



Great Escapes

Alabama

Talladega National Forest Oakmulgee District

1. **Payne Lake Recreation Area** The 110-acre lake offers an excellent spot for picnicking, camping, fishing, swimming and hiking. Campers can enjoy warm showers, restrooms, electrical hookups and water. Visitors can choose from 18 campsites 7 of which were upgraded to include water and electric hookups. The lake also has numerous camping sites along the shoreline.



2. **South Sandy Shooting Range** Target shooters have 14 shooting benches for 50 and 100 yard target shooting. A clay range and shooting pavilions are also available. The range is open daylight to dusk year round. It's managed in partnership with the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.



3. **Maddox to Mud Cut Equestrian Route**

Maddox to Mud Cut is the first designated equestrian route located in the Oakmulgee Ranger District. It navigates through a beautiful landscape filled with steep ridges and rolling hills that fades away to hardwood bottoms. Its diverse terrain provides scenic views of the longleaf foliage and unique wetlands. So whether your equestrian adventure includes a quiet afternoon or an overnight camping retreat under the stars, an outing on the Maddox to Mud Cut Equestrian Route will be a treasured experience.



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4. Pearson Gap Birding Area

The Oakmulgee is home to the largest concentration of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers in the state of Alabama. These endangered birds are scattered over tens of thousands of acres in the Talladega National Forest – Oakmulgee Division. The birds are most prevalent in the Pearson Gap area along Forest Service Road 745, perhaps the most reliable place in the Oakmulgee District to see the birds. For the most current status of the colony, it is advised that visitors stop by the district office.



5. Oakmulgee Wildlife Management Area

This 44,000-acre Oakmulgee Wildlife Management Area provides hunters with exceptional hunting opportunities for small game, turkey and deer. It is managed in partnership between the Forest Service and the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

6. Vick Shooting Range

Hunters and target shooters can enjoy a covered shooting pavilion and vault toilets. The range is open daylight to dusk year round.

7. District Office

The Oakmulgee Ranger 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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