



Great Escapes

Alabama



High Falls Waterfall

1. Beautiful Waterfalls

Cheaha Waterfall – It is accessible by a short hike northwest from the Turnipseed Trailhead toward Lake Chinnabee on the Chinnabee Silent Trail.

Devil’s Den Waterfall – A popular swimming hole that is accessible by hiking the Chinnabee Silent Trail, located near Lake Chinnabee.

High Waterfall – One of several waterfalls found in the forest. It is accessible by a short hike on the Odum Scout Trail, at the south end of the Cheaha Wilderness.

2. Cheaha Wilderness

The 7,245-acre Cheaha Wilderness offers high elevations with numerous overlooks for panoramic views of east-central Alabama. Cheaha Wilderness is named for the nearby Cheaha Mountain which rises to a height of 2,407 feet - the highest point (located in Cheaha State Park) in Alabama.

Talladega National Forest

Talladega Ranger District

3. Trails

Chinnabee Silent Hiking Trail – This 6-mile moderate-to-difficult trail has spectacular views of flowing streams, rock outcropping and waterfalls. Beginning at Lake Chinnabee, the trail winds beside Cheaha Creek and intersects with the Pinhoti Trail at Caney Head atop Talladega Mountain.

Odum Scout Hiking Trail – This moderate trail extends for 7.5 miles through the eastern slopes of Talladega Mountain in the Cheaha Wilderness Area.

Sylaward Mountain Bike Trail – This hiking and mountain bike trail is located near Sylacauga, Ala. The 14-mile trail begins at Lake Howard’s recreation site (managed by the city of Sylacauga) and meanders back into the Talladega National Forest.

4. Kentuck ORV Trail

Offers riding for everyone on wheels, whether the vehicle of choice is an ATV, motorcycle or a mountain bike. This easy-to-moderate trail has 4 loops totaling 23 miles.

5. Pinhoti National Recreation Trail

With more than 140 miles of moderate to difficult hiking, the Pinhoti Trail winds through the Talladega National Forest in eastern Alabama. It runs from Piedmont Sylacauga. Side trails lead thru the Cheaha Wilderness and to Cheaha State Park. It meanders through mountains and valleys, which are rich in history and legend. The trail winds through rugged pine and hardwood forests, runs along ridge tops and passes through shady hollows and mountain streams.

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Lake Chinnabee

6. Lakes

Lake Wills – This 22-acre lake is about 4 miles east of Sylacauga. Natural and artificial baits may be used. A boat ramp with parking for 10 vehicles and trailers is available. Manual or electric power boats are permitted.

Lake Virginia – This 89-acre lake is nestled about 5 miles east of Sylacauga. It offers bass, bream and catfish fishing for the avid angler. Manual or electric power boats are permitted.

Lake Chinnabee – This 17-acre lake is an excellent getaway for individuals and families interested in fishing, hiking and picnicking. A 2-mile hiking trail encircles the lake.

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7. Turnipseed Campground

This site has 10 designated campsites and pit toilets available during the open season: typically March 1 through November 30.

8. Shepherd Branch Shooting Range

Located about 8 miles southeast of Talladega on Alabama State Highway 77, the range has four benches for firearms at 25, 50 and 100 yard ranges.



Shepherd Branch

9. Hollins Wildlife Management Area

Approximately 21,000 acres are managed jointly by the Forest Service and Alabama Department of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. It can be accessed by Forest Service Roads 600, 601, 601D, 607, 615, 616, 687 and State Route 148

10. District Office Visits

The Talladega Forest District Office is open to the public on Monday - Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. to sell maps, recreation passes and issue special use and firewood permits.

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Email: pa_alabama@fs.fed.us



Talladega Scenic Drive



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