



EXPERIENCE ALABAMA'S

## LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN & DEKALB COUNTY Adventures Tour Travel Itinerary

### Day 1: Little River Canyon National Preserve

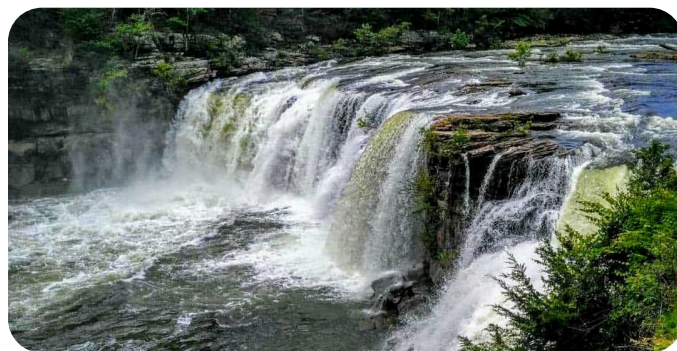
Start your adventure at **Congo Nature Preserve**, where a peaceful morning stroll will introduce you to the serene beauty of the Alabama mountains. This quiet spot is a recently discovered, lost historical community from the late 1800s. Here you can immerse yourself in the sounds and sights of nature, preparing for a day of discovery.

From there, make your way to **Orbix Hot Glass**, a local glass studio renowned for its creative glass-blowing demonstrations. Watch skilled artists craft beautiful pieces, or try your hand at making your own keepsake. It's a unique way to connect with local craftsmanship while taking home a personalized memento.

For lunch, try **Big Time Cafe** in Dogtown. A local favorite, this spot is known for its delicious burgers and laid-back atmosphere, making it a perfect midday stop.

Next it's time to dive into the heart of Lookout Mountain, **Little River Canyon National Preserve**. Take your time and enjoy your drive along the **Little River Canyon Rim Parkway**, and be sure to pull over at one of the seven scenic overlooks to snap some pics! Stop by **Little River Falls**, an iconic waterfall with a short, easy hike to its viewpoint. Take in the cascading water and snap some photos of this stunning natural attraction. Then, make your way to **Little Falls (Hippie Hole)**, a beloved local swimming hole with rocky cliffs and cool waters—a perfect spot for a refreshing dip, especially on warm days. For a more secluded swimming experience, take the seven minute drive to **The Secret Place**, a private nature retreat with amazing scenery. This spot requires reservations in advance.

As the day winds down, set up camp at **Little River RV Park & Campground**, located just 2 miles down the road from the canyon and has 26 spaces for camper hook ups and 16 tent sites (8 with power and water and 8 without). If you're looking for a more primitive camping experience there is also **Little River Adventure Company**, a 40 acre campground that also offers sport motorcycle rentals. Once settled, enjoy an evening cookout and a meal by the fire under the stars. Listen to the sounds of the canyon at night for a true escape from the hustle and bustle.





## MORNING

- Explore Congo Nature Preserve, a serene spot with historical significance from the late 1800s.
- Midday
  - Visit Orbix Hot Glass for glass-blowing demonstrations or a hands-on keepsake experience.
  - Lunch at Big Time Cafe in Dogtown for burgers and a laid-back atmosphere.

## AFTERNOON

- Little River Canyon National Preserve
  - Drive the Little River Canyon Rim Parkway, stopping at scenic overlooks.
  - Visit Little River Falls for photos and Little Falls (Hippie Hole) for a swim.
  - Optional: Relax at The Secret Place, a private nature retreat (advance reservation required).

## EVENING

- Accommodations
  - Camp at Little River RV Park & Campground or Little River Adventure Company. Enjoy a cookout and stargazing.





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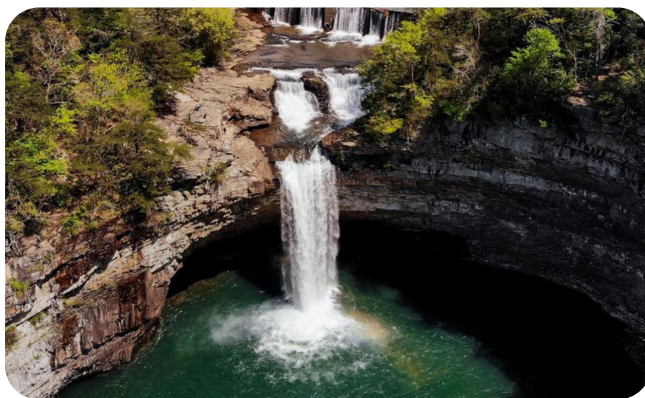
### Day 2: DeSoto State Park & DeSoto Falls

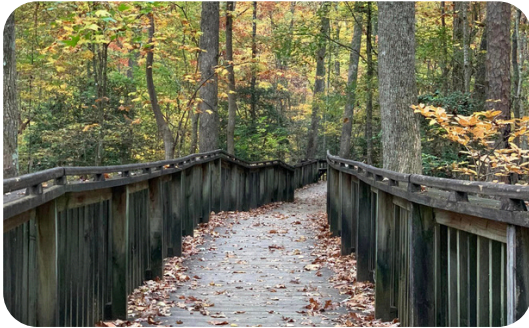
Begin your second day of adventure at **The Citadel Boulders Preserve**. Ideal for rock climbing, the preserve offers various levels of difficulty, making it a great spot for both beginners and experienced climbers. You'll get to test your skills on Alabama's rugged terrain with scenic views all around.

Afterwards, head over to **DeSoto State Park** for a thrilling zipline adventure at **Screaming Eagle Aerial Adventures**. Soar through the treetops and catch glimpses of the forest below—a true adrenaline rush that combines fun and breathtaking views. After ziplining, enjoy a picnic in the park and take some time to explore the park's scenic hiking trails. Choose from easy walks to moderate treks, where waterfalls and scenic overlooks await.

Then, visit the picturesque **DeSoto Falls**. This 104-foot waterfall is one of Alabama's most stunning natural sights. You can even opt for kayaking at **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack** in the DeSoto Falls Picnic Area or schedule a horseback ride with **Shady Grove Horse Ranch** nearby, adding a unique twist to your afternoon.

Wrap up your day with dinner at the DeSoto State Park **Mountain Inn Restaurant**. Enjoy a cozy, locally inspired meal while soaking in the warmth and charm of this unique lodge built almost a century ago. After dinner, head to your accommodation—either stay at a **campsite** in DeSoto State Park or book a **rustic cabin** in the park for a peaceful night surrounded by nature.





## MORNING

- The Citadel Boulders Preserve
  - Rock climb at The Citadel Boulders Preserve, suitable for all skill levels.

## AFTERNOON

- DeSoto State Park
  - Zipline at Screaming Eagle Aerial Adventures.
  - Picnic and hike trails in DeSoto State Park, featuring waterfalls and overlooks.
  - Visit DeSoto Falls for breathtaking views or kayak at Miller's Bend Paddle Shack.
  - Optional: Schedule horseback riding at Shady Grove Horse Ranch.

## EVENING

- Dinner & Accommodations
  - Dinner at the Mountain Inn Restaurant in DeSoto State Park.
  - Stay overnight at a park campsite or a rustic cabin.





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### Day 3: Sand Mountain

Begin with a short drive down the mountain into **Fort Payne** and start the day with breakfast at **The Spot Coffee Shop** or **The Bakehouse**, two favorite breakfast spots among locals. Next, drop by **Fort Payne Footworks**, a local outfitter where you can gear up with outdoor wear and shop unique Alabama-themed hats and t-shirts. Continue to explore Fort Payne's historic Main Street, browsing the other local shops for souvenirs, gifts, and artwork by local artisans.

Then, head to **Buck's Pocket State Park**. This beautiful, rugged landscape is known for its deep canyon and scenic overlooks. If you're up for more adventure, try the optional ORV (Off-Road Vehicle) trails for an exhilarating experience on the park's rugged terrain. Take in the panoramic views and bid farewell to the Alabama wilderness.



Afterward, make your way to **High Falls Park**. Known for its 35-foot waterfall and natural bridge, the park provides a tranquil setting perfect for a picnic lunch or a leisurely walk. Capture photos of the unique rock formations and enjoy a picnic surrounded by the soothing sounds of the falls.

End your trip with a visit to **Tigers for Tomorrow**, a sanctuary for exotic animals like tigers, lions, and wolves. This nonprofit organization offers an up-close look at these magnificent creatures while supporting conservation efforts. It's an enriching way to start your day with an unforgettable wildlife experience.

To continue the adventure, enjoy another night with a stay at **Untamed Acres** located adjacent to Tigers for Tomorrow. This new campground features large pull through hook-ups, primitive camping spots, and glamping tents. In the morning, enjoy breakfast at **Caroline's Cafe** in Collinsville for some delicious coffees and baked goods before departing on your journey home, savoring the last moments of your unforgettable trip through DeKalb County.



## MORNING

- Fort Payne
  - Breakfast at The Spot Coffee Shop or The Bakehouse in Fort Payne.
  - Shop outdoor gear and souvenirs at Fort Payne Footworks and browse Main Street shops.

## AFTERNOON

- Explore Buck's Pocket State Park with its canyon views and optional ORV trails.
- Visit High Falls Park for a scenic picnic and photos of its unique waterfall and natural bridge.
- Tour Tigers for Tomorrow, a wildlife sanctuary for exotic animals.

## EVENING

- Accommodations
  - Stay at Untamed Acres campground or glamping tents.
  - Breakfast at Caroline's Cafe in Collinsville before heading home





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### True Adventure Sports

For an added thrill, consider booking an excursion with True Adventure Sports. They offer guided activities such as rappelling, rock climbing, caving, mountaineering, and mountain biking throughout the area, including Little River Canyon. Whether you're a beginner or looking to expand your adventure skills, they provide expert guidance to make each experience memorable.



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