



Great Escapes

Alabama

Bankhead National Forest

1. Caney, Kinlock and Sougahoagdee Waterfalls



Some of the state's most beautiful waterfalls, canyons and flowing streams are located in the Bankhead National Forest. These natural discoveries are nestled in the Forest with no facilities, so be prepared. Take a compass, map and GPS to begin your exploration. Recreation specialists are also available to help plan your waterfall adventure, contact 205-489-5111. Blue Lake Recreation Area

2. Owl Creek Horse Camp and Trail System

Nearly 25 miles of trails were designed for non-motorized uses including horseback riding. The trail system starts on Forest Service Road 262 about 7 miles east of Highway 33. Trail riders may choose from loops of varying lengths. The camp provides primitive overnight campsites, drinking water and toilet facilities.

3. Sipse Wilderness and Sipse River Picnic Area and Trailhead

Sipse Wilderness: This 25,000-acre wilderness area is the second largest designated wilderness east of the Mississippi River. The area is remote and the forest is shaped by natural events. A 55-mile trail system provides the only access into the heart of these wild lands. Enjoy as you "Leave No Trace".



Sipse River Picnic Area and Trailhead: This picnic area has a beautiful river trail, tables and a canoe launch for the Sipse Wild and Scenic River. Visitors can enjoy an environment of solitude while surrounded by natural settings.

4. Natural Bridge Picnic Area

This picnic site is the oldest national forest recreation site in Alabama. Enjoy picnic tables and 3/8 mile paved trail that leads to a natural rock arch in the hardwood forest.

5. Clear Creek Recreation Area

One of Alabama's most popular area is also the largest recreation site on the shores of Lewis Smith Lake. The area contains modern conveniences for camping, including 102 single and double units with electrical and water hookups and a children's playground. Picnicking, swimming, boat launching, hiking, and biking are available. For campsite reservations call 1-877-444-6777 or www.reserveamerica.com/.



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Southern Region

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6. Hurricane Creek Shooting Range

The shooting range is open to firearm users for target practice for hunting or to improve skills for gun training. Range distances are 25, 50, and 100 yards. It is open year round.

7. Houston Recreation Area

This area offers 14 picnic sites, a group shelter for up to 50 persons, showers, drinking water, swimming, hiking trails, and a boat launch along Lewis Smith Lake.

8. Flint Creek Multiple-use Trail

The 16-mile trail is for motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles (less than 50 inch width), horses, bike riders, and hikers.

9. Corinth Recreation Area

Corinth is a relaxing, modern, state of the art campground located on the shores of Lewis Smith Lake. It offers facilities for individual and group camping, picnicking, swimming and boat launching. There are two camping loops containing 52 campsites with electrical, water and sewer hookups. The day-use area contains dressing rooms and warm showers, 29 picnic sites, a 100-person pavilion, a swimming beach and a double-lane boat ramp. For campsite reservations call 1-877-444-6777 or www.reserveamerica.com/.



10. Brushy Lake Recreation Area

At 33 acres, the recreation area has 13 campsites that can accommodate very small recreational vehicles or tents. It offers everything from camping, picnicking, boating and fishing to sanitary facilities, including a bathhouse

11. District Office Visits

The Bankhead National 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.

1070 Highway 33 North
Double Springs, AL 35553
205-489-5111

Email: pa_alabama@fs.fed.us

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