

# DESOTO FALLS PICNIC AREA



DeSoto Falls is one of the tallest and most visited waterfalls in Alabama; Named for Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto, the 107-foot waterfall & the picnic area is part of DeSoto State Park on Lookout Mountain. (7 miles from the main park area, near Mentone, Alabama)

Located just off the Lookout Mountain Parkway, the waterfall is reached via a paved pathway that leads a few hundred yards from the parking lot, down approx. 50 steps, and down to the railed overlook. The historic A. A. Miller Dam & the upper falls can be seen by visitors of all abilities, but the lower or main waterfall requires a walk down 50 concrete stairs to the overlook.

The DeSoto Falls Picnic Area is open daily during daylight hours (closes at Dusk) Visitors have access to picnic tables, stand grills, restrooms, the DeSoto Falls viewing overlook, a small boat ramp, and the scenic West Fork of Little River for boating, swimming, & fishing.

As of March 1, 2020, parking fee at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area is \$4.00 per vehicle (Annual pass available)

*Please note that there are limited parking spaces in the picnic area, and often fill to capacity on weekends. There is no access for larger vehicles such as RVs, trailers, etc.*

## Directions to DeSoto Falls from DeSoto State Park

~From DeSoto State Park's Country Store: Turn to the left onto County Road 89 heading towards Mentone. After .4 miles turn left at the T-intersection. ~After 0.8 miles, turn right at the T-intersection. Go 3.5 miles until you come to a 4-way stop. At the 4-way, turn right. After this turn go straight ahead 1 mile until the road ends at the DeSoto Falls Picnic Area.

~From DeSoto State Park's Lodge: From the lodge, take Blalock Drive to County Road 89(0.2 miles) Turn right onto County Road 89, drive 0.7 miles and turn left at the T-intersection. After 0.8 miles, turn right at the T-intersection. Go 3.5 miles until you come to a 4-way stop. At the 4-way, turn right. After this turn go straight ahead 1 mile until the road ends at the DeSoto Falls Picnic Area.



The only access to DeSoto Falls viewpoints is from DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (side view), Overlook trail (front view), & River trail (bottom view) Please stay on trails and avoid accessing private property. No overnight camping allowed, & trails close at dusk. Trails in DeSoto Falls area are considered moderate to strenuous, close-toed shoes recommended. Parking only allowed in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area or the trailhead (no parking on side of road)