



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ALABAMA'S NATIONAL FORESTS 10 GREAT ESCAPES

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 SAND 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 in the Okmulgee 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 long leaf foliage and unique wetlands. So whether you're 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.

4. PEARSON GAP BIRDING AREA

The Okmulgee is home to the largest concentration of endangered Red-cockaded woodpeckers in Alabama. These endangered birds cover thousands of acres in the Talladega National Forest - Okmulgee Division. The birds are most prevalent in the Pearson Gap area along Forest Service Road 745, the most reliable place in the Okmulgee District to see the birds. For the status of the colony, visitors should top by the district office.

5. OAKMULGEE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

This 44,000-acre Wildlife Management Area provides hunters 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.

Talladega National Forest

"Alabama's Largest National Forest"

Forest Service Southern Region / National Forests in Alabama
Informational Handout 0002 / Okmulgee Ranger District (256) 926-9765
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6. VICKS SHOOTING RANGE

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

7. DISTRICT OFFICE

The Okmulgee Ranger District Office is open to the public. Monday - Friday from 7:30 am until 4:00 pm to sell maps and recreation passes and issue special use and firewood permits.

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