



DeSoto State Park and park partners like Little River Canyon National Preserve, Jacksonville State University Field School, Little River Arts Council and more, team up to bring you many fun events throughout the year.

Campfire Talks, Classes, Demonstrations, Guided Interpretive or Fitness Hikes, Tours, Outdoor Adventures, Workshops.....topics covering art, science, nature, and much more!

Most programs are free or charge a small supply fee.

DeSoto State Park also adds community events such as classes, festivals, workshops, local craft shows, etc to our calendar so that we can help our guests and visitors make their visit to Lookout Mountain, Alabama even more memorable.

For more events on Lookout Mountain, see www.discoverlookoutmountain.com



Alabama State Parks, a division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, operates and maintains 21 parks encompassing approximately 48,000 acres of land and water. These parks rely on visitor fees and the support of other partners like local communities to fund the majority of their operations.

For more information on Alabama State Parks, visit www.alapark.com

DeSoto State Park's Campfire Talk Series



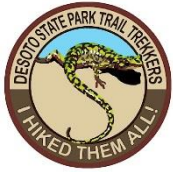
Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held almost every Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto's James L. Wynn Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. All programs are open & free to everyone. *Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable chair if you wish. In case of bad weather, programs are moved inside.*

Serious Skills Series

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.



DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker!



Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Due to the Covid19 pandemic please note that events & programs are subject to change

October 2021

Zipline Aerial Adventures

DeSoto State Park has partnered with Screaming Eagle Ziplines and Aerial Adventures to offer a sky trail in the trees. Get a bird's eye view of the forest floor below and of the unusual rock formations. All adventure seekers will have great views and a fun and exhilarating aerial challenge.

Make some special memories & enjoy a real adventure!

Must wear a closed toed shoe to participate on the aerial adventure tours.

Open Thursdays-Mondays Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne. Country Store & Information Center- On County Road 89 (DeKalb County)

Fee: \$49.00 (\$53.90 after taxes). Ages 6 to adult.

Minimum weight: 40 lbs, Max weights: Girls 250 lbs and under. Guys 285 lbs and under.

For more details/tour times, see zipline staff in DeSoto's Country Store or email info@desotoziplines.com

Call Screaming Eagle for reservations: 256-886-3761

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack

(October 15th-17th)

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it!

Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Boat Shack Hours: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

ColorFest 2021

Mentone, Alabama

Savor North Alabama's autumn beauty and enjoy arts and crafts, food, live music and more! Mentone has been a mountain getaway for tourists since the 1800s. In October, bright sunshine and clear mountain air makes Mentone a good base to see the fall colors surrounding these natural treasures. There are many other places and things to do, including visiting the local stores and eateries. On Saturday and Sunday, Brow Park will be filled with artists and craft makers offering their handmade creations. Admission is free.

Dates: Saturday, October 16th-17th, 2021

Where: Mentone, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For any details, see www.facebook.com/MentoneAlabamaFestivals

Will Dooley & The Tatum's - Free Community Concert

Kick off Colorfest weekend with a FREE concert on Friday night, October 15th, with Will Dooley & the Tatum's. This free concert will be held at the Linger Longer Pavilion (behind the Mentone Inn in downtown Mentone). Seating on the lawn is limited, so bring a chair or blanket to enjoy an evening under the stars! Food will be served by Fontana Stinson beginning at 5:00 p.m. until they run out

Date: Friday, October 15, 2021

Time: 7:00—10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion, behind the Mentone Inn (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

6139 Alabama Hwy 117, Mentone, AL 35984 Free and open to everyone!

www.Littleriverartscouncil.org

This event is presented by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by a grant from the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Carnivorous Killers-The Horrors that Lurk Within

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (May – October) in DeSoto State Park.

'Feed Me Seymour!' Come on out to discover facts about these unusual plants that are carnivorous, meaning they digest insects and other organisms. They live in boggy, wet areas that are low in nutrients, and have evolved over time to eat prey to survive. People have long been drawn to these weird but lovable plants, enthralled by visions of man-eaters out of "Little Shop of Horrors." (no worries, none are big enough to eat humans.... yet)

Join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes to explore the world of the Venus Fly Traps, Sundews, Bladderworts, Butterworts, & Pitcher Plants and how each one catches their prey.

Additionally, she will have live plants & talk about the Green Pitcher Plant Project, a park effort to ensure Lookout Mountain's native, federally-listed endangered pitcher plant is protected and will thrive over many generations. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free & open to everyone, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (October 22nd-24th)

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Boat Shack Hours: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corchl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Campfire Talk: Hernando DeSoto in Northeast Alabama.

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors!

Hernando de Soto, a Spanish explorer and conquistador is most famous for his exploration of North America. He & over 600 men landed in North America 483 years ago on May 25, 1538. They first arrived near what is now Tampa Bay, Florida & spent the next four years traveling over 4,000 miles all over the American Southeast. They went to a total of ten states that exist today, & De Soto and his men were the first Europeans to reach and cross the Mississippi River.

Jacksonville State University's Dr. Harry Holstein will take you through the amazing adventures of Hernando DeSoto, as he searches for the ancient town of "Coosa."

Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: Friday, October 22, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Saturday October 23, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes October 20th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. **Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration**

November 2021

Creative Spirit Market

Adding a new twist to a typical art fair, this event is designed as an open air showcase, with artist demonstrations, locally & regionally created fine & folk art, premium hand-crafted goods, & live acoustic music. Shoppers can browse and watch artists in their creative process, listen to music, plus purchase goods from fine and folk artists such as painters, potters, quilters, weavers & basket makers, fabric spinners, culinary artists and craftsmen. Some unique and one-of-a-kind gifts will be available for purchase. Stop by and get some early gift-shopping in!

Dates: November 13 & 14, 2021 (Second weekend of November)

Times: 10:00 am-3:00 pm each day

The market is held near DeSoto State Park's picnic area across from the Country Store on County Road 89. If the weather is chilly, market-goers can enjoy a blazing fire in the stone fireplace in the CCC pavilion. Dogs on a leash are allowed in the park.

There is limited parking in the picnic area, the tennis court area, and in front of the Country Store. If parking anywhere in the picnic area, a \$2 per vehicle fee applies. There is no fee to attend the open-air market. Rain or shine event. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

Artist Entry Info: www.littleriverartscouncil.org/artist-entry-form

www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market #creativespiritmarket #desotostatepark

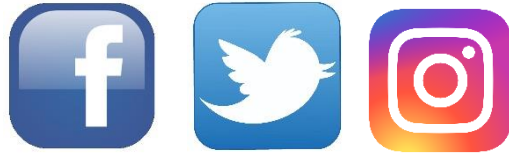
December 2021



For even more fun events, see

www.alapark.com/Events

DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama
#desotostatepark



Contacts for event planning/programs:

DeSoto State Park	256.997.5025	Brittney M. Hughes Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort
JSU Field Schools	256.845.3548	Niki Wayner fieldschool@jsu.edu www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/
Little River Canyon National Preserve	256.845.9605	Matt Switzer Matt_switzer@nps.gov www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm
Russell Cave National Monument	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson www.nps.gov/ruca