

Mississippi Outdoor Adventures



MISSISSIPPI



•••••

Mississippi
has 119 public
lakes, 123,000
stream miles
and 255,000
freshwater
acres.

•••••

Welcome to Mississippi



Governor and Mrs. Phil Bryant

If you like the outdoors, you'll love Mississippi. The climate, fishing, abundant wildlife and natural beauty throughout Mississippi make our state a year-round destination for outdoor adventure seekers.

Whether you're looking to get away for a week or just a weekend, Mississippi is the perfect place for you.

This brochure will show you why Mississippi attracts sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts from across the country and around the world.

Fishing, hunting, camping, canoeing, horseback riding, kayaking, hiking...the list of outdoor possibilities in Mississippi is extensive and impressive. If you need any additional information, be sure to check out our website at VisitMississippi.org or call 1.866.SEE MISS (733.6477).

Enjoy your next outdoor adventure in Mississippi. With so much to do in Mississippi, you'll want to come back soon.

Governor Phil Bryant

Agritourism

Mississippi has plenty of fun, outdoor activities for the visitor looking to explore



the state's rich agricultural history. Navigate a corn maze, stay in a sharecropper's shack, go shrimping on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, or pick

your own fruits and vegetables, just to name a few options. Our agriculture and its great

heritage have not only flourished over the years, but have also produced a growing Agritourism industry exhibiting some of the most enticing and diverse attractions in the South. Where once cotton was king, now industries, such as catfish farming and buffalo ranches, along with family farms

are springing up to extend Mississippi's warm southern hospitality as they welcome visitors. Here they can experience life on the farm and indulge themselves in a culture that has made this country great.

Tickle your culinary fancy at fairs, festivals and farmers' markets.



Escape life's hassles on our farm tours.



Biking

Perhaps Mississippi's fastest growing outdoor activity is biking. From swift and steep single-track bike routes in dense hardwood forests, to high mileage rail trails



that run through scenic small towns, fields and woods, Mississippi has a wide variety of biking opportunities that span the state. A few of the more popular rides are the Natchez

Trace Parkway, which crisscrosses the state for 300 miles, the Longleaf Trace, a 41-mile journey that is one of the nation's first rails to trails projects, the Tanglefoot Trail, Mississippi's longest rails to trails conversion meandering 43.6 miles through the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, and the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) which is a 200 year old trail that stretches 3,000 miles through 10 states going through Mississippi from Memphis to New Orleans. Mountain biking continues to grow rapidly in Mississippi. Trails can be found in our state parks or one of our six national forests.



Mississippi's bike trails carry you through hills, straight-aways, valleys, small towns, cities, and quiet country roads.

Camping

Mississippi is a state covered in beautiful, bountiful wilderness – and what better way to experience the wilds than through camping.



Mississippi is home to hundreds of campgrounds, from sites with only primitive camping, to those locations offering a few comforts of home. And if you prefer the

comfort of RV travel, Mississippi has plenty of locations for you, too,

Mississippi has six National Forests and miles of trails to explore.

many complete with full hookups and extras such as Wi-Fi access. Mississippi's state parks and private campgrounds are spread out from the gulf coast to the northern state line, giving you access to explore the many adventures the state has to offer. Each location offers you a unique adventure and opportunity to make memories for a lifetime.



Canoeing & Kayaking

The rivers and streams in Mississippi offer some of the most fun and most scenic outdoor adventures in the state. Adventure out on the Mississippi

•••••
Bring your own canoe or kayak and explore for yourself.
•••••



River with Quapaw Canoe Company, paddle Black Creek, Mississippi's only designated National Wild and Scenic waterway, or explore the Pascagoula River, the largest unimpeded river

system in the country and find out why it is called the Singing River. From leisurely float trips to adventurous canoe trips down the Mississippi River, there's a river trip for everyone's experience level. So don your life jacket and get on the water for a Mississippi paddle or float trip.



Fishing

Whether you're fishing one of Mississippi's 119 public lakes or saltwater fishing off our gulf coast, Mississippi has something to offer everyone. Mississippi is well known for its incredible crappie fishing. At Enid Reservoir national championship fishing tournaments are held.



The world record white crappie, 5lb 3 oz, was caught here. Freshwater fishing destinations abound and our mild

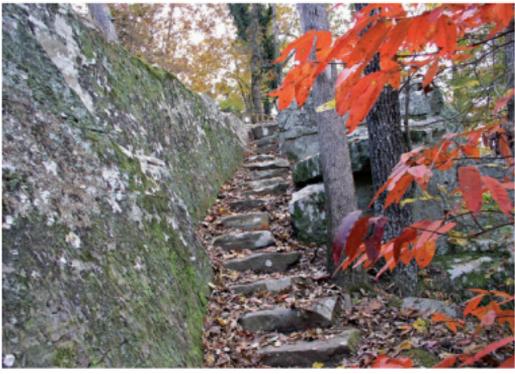
Mississippi has more than 123,000 miles of freshwater streams and 119 public lakes.

climate keeps the state ripe for fishing excursions year-round. If you want a world-class fishing adventure, look no further than the salt waters of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Hire a licensed charter guide who knows the locations of local reefs and wrecks, where the fish are and what they're biting and within minutes sail off after amberjack, cobia, red snapper and more. Inshore fishing trips along the coastal areas and marshes typically mean catches of speckled trout, redfish and flounder.



Hiking

Whether you are interested in day hikes or backpacking into the wilderness, the six National Forests in Mississippi provide



excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation across the state. Mississippi has 1.2

million acres of forest land providing a diversity of terrain, numerous lakes, rivers, and streams. Some trails are easy and fun for families with small children; other

Hikers will enjoy the natural sights and sounds of Mississippi outdoors.

paths make great half-day hikes. Trails can lead to a backpacking adventure for a night or much longer. Discover the hidden beauty of the piney woods by hiking one of Mississippi's longest and most challenging trails, The Black Creek Trail. It

continues for 40 miles along the Black Creek River. Approximately 10 miles of the trail is located in the Black Creek Wilderness. Visit one of Mississippi's state parks and explore the many trails and adventures they have to offer.



Hunting

Mississippi offers some of the greatest hunting anywhere in the country for white-tailed deer, waterfowl and eastern wild turkeys. Other species provide good hunting as well, including feral hogs, rabbits, squirrels, mourning doves and bobwhite quail.



Our generous

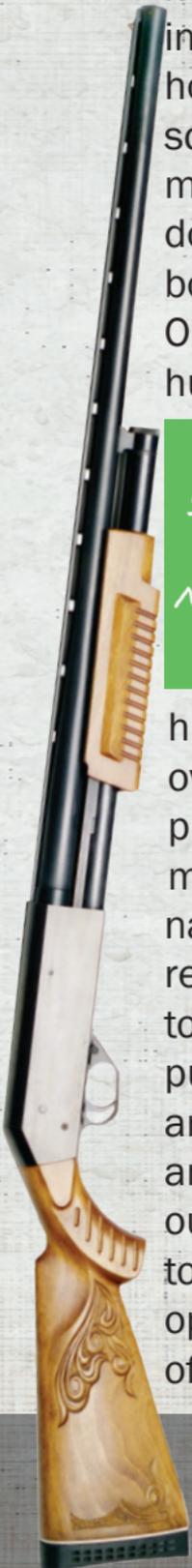
hunting seasons and bag limits along

with massive conservation efforts

ensure that you will have an incredible

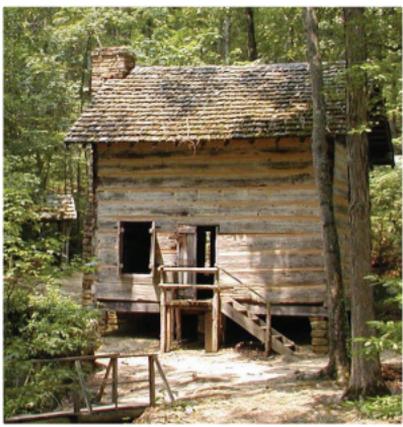
State Record Bucks
Typical-184 6/8
Non-Typical - 295 6/8.

hunting experience. Mississippi has over a thousand square miles of public hunting lands in 53 wildlife management areas along with nine national wildlife refuges. In addition to the state's public lands, there are private lands and commercial outfitters waiting to give you the opportunity to venture out on the hunt of a lifetime.



Parks

Mississippi features a wide variety of outdoor activities. Foremost among the natural venues for such pursuits are state and natural parks and many local parks. Discover the abundance of activities, historic sites, and outdoor recreation that make our state and seven national park service sites a welcoming, family-oriented vacation destination. Mississippi state parks are more than just good, they are award winning. Reserve America recently released its list of "Top 100 Campgrounds Awards" and Mississippi State Parks were well represented, having seven parks make the Top 100.



•••••
From significant Civil War sites to tranquil natural places, the parks in Mississippi offer education, relaxation and time away from the hassles of modern life.
•••••



Watchable Wildlife

Mississippi is a highly regarded destination for bird watching and wildlife viewing. So grab your binoculars and birding lists and venture out to the varied locations available at state wildlife management areas, national forests, national parks and national wildlife refuges. Spring and fall migrations bring many species of waterfowl and Neotropical songbirds to the Mississippi Flyway. Mississippi has many festivals and events centered on birding and wildlife viewing. Visit the Strawberry Plains



Audubon Center as they host one of the largest nature festivals in the southeast, the annual Hummingbird Migration Celebration and Festival, where they band



hummingbirds, or attend one of Tara Wildlife's nature and birding events. The Mississippi Coastal Birding Trail (MCBT) includes a web-based system that guides bird watchers to the best sites to view the high diversity of birds (389 species) across the six-county coastal region.



- Mississippi is a highly regarded destination for bird watching and wildlife viewing.

Scenic Byways

Many of Mississippi's historic trails have become scenic byways. From prehistoric animal migrations used by American Indians, to avenues for commerce and travel by early settlers—trails helped shape Mississippi.

One of the most historic and scenic trails in the nation is the Natchez Trace Parkway. Tales of commerce, adventure and bandits are all part of its lore. Today the National Park Service manages the 444-mile Natchez Trace Parkway, which commemorates the ancient trail from Nashville to Natchez. You

One of the most historic and scenic trails in the nation is the Natchez Trace Parkway.

can experience this National Scenic Byway and All-American Road through driving, hiking, biking, horseback riding

and camping. A diverse terrain of rolling hills, farmland, thick forests and cypress swamps keeps you guessing what's around the next curve of the road.

Other trails you'll want to explore include the Grand Gulf-Raymond Scenic Byway and the Great River Road National Scenic Byway. There are also motorcycle trails to experience in Mississippi including the Natchez Trace Parkway and several state highways that offer a variety of terrain and scenery throughout the state.



For More
INFORMATION

Mississippi Outdoor Adventures is an overview of the tremendous assets that our state has to offer. From agritourism, hunting, hiking and our state parks, to name a few, you can find enjoyment for the whole family. We invite you to log on to our website, VisitMississippi.org, and explore the many ways to enjoy Mississippi Outdoor Adventures. Or call 1-866-SEE MISS (733-6477) and ask for a free Mississippi Tour Guide.





The Mississippi
Delta provides
some of the best
waterfowling in
the world.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Development Authority
Tourism Division
P.O. Box 849
Jackson, MS 39205-0849
601-359-3297
VisitMississippi.org