 888-457-2231

ATV:

Cullman – Stony Lonesome OHV Park is a 1,456 acre Off Highway Vehicle recreation area. The park has over 50 miles of trails. From smaller vehicles like 4 wheelers and dirt bikes to the highly modified four wheel drive vehicles used for rock climbing, Stony Lonesome can accommodate it all. www.stonylonesomeohv.us 256-287-1133.

Double Springs – The Flint Creek Multiuse Trail at the Bankhead National Forest features two trails totaling 16 miles that cross hills and valleys for motorcycles and four-wheeled ATVs. Bankhead National Forest 205-489-5111.

Jemison – The Minooka Park in central Alabama offers miles of trails dedicated to off-road enthusiasts. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Open to group reservations Monday-Thursday. The ATV trails feature breath taking scenery and varying terrain. www.minookapark.org 205-312-1376.

Lineville – Doc Hilt Trails. Set in the Talladega National Forest this new private off road recreation trail is set on over 500 acres with numerous mountain and hilly trails for ATV and dirt bikes. Trails range for the beginner to the very experienced rider. www.DocHiltTrails.com

Mount Olive – Gray Rock Off-Road Vehicle Park is located in Jefferson County's Mount Olive community. It is a privately owned park open by reservation only. The Park is intended for monster off-road vehicle rock crawling. <http://www.grayrockorv.com/>

Munford – Kentuck OHV Trail at the Talladega National Forest. Features four trails with a total of 23 miles of dense forest trails. 256-362-2909.

Tuscumbia – Both Rock Crawlers and ATV can utilize the trails at the Hawk Pride Mountain Off-Road Specialty Park. With 1,000 acres there is plenty of room for the 40 rock-crawling trails and nearly 30 miles of trails for four wheelers. Open 1st and 3rd weekends and special occasions. RV, trailer and primitive camping available. www.hawkpridemountainoffroad.com 256-577-1034.

Lineville - Trail riding overlooking the Talladega Mountains. Open daily. Doc Hilt Trails. www.dochilttrails.com 770-241-3182.

Springville – The Ridge ATV and Dirt Park north of Birmingham is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday, catering to motorcycle, four-wheeler and side-by-side riders. www.ridgeriding.com 205-467-0142.

Cycling • Mountain Biking:

Adventures with outfitters available

Fairhope – Shoreline Bikes and Kayaks offers single speed cruiser bicycles, tagalongs, child trailers, and jogging strollers. Free bicycle racks provided with rentals. Bike the Eastern Shore Trail. www.shorelinebikesandkayaks.com 251-591-3553.

Fort Payne – Rent specialized brand mountain, road, comfort and children's bikes from Little River Cycle & Outdoors. 1/2 day and full day rental rates. Daily and weekly rates for guided road and mountain bike tours. www.littlerivercycle.com 256-997-1818.

Other great biking locations:

Off Road Cycling Trails

Anniston to Atlanta – The converted rail-to-trails route of the Chief Ladiga Trail winds 33 miles from Anniston to the state line where it connects to Georgia's Silver Comet Trail where you can continue 60 more miles on the trail to Smyrna in metro Atlanta. Chief Ladiga Trail Manager www.piedmontcity.org 256-447-3363.

Valley – The seven mile Chattahoochee Valley rail-to-trail is on the route where the four small textile mill towns of Shawmut, Langdale, Fairfax and Riverview once existed and are now incorporated into Valley, AL. Views of the Chattahoochee River and past the 1917 Fairfax Train Depot, which today is a museum with restrooms.

Off Road Mountain Biking

Anniston – Cheaha Mountain Express. The Cheaha Mountain Express is approximately 10 miles of smooth to technical trail in Cheaha State Park. The trail is single-track, characterized by rocks and roots, but is generally very well maintained and marked. The entire trail is a system of about four trails that can be ridden in combination to deliver more than 10 miles of rid-



ing. The trail is on the highest mountain in Alabama. Cheaha Resort State Park www.alapark.com/parks 256- 488-5111.

Anniston – Iron Legs Loop. Approximately 5.5 miles of very technical trail that encircles an old training area on the Ft. McClellan Military Reservation. Iron Legs features steep climbing and descending interspersed with many technical sections, side trails and a few scenic views. Alabama Mountain Biking www.lightinside.org/bike

Auburn – Bartram Trail. Named after the famed explorer and naturalist William Bartram, who passed through what is now Alabama in the 1770s, the trail is a fast and semi technical out-and-back trail of 8.6 miles one-way. Auburn Chamber of Commerce www.auburnchamber.com 334 887-7011, Auburn-Opelika Convention and Visitor's Bureau www.aocvb.com 334 887-8747.

Birmingham – Take your bike to Oak Mountain State Park for a three-hour, 17-mile mountain bike loop with clean, curvy and fast single-track routes interspersed with dirt, fire-road connections. Location of annual B.U.M.P. & G.R.I.N.D. mountain bike race. Alabama State Parks www.alapark.com 205-620-2524.

Cullman – Sportsman Lake Park provides a 3.5 mile biking trail that is appropriate for beginning bikers. The route crosses hills, goes alongside creeks, and passes over seven bridges. Cullman Parks and Recreation Department, www.cullmancountyparks.com.

Cullman – Hurricane Creek Park. "Freeride" Mountain Bike



Trails that are challenging and technical, all within a steep, rocky, 67-acre city operated park just north of the city of Cullman. www.hurricane creek.homestead.com 256-734-2125.

Huntsville – Monte Sano State Park and Land Trust Trails. Approximately 30 miles of mountain biking trails that nearly encircle Monte Sano Mountain in Huntsville. These trails range in difficulty from an easy 3-mile beginner trail and dirt road to highly advanced, technical trails that require a high level of skill and fitness. Monte Sano State Park, www.alapark.com/parks/ 256-534-3757.

Huntsville – Wade Mountain Preserve and Trails. Approximately 11 miles of trails circling the west and south sides of Wade Mountain. When followed in the correct order, the trails can provide nearly two hours, riding on undulating or descending single-track (after one long climb). The trail can be ridden in two segments, one 8-mile figure-8 loop or the option of the more difficult 3-mile Land Trust Devil’s Racetrack, a unique geological formation surrounding the crest of Wade Mountain. The Land Trust of Huntsville and North Alabama www.landtrust-hsv.org 256-534-5263.

Trussville – Dead Dog Trail. Approximately 6 miles of trails with more in progress. Birmingham Urban Mountain Peddlers, <http://www.bump.org>, Alabama Mountain Biking www.light-inside.org/bike, City of Trussville www.trussville.org

Tuscaloosa – Lake Lurleen Loop Multi-Use Trail. Intermediate-level mountain bike trail almost circumnavigating Lake

Lurleen. The trail is an out-and-back excursion, so you can choose the length of ride you wish to try. Total trail length is 10.5 miles. Alabama State Parks www.alapark.com/parks/

Tuscaloosa – Munny Sokol Park. Approximately 10 miles of technical intermediate/advanced interconnected mountain bike trails cut throughout a city park. These trails have a reputation for being quite tight and curvy. Changeable surface conditions in combination with tight turns and many quick little hills make this trail a challenge to ride quickly. 205-563-3220.

Wetumpka – Mountain bike 12 miles of routes on the Sway-back Bridge Trail near the Coosa River. Location of the annual “Attack on Swayback” mountain bike race. Trail of Legends Association, www.trailoflegends.org 334-567-5635.

Cycling road routes

Anniston – The scenic Horseblock/Cheaha Mountain Ride covers 40 miles from Anniston to the highest point in Alabama. It presents a challenging climb that is part of the annual 100-mile “Toughest Ride in the South” cycling event. North-east Alabama Biking Club www.neabc.org 256-435-5710, Anniston/Calhoun County Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.calhounchamber.com 256-237-3536.

Auburn to Loachapoka Loop – 34-mile scenic loop that takes in the rolling roads to the west of Auburn. The route starts in downtown Auburn, close to the vigorous college town business district. The 56-mile Tuskegee Loop follows Wire Road nearly all the way to Tuskegee, turns to pass the Tuskegee Airmen Historic Site, passes through Tuskegee National Forest and some older, late 1800s homes in Notasulga, and finally rejoins the shorter route for the scenic return to Auburn. The route listed under biking at www.alabama.travel/Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel - Lanett Welcome Center, 334-576-2116. Auburn-Opelika Convention and Visitor’s Bureau www.aocvb.com 334 887-8747.

Birmingham – Westover Junction Loop. Bike the 25-mile route around the hilly, low-traffic area west and south of Leeds. The terrain is rolling and the roads are curvy and well paved. Road signs are sufficient for easy navigation., and traffic is light. Birmingham Bicycle Club <http://bhambikeclub.org>

Fairhope – Cycle along the 33-mile Eastern Shore Trail, a pedestrian/cycle path from the USS Alabama Battleship Park in Mobile to the Grand Hotel in Point Clear and beyond. Route passes through bayside communities of Daphne and Fairhope. Baldwin County Trailblazers www.thetrailblazers.org 251-928-2282, Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce www.ESchamber.com 251-621-8222.

Fairhope – Fairhope Pier to Weeks Bay. This 41-mile loop starts on the bay under the big mossy oaks of the Fairhope waterfront, then rolls out into the flattish eastern interior of the county and then turns south to follow the watershed down to Weeks Bay. This particular route explores the short road out to Fish River Point at the mouth of Weeks Bay and then returns to Fairhope along the waterfront all the way along Scenic US 98. Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce 251-928-6387.



Fort Payne – Cycle the 32-mile DeSoto-Mentone Ridge Run featuring shady, curvy, low-traffic roads and an optional two-mile side trip to DeSoto Falls. DeKalb County Tourism www.tourdekalb.com 256-845-3957.

Guntersville – International Ride of Chicken Houses. Tour of one of the top chicken-producing counties in the state will pass many chicken houses. This 38-mile ruggedly beautiful ride gives a lot more than its length and goofy name indicates. For the more advanced rider, the route rewards the adventurous rider with many roads that swoop and sweep through the rural sections of Marshall County. Marshall County Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.marshallcountycvb.com 800-869-5859.

Huntsville – Downtown Cecil-Ashburn Loop. A vigorous 30-mile loop from downtown Huntsville featuring a quick exit from downtown onto a series of scenic, low-traffic roads that return over a challenging 1-mile climb on a new road with broad shoulders. The final climb features a vista of Huntsville that is most striking near sunset. Huntsville/Madison County Convention and Visitors Bureau www.huntsville.org 800-843-0468.

Huntsville – Putnam Mountain, Paint Rock River Scenic Ride. An advanced scenic 75-mile loop from Gurley into Middle Tennessee that returns via designated State Scenic Byway, AL 65. Huntsville/Madison County Convention and Visitors Bureau www.huntsville.org 800-843-0468.

Huntsville – Wheeler Wildlife Refuge, Blackwell Swamp Loop. This trail is approximately 30 miles of flat dirt and gravel roads through the Wheeler Wildlife Refuge. The roads offer views of the Tennessee River for many miles, as well as

a look at the backwaters, swamps and wildlife along the north side of the Tennessee River. Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge <http://www.fws.gov> 256-353-7243.

Mobile – The Underground Railroad Bicycle Route honors the bravery of those that fled bondage and those that provided shelter. This road route passes points of interest and historic sites along a 2,100-mile corridor, beginning in Mobile and ending in Canada. Several hundred miles of the route are in Southwest Alabama. www.adventurecycling.org

Monroeville – Monroeville-Lenox Loop. The Monroeville-Lenox Loop is a fine road loop of 41 miles with terrain that heaves gently with enough profile to keep the scenery in constant flux and the ride interesting. You return to town on scenic Experiment Farm Road and cut over to Mount Pleasant Street, taking in the historic homes of Monroeville before finishing on the square at the old courthouse made famous in Harper Lee's novel and the film *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Center. www.monroecounty.com 251-743-2879.

Montgomery – Pintlala. This scenic 34 mile ride around the sparsely traveled roads of southern Montgomery County gives the rider a sampling of well-paved roads, shady lanes, neatly kept farmland and a healthy dose of moss-covered oak trees. Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce Convention & Visitor Bureau, www.visitingmontgomery.com 334-261-1100.

Opelika – Johnny Ray Metric Century. 34-mile rolling scenic loop around Opelika that departs and returns through north Opelika historic district, historic Gold Ridge area and Johnny Ray Rail line. The ride passes several historic buildings en route in the Gold Ridge and Oak Bowery areas, plus the twin silos that give the ride its name. Opelika Chamber of Commerce 334-745-4861.

Talladega – Dugger Mountain Loop. This epic 56-mile ride around Dugger Mountain through the hilly Talladega National Forest is a favorite with local road riders. There is a pleasant return on the paved Chief Ladiga Trail to Jacksonville before the final climb over White's Gap and the twisty descent back to the start. Talladega National Forest, 256-463-2272.

Wetumpka/Tallassee – This route from the rural outskirts of Wetumpka to Tallassee on the Tallapoosa River is a fine example of wide open riding in the wide open spaces of Alabama. Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce Convention & Visitor Bureau, www.visitingmontgomery.com 334-261-1100, Wetumpka Area Chamber of Commerce www.wetumpkachamber.com 334-567-4811.

Hiking • Backpacking:

Alexander City – Horseshoe Bend Historic Trail at the Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. A 2.8 mile long nature trail winds its way around the Battlefield and near Tohopeka Village, the site of a Creek Indian camp in the early 1800s. www.nps.gov/hobe 256- 234-7111.

Andalusia – Hike the 20-mile Conecuh Trail, a “starter” backpacking trail with low rolling hills within the Conecuh National Forest. Ranger office, 334-222-2555.

Anniston – Nubbin Creek Trail, Talladega National Forest. Located just south of Cheaha Mountain, Alabama’s highest peak, the Nubbin Creek Trail is a true classic, showcasing what makes the Talladega National Forest a true treasure for Alabama. For day-hikers, the 6-mile out-and-back is wonderful, and for weekend backpackers, the trip can be made into a spectacular 31-mile loop by joining the Nubbin with the Cave Creek, Odum Scout, Chinnabee Silent, Skyway Loop, and Pinhoti trails. www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/alabama 256-362-2909.

Anniston – The Pinhoti Trail, one of the most famous trails in Alabama, stretches 140 miles from the southern border of the Talladega National Forest to the Georgia state line. Appalachian Trail Club of Alabama www.pinhoti.org, Talladega National Forest www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/alabama 256-362-2909.

Anniston – Odum Scout Trail, Talladega National Forest. While hiking the Odum Scout Trail, you will quickly understand why it is called “Alabama’s Most Scenic Mountain Trail.” This trail can be done as a day or overnight backpacking trip. See beautiful dogwoods, azaleas, and wildflowers, and a gorgeous panoramic mountain view as you hike this 9.8 mile trail. Open year round. www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/alabama Talladega National Forest 256-362-2909.

Anniston – Chinnabee Silent Trail in the Talladega National Forest. Treat yourself to a water spectacular on this trail as you pass by the banks of the Cheaha Creek, and Cheaha Falls a three tiered cascade plummeting over 70 feet. Talladega National Forest 256-362-2909.

Bessemer – Tannehill Historic Trail, Tannehill Historic State Park. This 4.2-mile loop trail is an easy walk over wide dirt roads, many originally used as early “interstates” traveling between towns and regions such as the Old Bucksville State Road and Iron Road. Open year round. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park www.tannehill.org 205-477-5711.

Birmingham – Hike the scenic trails of Ruffner Mountain, Birmingham’s urban greenscape that is larger than New York City’s Central Park. www.ruffnermountain.org 205-833-8264.

Daphne – Village Point Preserve. This 1.5 mile walk allows you to take a walk in history as you explore the nature on the



banks of the Mobile Bay. Trace the footsteps of the Union army during the Civil War as they landed and camped along Yancey Creek before moving up Mobile’s eastern shore to Spanish Fort and Blakeley where they engaged the Confederate Army in the last major battle of the war. See the boughs of Jackson Oak, the massive tree that in 1812 that General Andrew Jackson gave a rallying speech to his troops before moving out for the famous Battle of New Orleans. City of Daphne www.daphneal.com 251-621-9000.

Daphne – Village Point Preserve. This 1.5 mile walk allows you to take a walk in history as you explore the nature on the banks of the Mobile Bay. Trace the footsteps of the Union army during the Civil War as they landed and camped along Yancey Creek before moving up Mobile’s eastern shore to Spanish Fort and Blakeley where they engaged the Confederate Army in the last major

battle of the war. See the boughs of Jackson Oak, the massive tree where in 1812 General Andrew Jackson gave a rallying speech to his troops before moving out for the famous Battle of New Orleans. City of Daphne www.daphneal.com 251-621-9000.

Flagg Mountain – Located at the Weogufka State Forest. Flagg Mountain is noticed as being a key piece in the Eastern Continental Trail, the 5,500-mile-long path that travels from Key West, FL, to Cape Gaspe, Canada. The mountain marks the first climb over 1,000 feet for thru-hikers. Alabama Hiking Trail Society www.hikealabama.org 334-244-1579.

Fort Payne – Hike into cavernous Little River Canyon, one of the deepest canyons east of the Mississippi River, along the Eberhart Trail. Little River Canyon National Preserve, www.nps.gov/liri 256-845-9605.

Fort Payne – At DeSoto State Park, see three waterfalls that cascade under and next to rhododendron and mountain laurel groves along the Lost Falls Trail. The three-mile-long path offers an easy walk. www.desotostatepark.com 256-845-5380.

Grove Oak – South Sauty Creek, Buck’s Pocket State Park. This 7-mile out-and-back follows along its namesake creek beginning at the pier at Morgan’s Cove, an inlet of Lake Guntersville. Along the route when the water is up, the creek thunders alongside you. This is an easy walk along the creek bank. Keep your eyes peeled for rare species of wildflowers. Open year round. Bucks Pocket State Park 256-659-2000.



Gulf Shores – Pine Beach Trail at the Bon Secour Wildlife Refuge encompasses 6,500 acres of fragile landscape. The name is French and means “safe harbor,” and it literally is that as over 500 species of birds and animals call this area home. The Pine Beach Trail allows visitors to explore this “safe harbor” and is a wonderful juxtaposition between three different environments: a pine forest, a wetland, and the Gulf of Mexico. Totalling 4 miles out and back, this trail is an excellent trip for the entire family and is a learning experience for everyone. Open year round. Bon Secour Wildlife Refuge, www.fws.gov/bonsecour 251-540-7720.

Huntsville – At Monte Sano State Park, get healthy hiking the 20 miles of trails on the mountain which in Spanish means “Mountain of Health.” www.alapark.com 256-534-3757.

Huntsville – Enjoy wildflowers, waterfalls, birds and scenic overlooks without leaving the city limits. Hike or bike 33+ miles of public trails on three mountain preserves, each larger than Central Park. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, www.landtrust-hsv.org 256-534-5263.

Hytov – Hikers to the Walls of Jericho are rewarded with a spectacular rocks-and-water geologic landscape. The route crosses Hurricane Creek, culminating at Turkey Creek where the water cascades into an icy blue pool. This is a full-day hike that is easy going in, but uphill coming out. Beware of flash flooding after heavy rains. The land north of Scottsboro and near the Tennessee state line was purchased through the state’s Forever Wild program. Nature Conservancy, www.nature.org, 205-251-1155. Jackson County Tourism www.jacksoncountychamber.com 256-259-5500.

Jacksonville – A premier extended rails-to-trails project in the state, the Chief Ladiga Trail, a beautiful path that travels from Anniston to the State Line where it connects to Silver Comet Trail in Georgia. 33.3-mile point-to-point trail in Alabama. <http://epic.jsu.edu/clt/> 256-447-3363.

Lake Martin – Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail is a 7 mile trail that allows visitors to hike past the banks of Lake Martin and take in the beautiful, serene atmosphere. Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail Association, <http://www.crata.org> 334-541-2729.

Moulton – The 14-mile Sipsey Fork Loop is among the most popular backpacking routes in the Sipsey Wilderness area of the Bankhead National Forest. Wilderness scenery includes canyon walls, waterfalls and wildflowers. Sipsey Wilderness Hiking Club, www.sipseywilderness.org Bankhead National Forest 205-489-5111.

Pelham – South Rim-Shackleford Point Trails at Oak Mountain State Park. This trail can be done as a 6.7 mile day trip or a 13 mile overnight backpacking loop. The two trails are the most popular in the park and feature wonderful vistas from the mountain tops, a visit to spectacular Peavine Falls, and amazing mountain views as you hike along this trail just south of Birmingham. Oak Mountain State Park. www.oakmountainstatepark.org 205-620-2520.

Pelham – Treetop Nature Trail, Oak Mountain State Park. View some of the over 2,500 birds, mammals and reptiles come through the doors of the Alabama Wildlife Center at Oak Mountain State Park each year that are a part of the project to rehabilitate physically impaired or orphaned animals so they may return to the wild themselves. See animals such as barred owls, red-tail hawks, great horned owls, black vultures as you walk along this 1.4 mile trail. Open year round. Oak Mountain State Park www.oakmountainstatepark.org 205-620-2520.

Spanish Fort – Hike the paths around the battlefield at Historic Blakeley State Park and see the breastworks and redoubts that still survive from the last major battle of the Civil War. www.blakeleypark.com 251-626-0798.

Tuskegee – Bartram National Recreation Trail. 6.5-mile point-to-point or 13-mile (total) out-and-back. Located in the smallest of all of Alabama’s forests. The first half of the trip travels through thick forests of pine and dogwood over gentle hills; muscadine vines line the path. The second half of the trip heads down into large marshes along the banks of Choctawfaula Creek over several boardwalks. Magnolias and a wide variety of wildflowers bloom here in the spring, filling the air with a wonderful fragrance. 334-727-2652.

Valley – Chattahoochee Valley Railroad Trail. This trail begins in Shawmut, AL and goes to Riverview, AL. Walk this converted railroad track turned trail as you pass the Chattahoochee, forests of hardwood and pine, and historic old buildings. www.cityofvalley.com 334-756-5228.

Warrior – Rickwood Caverns State Park. The wonders that await you on this 2 mile hike, which is known as the “Miracle Mile,” are truly astounding. Formed thousands of years ago, the caverns at Rickwood hold evidence of the vast, prehistoric ocean that once covered this land. Fossil records of ancient marine life from over 260 million years ago line the walls. Open weekends Mar.-Dec. and every day in the summer. www.alapark.com/RickwoodCaverns 205-647-9692.

Wetumpka – Swayback Bridge Trail, Trail of Legends. An 8-mile looping trail along the banks of the Coosa River. Open year round. Trail of Legends <http://www.trailoflegends.org> 334-277-1661.



Walking:

Aliceville – Find shark teeth and fossils along Shark Tooth Creek in West Alabama. www.sharktoothcreek.com 205-373-2605.

Birmingham – At Vulcan Park, climb up to the base of Vulcan, the world’s largest cast-iron statue. Marvel at the sprawling view of metropolitan Birmingham from your pinnacle on Red Mountain. Take a short hike on the adjacent Vulcan rail-to-trails pathway. www.vulcanpark.org 205-933-1409.

Dadeville – Watch for markers describing the Battle of Horseshoe Bend as you walk the easy three-mile-long trail at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park along the Tallapoosa River. Some 1,000 Native Americans died at this site in the battle that ended the Creek Indian War of 1814. www.nps.gov/hobe 256-234-7111.

Gadsden – The Black River plunges down 90-foot falls at Noccalula Falls Park. You may walk down into the gorge and directly behind the falls, depending on weather conditions, from March through October. The campground is open year round. www.cityofgadsden.com 256-549-4663.

Gulf Shores – Walk on the 32 miles of white sandy beaches and swim the warm waters along Alabama’s beautiful Gulf of Mexico coastline. The best time to hunt for such shells as the King Crown, Giant Murex, Sunray Venus and others is during low tide. www.gulfshores.com, 800-745-7263.

Moundville – Walk among and atop one of the Southeast’s largest collections of prehistoric Native American mounds at Moundville Archaeological Park near Tuscaloosa. Because of the importance of the settlement, which flourished hundreds of years before the United States became a nation, the National Geographic Society called it the “Big Apple” of the 14th century. University of Alabama Museums www.moundville.ua.edu 205-371-2234.

Natural Bridge – Millions of years ago, erosion carved the 148-foot-long sandstone arch known as the Natural Bridge of

Alabama. It is among the longest natural bridges east of the Rockies. 205-486-5330.

Orrville – Walk among the abandoned streets and ruins of Cahawba, the ghost town that was once Alabama’s capital city. The site is now the Old Cahawba Archaeological Park, located near Selma. www.cahawba.com 334-872-8058.

Phil Campbell – See the Dismalites, glowing larvae life forms that exist in only a few places in the world, at the 85-acre Dismals Canyon. Trek past Rainbow Falls and feel the lightness of your footsteps where the trail crosses a hollow cavity beneath the earth. A National Natural Landmark and the dance place of Chickasaw Indians, the canyon was the hiding place for Vice President Aaron Burr after he killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel in 1804. www.dismalscanyon.com 205-993-4559.

Tuscaloosa – Stroll in the University of Alabama Arboretum along a 2.5-mile moderate hiking trail that features a mature oak and hickory forest. www.bama.ua.edu 205-553-3278.

Caving:



Caves are common across North Alabama. Take a wild cave tour at Sequoyah Caverns, or stroll through the 12-story-high DeSoto Caverns.

Bridgeport – Russell Cave National Monument, www.nps.gov/ruca 256-495-2672.

Childersburg – DeSoto Caverns Park, www.desotocavernspark.com 256-378-7252.

Grant – Cathedral Caverns State Park, www.alapark.com 256-728-8193.

Huntsville – Three Caves, www.landtrust-hsv.org 256-534-5263.

Valley Head – Sequoyah Caverns, www.sequoyahcaverns.com 256-635-0024.

Warrior – Rickwood Caverns State Park, www.alapark.com 205-647-9692.

Caving with Outfitter

Fort Payne – Explore the depths of historic Manitou Cave by helmet and cave lamps with True Adventure Sports. www.trueadventuresports.com 256-997-9577.

Snow Skiing:

Mentone – Snow ski near Fort Payne at the Cloudmont Ski & Golf Resort atop beautiful Lookout Mountain. Man-made snow provides the fun. Same location as the Shady Grove Dude Ranch. www.cloudmont.com 256-634-4344.

Bird Watching • Wild Life Viewing • Safaris:



Bessemer – Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge. The small but colorful watercress darter is a rare fish and is known to exist only in seven spots in the upper Black Warrior River near Birmingham. While only 23 acres in size, the small refuge has plenty of opportunities to observe wildlife. Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge 256-353-7243.

Dauphin Island – Visit Dauphin Island with 800-year-old moss-draped live oaks on the northern shore at Indian Shell Mound Park and the 164-acre Audubon Bird Sanctuary on the island's eastern side. Indian Mound Park, www.outdooralabama.com 251-861-2882, Dauphin Island Park Board www.dauphinisland.org 251-861-3607.

Eufaula – Get close to nature in the Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, home to the American Bald Eagle, alligators and other creatures. Eufaula/Barbour County Chamber of Commerce www.eufaulachamber.com 334-687-6664.

Fairhope – Interpretive Center houses displays of coastal topics with habitat models and historical features. Live and preserved animals. Elevated boardwalks from wetlands to

marshes and beautiful Pitcher Plant Bog. Bird and Dolphin watching thru viewer at end of boardwalk. On-site picnicking. www.outdooralabama.com 251-928-9792
www.weeksbayreserve.com

Fort McClellan – Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge. Once part of the Fort McClellan military base, this is now the first mountain national wildlife refuge in the southeastern United States. While the refuge seeks to preserve native flora and fauna, it emphasizes providing a haven for the red-cockaded woodpecker and other endangered species. www.fws.gov/southeast 256-848-6833.

Fort Morgan – Visit historic Fort Morgan and watch migratory birds being captured and released during seasonal birdbanding weeks held twice yearly. Alabama Gulf Coast Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.gulfshores.com 800-745-7263.

Gulf Shores – Take your camera and binoculars as you walk along the trails of the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge looking for sea turtles, migratory birds, plant life, and other species protected in this part of the Gulf Coast. www.fws.gov, 251-540-7720. Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau www.gulfshores.com 800-745-7263.

Gulf Shores – Dolphin cruises in the Gulf of Mexico provide an unforgettable encounter as you watch dolphins frolic alongside your boat. Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau www.gulfshores.com 800-745-7263.

Hoover/Birmingham – See Alabama's State Bird, the Yellowhammer and other birds along the Upper Cahaba River Birding Trail. Hoover Chamber of Commerce www.hooverchamber.org 205-988-5672, Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau www.birminghamal.org 800-458-8085.

Huntsville – Become enveloped in a world of butterflies at the nation's largest open-air Butterfly House (open on a seasonal basis) at the Huntsville Botanical Garden. www.hsvbg.org 256-830-4447.

Marion – Go above the treetops adjacent to the Cahaba River at Perry Lakes Park to enjoy the nation's first birding tower that rises above the line of the tree canopy. Perry County Chamber of Commerce www.perrycountyalabamachamber.com 334-683-9622.

Mobile and Baldwin Counties
– See great blue herons sailing across Mobile Bay at sunset and pelicans flying in perfect formation over the Gulf of Mexico on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail. Six loops, 50 sites. www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com 877-226-9089.

Mobile – Search for more than 250 species of birds, plus 230



species of fish and alligators, on wetland tours in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. Swamp tour options range from those on large pontoon boats, to airboats, to small motor-powered pirogue canoes. Mobile Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau www.mobilebay.org 251-208-2000.

North Alabama – Explore the 50-site North Alabama Birding Trail that focuses on the north and south banks of the Tennessee River. All of the sites can be accessed from a vehicle and many also have traditional walking trails. www.northalabama-birdingtrail.com
256-760-8233, North Alabama Tourism Association, 866-238-4748.

Pelham – Peer through the glass to see animal patients at the Alabama Wildlife Center, the state's largest and oldest wildlife rehabilitation center. Located at Oak Mountain State Park, it includes an elevated Treetop Nature Trail for viewing barred owls, black vultures, red-tailed hawks, great horned owls, and a rare white turkey vulture. The birds live in naturally-furnished enclosures in the treetops. www.awrc.org 205-663-7930.

Scottsboro – At Sauta Cave, 200,000 gray bats emerge from the cave prior to dusk during the peak summer viewing season. Sauta Cave National Wildlife Refuge, www.fws.gov/sautacave 256-353-7243, Jackson County Tourism www.jacksoncountychamber.com 256-259-5500.

Summerville – Observe more than 100 alligators in their natural environment as you tread boardwalk paths through Alligator Alley. Captain Crunch, an 800-pound gator measuring more than 13 feet long, holds the world record for the strongest bite with a 2,982-lb. bite. Weekends only. www.gatoralleyfarm.com 251-946-2483.

Hunting • Target Shooting:

Guides & Companies

Across Alabama – Go on a guided hunting or fishing excursion while staying at a lodge in one of the world-renowned reserves on the Alabama Hunting and Fishing Trail. www.alabamahuntingandfishingtrail.com 205-758-7588.

Across Alabama – Embark on a memorable hunting adventure at some of the best facilities in the South on the Alabama Quail Trail. More than 40 hunting preserves and plantations are included on the trail. Alabama Wildlife Federation, www.alabamaquail-trail.com 334-285-4550.

Across Alabama – The Alabama Hunting and Fishing Trail for People with Physical Disabilities is a special network of public and private recreational sites throughout the state providing accessible fishing, shooting and hunting opportunities for individuals with physical disabilities. www.outdooralabama.com 334-242-3465.



Across Alabama – Test your target shooting skills by taking advantage of clay or skeet shooting at various Alabama shooting ranges. www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/shooting-ranges.cfm

Aliceville – For almost 50 years, Cameron's Quail Preserve has been releasing quails in their fields in the spring and summer. During the years, strong established coveys have been established on the land. Lodging and fishing also available. www.cameronquailpreserve.com 205-455-2499.

Aliceville – Hunting on 8,000 acres with lodging for 12 at the Southern Legends Outfitters. www.theroost.com 205-373-3147.

Alpine – For over 20 years, Selwood Farms has offered their 1,000 acre plantation of natural habitat as a licensed hunting preserve. All Selwood quail hunts include transportation to and from field, dogs, guide, processed birds, and noon meal. Lodging www.selwoodfarm.com 256-362-3961.

Athens – The Piney Creek Kennels & Hunting Preserve is open by appointment. www.pineycreek.net 256-232-9596.

Auburn – Coach Pat Dye, former head coach of Auburn University from 1981 to 1992, will be your host at Auburn Oaks or Crooked Oaks Hunting Lodge. Turkey, quail and deer hunts. Hunts will be done with experienced guides. www.crookedoaks.com 334-549-1260.

Autaugaaville – Deer, turkey and bird hunting at Alabama's Whetstone Plantation. Guide service and lodging available. www.alabamawhetstoneplantation.com 334-358-2656.

Autaugaaville – Specializing in family groups and small group outings, Bear Creek Hunting Preserve offers deer, quail, turkey and dove hunting. Thirty minutes from Montgomery on land bounded by the Alabama River to the south and by two prominent swamps to the north and east, the property yields a productive hunt. Lodging. www.bearcreekhunting.com 334-365-8726.

Autaugaaville – With crops planted specifically for wildlife, four fully furnished lodges and guided hunts, Landford Farms Guided Hunts offers deer and turkey hunting on 7,200 acres. www.landfordfarms.com 334-365-7270.

Bay Minette – The Rhodes Hunting Preserve offers good Ole “Southern Style” Quail hunts. Family business started in 1982. Property under year-round Land and Wildlife management program. www.rhodesquailfarm.com 251-937-7580.

Browns – The Briarpatch Hunting Preserve in Perry County offers guided quail hunts with dogs. 334-683-8039.

Butler – Located in the prime wildlife habitat of Choctaw County, Pushmataha Plantation specializes in turkey, wild boar and white-tail deer hunting. Deer management program, one of the largest turkey populations in the U.S., and plenty of wild boars. Lodge. www.alahunt.com 800-906-9663.

Camp Hill – Camp within 10 miles of hunting on one of the finest whitetail deer hunting preserves in the Southeast at Blackbelt Hunting Lodge. www.blackbeltlodge.com 334-875-5604.

Cecil – The Oakfuskee Ryse Hunting Preserve offers custom guided hunting packages for quail, deer, turkey and hog on 1,300 acres of wildlife managed area. Lodge can accommodate 18 and includes walk-in cooler, outdoor fire pit and grills. 334-277-8980.

Cedar Bluff – Chattokee Lodge offers traditional southern quail hunts, European pheasant hunts, wild duck hunting, and spring turkey hunting. Limited number of 100% fair chase deer hunts offered. The elegant lodge constructed with five different species of wood harvested from the property fishing at Weiss Lake as well as unlimited birding and wildlife viewing, sporting clays, kayak and canoe trips. www.chattokeelodge.com 256-422-3354.

Cherokee – Hunt deer and turkey on the 38,000-acre Freedom Hills Wildlife Management Area in Colbert County. www.outdooralabama.com 256-353-2634. Tombigbee River, Demopolis/Aliceville, 334-289-3540; Alabama River, Montgomery/Selma/Monroeville 334-872-9554.

Citronelle – Hunting activity in Alabama with Rut-N-Bucks Outfitters. Christian outdoor ministry of Apostolics of Citronelle Church www.rutnbucks.com 251-866-0706.

Demopolis – The Cottonwoods Sportsman’s Lodge. www.cottonwoodslodge.com 334-628-8693.

Demopolis – Yellow Creek Ranch offers Deer, Dove, Duck, Quail and Turkey hunting on an old southern family farm located in the rich Black Belt region of West Alabama where wild game is abundant. Fishing also available. www.yellowcreekranch.com 877-822-4667.

Dora – The Gold Star Plantation and Kennel is located northwest of Birmingham. Open since 1998, Gold Star’s hunting preserve borders the Warrior River. Fishing also available. 205-674-7244.

Empire – The Pope Locke Hunting Preserve includes 3,000 acres with walk-in cooler, home-cooked meals and facilities to



sleep 10. www.popelocke.com 334-875-6162.

Empire – Six-thousand managed deer acres with several hundred acres of soybeans and corn to ensure quality bucks at Tatum Creek Hunting Camp. www.tatumcreek.com 334-410-0505.

Enterprise – The Bowles Creek Hunting Preserve has been in operation since 1986. Over 1,500 acres with guide service. 334-347-9050.

Estillfork – Some of the best and biggest bucks and birds in Alabama can be found at Paint Rock Valley Lodge & Retreat. www.Prvlodge.com 256-776-9411.

Eufaula – Hawkins Ridge Lodge is located on one of the largest unbroken tracts of land in the southeast. Over 400 permanent tree stands and 75 covered shooting houses over 12,000 acres of land. Deer, turkey, quail, hog and duck hunts. Lodge. www.hawkinshunting.com 334-687-6820.

Eufaula – No longer a working cotton plantation, large expanse of rolling hills, fields and pine forests has been converted into Old Spring Hill Plantation, sportsman’s paradise. The “main house,” built in 1841 for the plantation master, is just a stone’s throw away from the old mule barn and the original cotton gin. Scattered about in the pecan orchard are several of the original slave quarters. For most guests, however, it’s the superb hunting and fishing offered that is important. Deer,



hall. www.watervalleylodge.com 251-843-3168.

Greensboro – Southern hospitality and fine hunting at Osage Hunting Lodge. Fishing, hunting, sporting clays, wildlife viewing, guide service and rental equipment available. 334-624-5639.

Greenville – Family operated, Cedar Creek Plantation Forestlands & Hunting Preserve offers guide services. www.cedarcreekplantation.com 334-365-9521.

Guntersville – Located on hunting land that includes hardwood bottoms and mountains overlooking Lake Guntersville, Dream Ranch offers guided quail and deer hunting. Full staff of guides. Fishing and lodge available. www.dreamranch.org 256-302-1724.

Hardaway – Wylie-Rosa Fish & Feather Club located near Union Springs. 334-485-3550.

Harpersville – Coosa Bend Hunting Preserve. Full- or half-day quail and pheasant hunts. Dogs, guides, transportation to and from field. Lunch served. Package birds to take home. 205-672-8552.

Hatchechubbee – Old plantation style quail hunting at the Dixie Land Hunting Preserve, located between Tuskegee and Phenix City. Lodging. www.dixielandplantation.net 334-667-7876.

Hatchechubbee – Old style Southern Quail hunting offered at High Log Creek Farm and Hunting Preserve. Horseback guided hunts complete with a mule-drawn wagon. Lodge. www.highlogcreek.com 334-667-0002.

Hayneville – The Southern Sportsman Hunting Lodge includes 15,000 acres for turkey and deer hunts. Facilities include modern conveniences to accommodate large group. www.southernhunting.com 334-872-9740.

Heflin – 10-person capacity shooting range at Henry Creek. www.cityofheflin.org 256-463-2272.

Hurtsboro – For over 90 years, Enon Plantation has welcomed distinguished guest from all over the world to enjoy first-class outdoor recreation in an unprecedented southern plantation style atmosphere. Deer, Quail, Turkey and Duck hunting. Bass fishing and golf course. Lodging. www.enon.com 334-253-2100.

Jachin – Bent Creek Lodge in West Central Alabama offers Deer and Turkey hunting. With over 30,000 acres of prime hunting land, 200 acres of green fields are rotated to maximize a successful hunt. Field transportation is provided by experienced guides in radio equipped vehicles. www.bentcreeklodge.com 205-459-3065.

Lafayette – Hunts at Cedar Ridge Hunting include food, lodging, guide service and preparation of game. www.cedarridelodge.com 877-734-7505.

pheasant, turkey and quail hunting. Fishing, clay shooting, trails, birdwatching, kennels and airport pickup available. www.oldspringhillplantation.com 334-688-5050.

Fitzpatrick – Bucksnot Plantation has maintained a long time trophy management program that gives hunters the best opportunity to take a big buck, or a trophy Tom. Quail hunting and fishing also available. Lodge. www.bucksnorthplantation.com 334-584-7049.

Fitzpatrick – As part of the original Pickett Plantation established in the 1820s, Sweetwater Preserve features planted fields with fox tail millet, hybrid grain sorghum, hybrid pearl millet, Egyptian Wheat and other free growing small grain bird feeds. The fields are rolling hills with golden broom sage divided by creeks, streams & hedgerows. Quail and Deer Hunting. Lodge. www.bucktrails.com 334-584-7223.

Foster – Spring turkey hunts and quality deer management since 1977 at Black Warrior Hunting Service. www.blackwarriorhuntingsservice.com 205-349-4889.

Gilbertown – The Shed Hunting Lodge is a full service white-tail deer and spring turkey hunting facility catering to individual, family or corporate hunts. www.theshedhuntinglodge.com 205-459-2250.

Gilbertown – Located in Choctaw County, the Water Valley Lodge offers whitetail deer, eastern turkey, quail and wild boar hunting. Guided and semi guided hunting. Lodge and dining



Livingston – Hunt quail with trained dog, walking or riding on ATV. Fishing, horseback riding and photography activities offered at Alawest Outdoors. 205-499-6136.

Livingston – Dream Lake Lodge may be better known for their large mouth bass fishing, but because of limited hunting allowed, they claim hunters see an average of 20 to 70 deer per hunt. All deer hunts are combined with fishing. Lodging. www.dreamlakelodge.com 205-652-4545.

Livingston – Extensively managed for game for thirty years, P-Arrow offers a few guided whitetail deer and bobwhite quail hunts each year on their 2,500 acre P-Arrow Plantation in Sumter county. Hunters can ride on a Belgian Mule drawn wagon carrying English Pointers and English Setters, or ride Tennessee Walking Horses to experience covey rises of fast flying bobwhites. Dove and Turkey hunts as well as guided largemouth bass and bream fishing available Horseback riding, nature trail. Lodging www.parrow.net 205-652-7990.

Louisville – Family owned preserve at Oak Ridge Hunting Lodge has been managed for wildlife for over 40 years. Deer, quail and turkey hunts. Lodging. www.oakridgehunting.com 334-266-5607.

Marion – The Donovan Inn is part of an 1890s Farm House and is located on a working farm in Perry County. Family oriented hunting of Deer and Quail is offered. www.donavaninn.com 334-683-6389.

Midway – The 5,000 family-owned acres of PA-KO Plantation offers Quail, Deer and Turkey guided hunting. Fishing and lodging available. The hunting tradition at PA-KO goes back to the 1950s, where today the southern cooking is still served on the Messham family china. www.pa-ko.com 877-539-5699.

Millry – Briar Creek Lodge in south west Alabama offers 5,000 acres of land with over 35 deer food plots that are never hunted more than once per week. Quail, turkey and hog hunting available. Lodge. www.briar-creek.com 251-846-2717.

Minter Map – The Casey Hunting Camp offers 4-day guided deer hunts and 3-day spring turkey hunts. www.caseyhuntingcamp 334-872-0176.

Montgomery – The Great Southern Outdoors offers wildlife plantation in the heart of the black belt region with quail, deer, turkey and hog hunting. www.greatsouthernoutdoor.com 334-281-5670.

Montgomery – The Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club is a facility with fully automatic sporting clays course, state-of-the-art five stand, wobble trap, skeet range. Private club with one-day trial memberships available to public. www.lwssc.com 334-420-3371.

Montgomery – Quick Drop Hunting offers 1,200 acres of intensely managed land with all types of wild game hunting. Guide and lodging included. 334-584-7556.

Morvin – Quail hunting by horseback or mule drawn wagon offered at the Greenfield Hunting Preserve. 17 years in business. Lodging. www.greenfieldhuntingpreserve.com 334-855-9118.

Moulton – Visit the Black Warrior Wildlife Management Area in the Bankhead National Forest, known for consistently producing some of the largest quality white-tail deer of any public lands in the state. www.outdooralabama.com 256-353-2634.

Oneonta – Plantation Wildlife Hunting Preserve offers over 1,800 acres in two locations for hunting. There are 600 acres of prime quail and deer territory on top of Straight Mountain, and 1,200 acres at Cherry Hill Farm with an abundance of quail, pheasant, and deer. Lodging. www.plantationwildlife.com 205-237-4868.

Pike Road – Cross Keys Shooting Preserve. Guided quail hunts. Also chukar, pheasant. Trail rides for horses and riders. Beautiful, professionally managed plantation. www.crosskeyshunting.com 334-272-9929.

Pine Apple – Home to large population of whitetail deer and wild turkey, packages at Cedar Lake Lodge include guided hunt, lodging and meals. www.cedarlakelodge.com 251-746-2296.

Pittsview – Quail hunting by horseback or mule drawn wagon at Greenfield Hunting Preserve. 17 years in business. Located between Phenix City and Eufaula. Lodging 334-855-9118.

Sardis – Hunting from gun houses on plots and ladder stands on rails, scrape lines or rolling pastures on 6,000 acres at Alabama River Lodge. www.alariver.com 334-874-4445.

Scottsboro – Divers Inc., Duck Guide Service offers guided services on 67,900 acre Guntersville Lake. diversinc.net. 256-506-6279.

Section – Located on Sand Mountain, the Northeast Alabama Hunting Preserve quail hunts begin and end at their unique lodge. www.northeastalhuntingpreserve.com 256-638-7014.

Selma – The Cherry Hill Hunting Preserve offers whitetail deer, turkey, quail and pheasant hunts on property that has been family property since the early 1800s. Lodge. www.alabamaquailhunts.com 334-872-2884.

Salem – The Circle N Lodge offers guided hunting quail and deer hunting on 5,000 acres. Lodging. www.circlenlodge.com 334-745-6201.

Selma – Valley Creek Outdoors offers premium whitetail deer hunting on 4,000 acres of prime timberlands. Guides, rooms, meals and transportation to stands included. www.valleycreekoutdoors.com 334-872-0491.

Silas – Specializing in small groups since 1990, Stone Cattle & Hunting welcomes family hunts. Guide service and fully equipped farm house. www.stonehunting.com 251-746-2436.

Stevenson – Customized southern quail and European style pheasant hunts offered at Crow Creek Hunting Preserve using specialized facility and techniques to develop quail which act like wild birds for an exciting experience. Lodging. www.crowcreekhunting.com 256-599-7607.

Town Creek – Doublehead Resort. Waterfront offers guided quail hunts. Resort offers wide range of facilities including cottages, horseback rides, canoes, sporting clays, Located between Decatur and Florence on Wilson Lake. www.doublehead.com 800-685-9267 or 256-685-9267.

Tuscaloosa – Skyes Plantation is part of Black Horse Lodge and offers quail hunting by horseback or mule-drawn wagon into the expansive former cotton plantation. Guides lead the way with dog handlers following. 205-345-3589.

Tuscaloosa – With over 10,000 acres of land, Westervelt Lodge in West Alabama is part of a global network of sporting lodges that cater to the needs of discriminating sportsmen. The first organized deer hunt on the Westervelt Lodge property in Alabama was held in 1951. Deer, turkey, quail guided hunting available. Lodging includes private bedrooms and housekeeping services. www.westerveltlodges.com 205-373-8212.

Tuskegee – The Master Rack Lodge has been voted best overall experience and featured in 12 magazines. Speciality hunts for whitetail deer. www.masterracklodge.com 334-474-3600.

Tuskegee – White Oak Plantation is a full service year round hunting, shooting and recreational resort celebrating over 25 years of managing for fair chase trophy whitetail deer and turkey. Red Oak Plantation has been managing for fair chase trophy whitetail deer for almost two decades. Clay shooting and fishing also available. Lodge. www.whiteoakplantation.com 334-727-9258.

Union Springs – Rabbit and Quail hunting offered at Conecuh Quail. Half or whole day's hunt with any size large group to just two. www.conecuhquailhunting.com 334-738-3187.



Union Springs – Quail and deer hunt on land that includes cedar groves, prairie oaks, row crops and piney wood at Cotton Woods Lodge. Heart pine floors, stone fireplace and custom bar are part of the lodge and 4,000 square foot camp house. www.cottonwoodslodge.com 334-628-8693.

Union Springs – The 6,000 acre Great Southern Outdoor facility offers Deer, Turkey, Hogs, Quail hunting, in Bullock county, top ranked county for deer population in Alabama. Fishing and clay shooting also available. Property under wild-life management program for over a decade. Lodging available. www.greatsouthernoutdoors.com 334-738-5066.

Union Springs – The Greenway Sportsman Club offers turkey, quail, pheasant, deer and duck hunting as well as fishing and clay shooting. Lodging with meals. www.greenwaysportsmanclub.com 334-738-3072.

Union Springs – Membership packages for quail, deer, wild hog and turkey hunting offered at Shenandoah Plantation. Fishing, tennis, skeet shooting, shooting range, horseback riding and hiking also available. Lodging. www.jtlanier.com 334-707-0526.

Union Town – Outstanding deer on Hamilton Hills Plantation, a family owned cattle ranch. Lodging and meals. www.hamiltonhillplantation.com 334-875-5704.

Uriah – Wide range of hunting, but specializing in whitetail deer and bobwhite quail hunting, the Oak Ridge Hunting Lodge is a family owned and operated establishment. www.oakridgehunting.com 334-301-8021.

Valley Head – Guilds and transportation hunts available at Lookout Creek Farm, a facility with treasure forest, licensed preserve and fully furnished cabin. www.lookoutcreekfarm.com 256-635-6420.

Vernon – The Quail Valley Hunting Preserve located in Lamar County. Walking hunts or wagon ride. Water and sewer hook-up available for your Camper or Recreational Vehicle www.quailvalleyhunting.com 866-359-2744.

Wadley – Located on the Tallapoosa River with 2,000 prime whitetail deer, turkey and quail habitats, Muleshoe Bend Outfitters offers quality hunting due to their self imposed 24 hunts a year with maximum of 5 hunters at a time. Offers camping, boating, fishing, hiking and canoe activities each summer. www.muleshoebend.com 256-392-0990.

West Greene – Offering classic southern hunting and hospitality, Leavellwood in Green County employs approved deer management program and self imposed limits on deer hunts for a quality experience. In 2006, a new state record tom was taken by bow at Leavellwood. Fishing and lodging available. www.leavellwood.com 205-372-2323.

West Greene – Located along the wooded bottomlands of the Tombigbee River delta, the 3,400 acre Wilkes Creek Plantation is located off I-59/20 in Green County. Lodging. Deer, Quail, Dove, Turkey. “Best practices management” of land for quality hunting. www.wilkescreekplantation.com 205-792-8100.

Wetumpka – The 300 acre Pine Wing Preserve has gentle rolling land under pine tree canopies. Ideal for hunting on foot, the land is covered in sedge grass. Pine Wing’s guide raises the majority of the quail, chukar and pheasants that are available for hunting. The Pine Wing kennels consist of English & Elhew Pointers, English Setters and a German Short Hair Pointer. www.pinewingpreserve.org 256-234-4550.

Wetumpka – Tecafawa Hunting Preserve is a certified Treasure Forest of Alabama with over one thousand acres of land for deer, quail and turkey hunting. Three day deer and turkey hunts that including meals, lodging, and experienced guides. Quail and Pheasant hunting from half to full day. Dogs are available. www.tecafawa.com 334-657-1688.

Wildlife Management Areas

Autauga County – 130 Acres of Wildlife Management Area located north of Prattville. Dove hunting only in season.

Barbour County – Almost 20,000 acres located in Barbour and Bullock counties near Clayton. Big and small game hunting.

Black Warrior – Almost 100,000 areas in Lawrence and Winston counties near Moulton. Big and small game hunting.

Blue Spring – Over 20,000 acres in Covington County near Andalusia. Big and small game hunting.

Frank W & Rob M Boykin – Almost 20,000 acres located in Washington and Mobile counties near Citronelle. Big and small game hunting.

Cahaba River – Over 40,000 acres in Bibb and Shelby counties near West Blocton. Big and small game hunting.

Chocoolocco – Over 50,000 acres in Cleburne County near Heflin. Big and small game hunting.

Coosa – Over 50,000 acres in Cleburne County near Heflin. Big and small game hunting.

Demopolis – Over 7,000 acres in Sumter, Hale, Marengo and Greene counties. Waterfowl, big and small game hunting.

Freedom Hills – Over 30,000 acres in Colbert County near Cherokee. Big and small game hunting.

Geneva State Forest – Over 7,000 acres in Geneva County near Florala. Big and small game hunting.

Hollins – Almost 30,000 acres in Clay and Talladega counties near Hollins. Big and small game hunting.

Jackson County – Five areas, over 20,000 acres in total, for small game hunting. Some areas permit waterfowl hunting.

Lauderdale – Over 18,000 acres in Lauderdale county near Waterloo. Big and small game hunting.

Little River – Over 10,000 acres located in Cherokee and DeKalb counties near Centre. Big and small game hunting.

Lowndes – Over 10,000 acres in northern Lowndes County near White Hall. Big and small game hunting.

James D Martin-Skyline – Over 45,000 acres in Jackson County near Scottsboro. Big and small game hunting.

Mobile-Tensaw Delta-W.L.Holland – Over 50,000 acres in Baldwin and Mobile counties, north and south of the causeway. Waterfowl, big and small game hunting.

Mullberry Fork – Over 35,000 acres located in Tuscaloosa and Walker counties. Big and small game hunting.

Sam R Murphy – Almost 20,000 acres in Lamar and Marion counties near Guin. Big and small game hunting.

Oakmulgee – Over 40,000 acres in Bibb, Hall, Perry and Tuscaloosa counties. Big and small game hunting.

Perdido River – Almost 20,000 acres of timberlands in Baldwin County north of I-10 near Gateswood. Big and small game hunting.

Riverton – Over 6,000 acres in Colbert County near Cherokee. Big and small game hunting.

Scotch – Almost 20,000 acres in Clarke County near Coffeeville. Big and small game hunting.

Seven Mile Island – Over 5,000 acres in Lauderdale County near Florence. Waterfowl and small game hunting.

St. Clair – Over 5,000 acres in St. Clair County near Pell City. Big and small game hunting.

Fred T. Stimpson – Over 5,000 acres in Clarke County near Jackson. Big game hunting.

Swan Creek-Mallard Fox Creek – Two areas near Decatur, total of over 10,000 acres. Waterfowl and small game hunting.

Upper Delta – Almost 40,000 acres in Baldwin and Mobile counties near Stockton. Waterfowl, big and small game hunting.

Wolf Creek – Over 10,000 acres in Fayette and Walker counties near Townley. Big and small game hunting.

Camping:

Camping Across Alabama – Camp next to the water at Lake Martin at Wind Creek State Park, the largest state-owned campsite in America, or at any other of the Alabama State Park campgrounds. Over 2,500 modern campsites available. Many located in tree covered mountain areas and almost 500 are at Gulf State Park in an area less than 2 miles from beaches. www.alapark.com 800-252-7275.

Camping Across Alabama – Enjoy camping and canoeing along the banks of the state's major rivers, such as the Alabama, Black Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, www.corpslakes.com 205-752-3571.

Bay Minette – Go camping along the Bartram Canoe Trail and overnight on floating platforms in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, the second-largest delta system in America. www.outdooralabama.com

Fishing:



Adventures with outfitters available

Attalla – Little River Canyon National Preserve is the place that North Alabama Fly Fishing likes to call home. The surrounding beauty is worth the trip alone not to mention the amazing fishing. www.northalabamaflyfishing.com 256-572-9007.

Centre – Weiss Lake Guides is a professional fishing service specializing in year-round crappie fishing on Weiss Lake. Bait, live or artificial as well as fishing equipment provided. www.weisslakeguides.com 256-475-5238.

Crane Hill – Dale Welch Guide Services. Fishing charter service. Striped bass. All equipment furnished. Lake record of 45-lb. striped bass. www.alabamastriperfishing.com or 256-737-0541.

Cullman – Stripers, largemouth and spotted bass guide. 30 years experience with Smith Lake Guide Service. All equipment furnished. 256-734-2081.

Dauphin Island – Captain Mike's Deep Sea Fishing, Inc. Per person price starts at \$90 each. Large and small private charters and individual prices. 251-861-5302.

Gadsden – Rainbow City Auction and Fly Shop is a full service fly fishing guide service for Little River Canyon and North Alabama. Orvis dealer with professional rods, reels, waders, shoes for sale. www.rainbowcityauction.com 256-442-5919.

Gulf Shores – Fish for red fish, snapper, mackerel and other species on an in-shore or off-shore fishing excursion aboard The Nicole with Nicole Fishing Charters. Departs from Gulf Shores Marina. www.nicolefishingcharters.com 251-213-0023.

Huntsville – Specializing in largemouth bass (Lake Gunterville, Wheeler Lake), Tee's Guide Service welcomes any size group. Two people per boat. Photos of catch published in Woods and Water magazine. www.alabamaoutdoors.net/tee.html 256-659-1465.

Jasper – Riverside Fly Shop is a full service fly shop seeking to support and advance the sport of fly fishing. Guide services and equipment rentals Guide trips are available for Trout, Striped Bass, Largemouth/ Spotted Bass, and Pan Fish. Trips can include waders, boots, rods, flies, and meals. www.riversideflyshop.com 256-287-9582.

Killen – Year-round bass fishing on beautiful Pickwick, Wilson and Wheeler lakes from Sam Parker's Guide Service. Specializing in trophy smallmouth. Day and night trips available. Over 25 years experience. www.fishinalabam.com 256-762-4924.

Millbrook – The River Region Guild Service offers guided trips on the Coosa River chain of lakes including Lay Lake, Lake Mitchell, and Lake Jordan. Both Lay Lake and Lake Jordan have been sites of B.A.S.S. tournaments. Guided trips also on Lake Martin on the Tallapoosa River. Over 30 years of experience fishing central Alabama. www.RiverRegionFishing.com 334-290-7460.

Mobile – Fish out of Dauphin Island Marina on Dauphin Island. With A-Team Fishing Adventures. Outfitters supplies ice, bait, rods, reels, fishing tackle, fishing license and fish cleaning. Fishing for Speckled Trout and Redfish, but you are apt to catch Flounder, Sheepshead, Spanish Mackerel, Blackfish, or maybe even a Tarpon. Half-days, multi-boat, and artificial only trips offered. www.atteamfishing.com. 251-661-7696.

Mobile – Deupree Outdoor Guide Service. In-shore saltwater charter fishing along the Alabama Gulf Coast. Target game fish such as redfish and sea trout with light tackle. 251-433-5589.

Orange Beach – Captain Troy Frady welcomes families on a deep sea charter fishing trip from Gulf Shores Family Fishing Guides. Look at dolphin, sea turtles and even try to catch a shark. distractioncharters.com 251-975-8111.

Orange Beach – Action Charter Service at Zeke’s Marina. Deep sea fishing, bottom fishing, trolling, big game and off-shore fishing. Specializing in lifetime memories aboard the charter Boat C.A.T. 888-558-3889, 251-986-6855.

Orange Beach – Rip Tide Charters specializing in Red Snapper, Grouper, Trigger fish, Vermillion Snapper and Amberjack fishing. Trolling available for King Mackerel, Spanish Mackerel, Red fish, Wahoo and Tuna. Also offer inshore fishing. www.fishriptide.com 251-981-1500.

Orange Beach – Fish Trap Charters provides 4-hour trolling trips to 12-hour offshore trips and a variety of options in between. 1-6 people. Charter trips for Trigger Grouper, Amber-Jack, Cobia and All Snappers. www.fishtrapcharters.biz 251-747-8102.

Orange Beach – Gulf Winds II offers daily fishing charters, sunset cruises. Located at SanRoc Cay Marina. www.reelsurprisecharters.com 251-981-7173.

Ozark – Crappie fishing: trolling, pitching and jigging from Jesse Bowman’s Guide Service. Tours available upon request. Guaranteed success—no fish, no fee. 334-774-4808.

Silverhill – Eastern Shore Outfitters. In-shore fishing with Captain William Mancini in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach and Fairhope area. 251-269-7463.

Other fishing adventure locations

Across Alabama – Experience an outdoor angler’s adventure while fishing for largemouth and spotted bass on the Alabama Bass Trail including the Tensaw Delta, Joe Wheeler State Park, Lakepoint Resort State Park, Wind Creek and Lake Guntersville State Parks. www.outdooralabama.com 334-242-3334.

Across Alabama – Unparalleled fishing for bream, largemouth bass and channel catfish is offered in 23 State Public Fishing Lakes in 20 counties. Boats are available for rent, with concessions nearby. www.outdooralabama.com 334-242-3471.



Andalusia – Conecuh National Forest, Blue Lake Recreation Area. 334-222-2555.

Camden – Bridgeport Beach. Day-use area for swimming, fishing and bicycling. Group pavilions, picnic and playground areas. 334-682-4244.

Centre – Weiss Lake is known as the “Crappie Capital of the World.” www.cherokee-chamber.org, 256-927-8455.

Crane Hill – Fishing license sales, guide service, tackle shop at Speegle’s Marina and Campground. 256-734-0698.

Cullman – Fish for monster striped bass at Smith Lake with a rod-and-reel loaner program for anglers. www.cullmancountyparks.com 256-739-2916.

Cullman – Fly-fish for Rainbow Trout year-round on the Sipsey Fork of the Black Warrior River below Lewis Smith Dam. Here the water remains in the 50- to 65-degree range, excellent for rainbow trout.

www.visitcullman.org 256-734-0454.

Dauphin Island – Dauphin Island Fishing Pier. 850-ft. pier is one of only 2 deep-water gulf piers in Alabama. Excellent fishing including shark, king mackerel, speckled trout, flounder, red fish; great crabbing. Rental rods and tackle bait available. 251-861-6972.

Double Springs – Bankhead National Forest, Open camping with water provided Apr. 1–Sept. 30. Spend one day or several in scenic forest with hiking trails, fishing, boating and camping areas provided. 205-489-5111.

Eufaula – Experience the unhurried pace of life on the Chattahoochee Trace along the Alabama-Georgia border. Lake Eufaula, the “Big Bass Capital of the World,” is a landmark of the Chattahoochee River basin. www.outdooralabama.com, Eufaula-Barbour County Tourism Council www.eufaulachamber.com 334-687-6664.

Florence – Alabama Outdoors. Gear, clothing and footwear for backpacking and all outdoor adventures; full-service Orvis fly-fishing dealer. Located in historic downtown Florence. 256-764-1809.

Gulf Shores – The Alabama Gulf State Park Pier, stretching 1,520 feet south into the Gulf, is the longest fishing pier on the Gulf of Mexico. Pier features include indoor seating for concession area, indoor retail area for tackle and souvenirs,



comfort stations at the midpoint of the pier and wheelchair accessible rail fishing. Water depth at end of pier at high tide is 28 feet. www.outdooralabama.com 251-948-7275.

Hodges – Bear Creek Lakes at Little Bear Creek Reservoir. Bear Creek Lakes System: 4 lakes. Great fishing, boating, sand beaches, designated swimming areas, miniature golf, pavilions for group activities/recreation. Canoe float way open weekends, holidays. Cabin rentals. Located on Little Bear Creek Reservoir. Visit www.bearcreeklakes.com 877-367-2232.

Lafayette – Chambers County Lake. Funded by State Conservation Department, County, and local citizens. 180-acre fishing lake located 4.5 miles southeast of Lafayette. Stocked with brim, bass, crappie, catfish, carp. 334-864-8145.

Livingston – Four lakes are managed for trophy fishing at Jug Branch. Lodge. www.jugbranch.com 205-217-5187.

Orange Beach – Your quest for the biggest fish starts off the Alabama coast in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Several charter fishing fleets offer a variety of options. Go deep-sea fishing for blue martin, yellow-fin tuna, amberjack, grouper, red snapper, mackerel, tarpon and more. Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau, www.gulfshores.com 800-745-7263.

Ozark – Ed Lisenby Public Lake and Walking Trail. 365 acres with 92 acres of water. A top bass fishing lake in Alabama. With picnicking, concessions, 3.1-mi./5-km walking trail, boat rental, fishing licenses, pavilion. 334-774-0588.

Spanish Fort – Bass Pro Shop Outdoor World at the Market at Spanish Fort. 140,000 sq. ft. store features beautiful painted murals, 25-yd. archery range, six waterfalls, 22,000-gallon freshwater aquarium, shooting arcade, and restaurant with 12,000-gallon saltwater aquarium. www.bassproshops.com 251-607-5900.

Sylvania – DeKalb County Public Lake. Excellent fishing on public lake. Stocked with bass, bluegill, brim and more; state license required. Flat-bottom boat rentals available. Also campground and RV hookups available. 256-657-1300.

Scenic Expeditions:

Statewide – Cross Alabama’s numerous historical wooden covered bridges by foot or car. www.alabama.travel 334-242-4459.

Aliceville – Hunt for shark teeth and fossils in Shark Tooth Creek in an area that was 70 million years ago next to a barrier island of what was then ocean water. Teeth from 16 different species of sharks can be found. www.sharktoothcreek.com 205-373-2605

Anniston – Take a drive along the Appalachian Mountain range on the Talladega Scenic Drive and see the leaves change color during the fall. Spring also offers breathtaking views. www.byways.org/browse/states/AL. Anniston-Calhoun County Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.calhounchamber.com 256-237-3536.



Calera – Ride one of the historic trains pulled by first-generation diesel electric locomotives on a trip through scenic Shelby County. Departures are from the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum. www.hodrrm.org 800-943-4490.

Cherokee – Cherokee Rock Village. This 200-acre Cherokee County park features a stone “village” made of ancient boulders where Cherokee Indians and other tribes used the rock formations as a site for religious and ceremonial rites. The park is located on mountain ridge and features a spectacular view of Weiss Lake and the valley below. On a clear day you can see Rome, Ga. and Gadsden, AL in the distance www.cherokee-chamber.org 256-927-8455.

Clayton – The Octagon House. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this is the only antebellum example of octagon-style architecture remaining in Alabama, and one of the few in the country. It’s open only by appointment, but you can drive by anytime with your camera in hand for a memorable photo. 334-775-3254.

Daphne – Flowers of Olde Town Daphne. If botanical prints are your thing, you’ll find plenty of them in downtown Daphne and along Corridor 98. Restored buildings and parks are festooned with flowers, and the huge trees are draped with silvery moss. 251-621-3703.

Double Springs – Take a calming 2 hour journey on Smith Lake where you will enjoy its beautiful blue and green waters and large rock bluffs. Also ski, pontoon and fishing boat rentals. Personal water craft rentals, both engine and human powered types. www.smithlakervpark.com 205-489-5000.

Eufaula – Seth Lore and Irwinton Historic District. Take your camera to the largest historic district in east Alabama, then snap away at any of the more than 700 structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Be sure to visit Eufaula’s stately Shorter Mansion, where scenes from the movie Sweet Home Alabama were filmed. There’s even a house museum

with Victorian murals, period furnishings and Italian marble fireplaces. Eufaula-Barbour County Chamber of Commerce, 800-524-7529, 334-687-6664.

Eutaw – Kirkwood Mansion. This may be the most photographed historic home in Alabama. It’s an exceptional example of Greek Revival architecture. Make appointment to tour the interior with its fine antiques. 205-372-2694.

Fairhope – Fairhope Pier and Park. Dating back to 1895, this park offers tons of opportunities for shutterbugs. It features the longest pier on the Alabama coast, a rose garden with more than 800 bushes and two Alabama Champion trees. It’s also a site on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail, so look for pelicans, herons and egrets. 251-928-2835.

Mobile – Take a boat ride to view the 1885 Middle Bay Lighthouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and one of the most painted structures in Alabama. www.alabamalighthouses.com 251-621-8222.

Mobile – Imagine the colorful shots you’ll take of these sleek boats skimming along the water. The Dauphin Island sailboat race is the most famous competition in these parts. It’s held during the third weekend in March and is the largest point-to-point sailboat race in North America. Fairhope Yacht Club, 251-928-8888.

Tuscaloosa – Capitol Park was the location of the state capitol before Montgomery from 1826-1846. At Capitol Park you’ll find reconstructed architectural features of the old capitol building. Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, 205-758-7588.

Tuskegee – No photo album of Alabama sites would be complete without a shot of the family home of Booker T. Washington, the founder and first president of Tuskegee University. The Oaks was built in 1899 by students and faculty members using bricks made by students. 334-727-3200.

Statewide Organizations for More Outdoor Information

Alabama Tourism Department

The Alabama Tourism Department offers free information on outdoor recreation and other vacation information at our Welcome Centers, via our website and through the use of printed brochures, vacation guides and calendar of events. www.alabama.travel

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

State Agency that manages and regulates use of natural lands, marine resources, fish, wildlife, and state parks. www.outdooralabama.com

Alabama Black Belt Adventures

Collaborative marketing effort to promote the Black Belt region of Alabama as a destination for hunting, fishing, biking, hiking, birding, canoeing and other outdoor activities. www.alabamablackbeltadventures.com

Alabama Bicycle Coalition

The Alabama Bicycle Coalition, AlaBike, was formed, to promote cycling access, education and safety, to advocate for safer road environments for all users, and to act as a statewide voice to encourage bicycling in Alabama. www.alabike.org

Alabama Hiking Trail Society

The Alabama Hiking Trail Society and its members are dedicated to planning, building, and maintaining safe hiking trails for all to enjoy and educating the public of the careful use and enjoyment of Alabama's great outdoors. www.hikealabama.org

Alabama Horse Council

The Alabama Horse Council is an organization that impartially represents Alabama's horse industry. www.alabamahorsecouncil.org

Alabama Hunting and Fishing Trail

The Alabama Hunting and Fishing Trail was established to stimulate a positive impact on economic development across Alabama as well as to educate individuals on the quality hunting and fishing opportunities that are available. www.westalabamahuntingtrail.com

Alabama Scenic River Trail

Organization formed to create and promote paddler and powerboat recreational use along the 631 mile National Recreation Trail on the Coosa, Alabama and Mobile Rivers known as the Alabama Scenic River Trail. www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com

