

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.



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#### 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!

(\*November events subject to change\*)

# November 2020

## **Zipline Aerial Adventures**

In 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. Enjoy six ziplines that range from 100 to 350 ft in length and seven sky bridges that range from 50 to 150 in length. A spiral staircase tower begins the trek and allows for a bird's eye view from up to 55 ft in the air. 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.

Date: Open Wednesdays-Sundays (closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Times: 9:00am, 10:00am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm (Central Time Zone)

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, email info@desotoziplines.com Call Screaming Eagle for reservations: 256-886-3761



#### Yoga on the Mountain: Daybreak Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Relax in a beautiful place! Join us for a fun yoga class along the banks of Little River in the DeSoto Falls picnic area.

Experience the peace & quiet of nature as instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new!

Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: Friday, November 6, 2020

Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area.

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks). Bring mat/towel & water if you wish.

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380



### Trail Trekker Hike Series: Gilliam Loop Trail/Unfinished Bridge

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? 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! Gilliam Loop Trail plus short hike to unfinished bridge-Hike is approximately 4.5 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain. No major inclines

Date: Sunday, November 8, 2020

Time: 12:00 -3:30 pm (central time zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Lodge, will caravan to Gilliam Loop Trailhead Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney. Hughes @dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking



#### Yoga on the Mountain: Daybreak Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Relax in a beautiful place! Join us for a fun yoga class along the banks of Little River in the DeSoto Falls picnic area.

Experience the peace & quiet of nature as instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new!

Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: November 8, 2020 Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area.

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks). Bring mat/towel & water if you wish.

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates



#### **Creative Spirit Market**

Hosted by DeSoto State Park & Little River Arts Council 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 14 & 15, 2020 (Second weekend of November)

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

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store/Picnic Area on County Road

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Fee: Event is free & open to everyone. If parking in the picnic area, 2.00 per vehicle apply. Rain

or shine event. www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market

FAQ: www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market

#### **Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: November 21, 2020 Time: 9:00 am-11:30 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney. Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf

# December 2020

#### **Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: December 12, 2020 Time: 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney. Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

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## For even more fun local events, see

www.Alapark.com/Events

#### DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama #desotostatepark







Contacts for event planning/programs:

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