Cheaha State Park is proud to be a Leave No Trace Gold Standard Site as designated by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethica. Join us as we strive to practice the Leave No Trace Seven Principles:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

To Cheaha Lake and Lower Campground:
From Mountain Store, turn right onto Hwy 281. Travel 1.5 miles and turn right onto Cheaha Road. Travel 1.2 miles. Cheaha Lake will be to your right; Lower Campground will be to your left. See map on reverse.

Hiking & Biking Trails (mileage)
- Cheaha Express (2.4)
- Cheaha Run (0.4)
- Deer Run (1.2)
- Lower Spring Loop (0.7)
- USFS Trail Connections (mileage)
- Pinhoti (338.5)*
- Cave Creek (4.0)
- High Point Spur Trail (0.5)

*The Pinhoti National Recreation Trail is 338.5 miles total and extends beyond Cheaha State Park and USFS boundaries.

In case of emergency, dial 911
Welcome to Cheaha State Park: the Highest Point in Alabama (2,407)

Located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, Cheaha is the perfect gateway to the largest network of public lands in the state of Alabama, including the Talladega National Forest. Within the 2,799 acres of Cheaha State Park, visitors can hike, bike, watch wildlife, camp, fish, swim, geocache, rock climb, rappel, or just enjoy the view from the highest point in Alabama. Serving as the oldest continuously operated State Park, Cheaha immerses its visitors in a rich cultural and natural history featuring unique natural areas with a wide array of wildlife species, archaeological evidence of Native American life, and the later work of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Mountain Store, Registration, and Park Guest Admission

The Mountain Store Welcome Center is located at the park entrance. The guest services staff in the store process all reservations, check-ins, and check-outs. The store sells food, camping supplies, t-shirts, first aid kits, ice, firewood, gasoline, snacks, cold drinks, Alabama State Park gift cards (redeemable in all 21 Alabama State Parks), and more. Maps and area information are also available.

Gate admission for day use visitors is $5 per adult, $2 per child/senior, and free for Veterans and Active Military (please show ID). Overnight guests have access to all public areas of the park and must display their guest day pass. If you are interested in additional shopping or dining options, there are several cities within a half hour of the park including Oxford, Hefflin, Lineville, Ashland, Anniston, Munford, and Talladega. Maps are available in the store.

Indoor Overnight Accommodations

Enjoy the scenic beauty of Cheaha with the modern comforts of home in one of 11 cabins, 5 chalets, or 30 hotel rooms.

Bluff Side Cabins (1-4), located on Mt. Cheaha’s western bluff, feature a kitchenette, combined living room and sleeping area with queen bed, full bathroom, outside grill and fire pit, and stunning sunset views. These cabins sleep two.

Historic Cabin (16) features one bedroom with queen bed, dining and sitting area, and a small kitchenette. This cabin sleeps two.

4-Capacity Cabins (7-10) feature a semi-open floor plan with two queen beds, a full kitchen, full bathroom, dining nook, and beautiful open ceilings. They also include an outdoor grill and fire pit. These cabins sleep four.

Deluxe Cabins (5-6), also known as the honeymoon cabins, are located in a wooded setting secluded from the main loop. They feature a screened porch with swing, queen size bed, sitting area, and kitchen. They also include a full-size bathroom with a large whirlpool tub, grill and fire pit. These cabins sleep two.

Chalets (11-15) feature two bedrooms with a queen size bed in each room, one full bathroom, and kitchen. Each chalet has vaulted ceilings and panoramic views from large windows. Chalet 11 is ADA accessible. Each chalet sleeps four.

Cheaha State Park Hotel offers 30 double, king, and king deluxe rooms. All rooms include 32 inch flat screen television, coffee maker, hair dryer, iron and ironing board. King deluxe rooms also include a microwave, refrigerator, and whirlpool tub.

Check-in time is 4:00pm and check-out time is 11:00pm. A limited number of pet friendly rooms, cabins, and chalets, are available upon request. Pet charges will apply. For reservations, call 256-488-5111 or book online at www.alapark.com.

Camping

Cheaha offers five campgrounds to meet your camping needs:

RV Camping Lower and Upper Campgrounds

Tent Camping Semi-Primitive, CCC Primitive, and Group

Upper and Lower Campgrounds feature 77 improved campsites with 20, 30, or 50 amp electrical, water and sewer hook-ups. All sites have picnic table and grill or fire ring. Guests in these campsites have access to a bathroom.

Semi-primitive sites are located near Alabama’s highest point. Each site includes a picnic table, fire ring, and use of a shared water spigot. No bath house.

CCC Primitive Campground is located near Cheaha Lake and sites include a fire ring, and use of a shared water spigot. Campground vault toilet available, but no bathhouse.

Group camping is available for groups camping with 9-25 people.

Check-in time is 4:00pm and check-out time is 11:00am. Firewood is available for purchase at the Mountain Store. Pets are welcomed, but must be kept on a leash (6 or less) at all times. A limited number of ADA accessible sites are available upon request. Quiet hours are from 10:00pm to 6:00am.

For reservations in any of the campgrounds, call 256-488-5111 or book reservations for Upper and Lower campgrounds online at www.alapark.com.

Group and Banquet Facilities

For rental information, call 256-488-5885.

Al Alexander Activities Building

This space is arranged Chapel-style with pews, and is well suited for educational and other programs. Speakers, piano and organ are also available for use.

Bald Rock Group Lodge

Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps as the original park hotel and restaurant, this facility is perfect for banquets, corporate retreats, family reunions, weddings, and meetings. The lodge Bald Rock Group Lodge houses 12 private rooms for sleeping up to 32 overnight guests, a catering kitchen, a small conference room with seating for 12 and a large conference/banquet hall with seating for over 100 people. There is also a rock patio and a small pavilion-type cooking area for BBQ’s just behind the lodge.

Cleburne Room

Meeting room adjacent to the park’s Vista Cliffside Restaurant with a stunning view of the Talladega National Forest. Catering is available, and the room capacity is 50 people.

Picnic Pavilions

Located both on the mountain’s top and at Cheaha Lake, the open-air pavilions are popular for family reunions, birthday parties, informal business retreats and casual weddings or receptions. The two stone pavilions are complimented by working fireplaces.

Museums

Learn about the park, the Native Americans who first called it home, and the young men who built it. The CCC Museum is located in the Observation Tower and the Walt Farr Native American Relic Museum is located at the entrance of the park, near the Mountain Store.

Cheaha Lake & Picnic Area

Located across the street from the lower campground, visitors can enjoy this spacious, lakeside shady area with tables, grills, and playground. The six-acre Cheaha Lake was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, and makes for a great place to enjoy the beach, swim, rent a paddle board or CORCL (round kayak), or fish. A day-use admission fee is charged to enter the park. Overnight guests may fish and access all of the lake’s amenities at no charge. All eligible anglers 16 years of age and older must have a valid State of Alabama Fishing License in order to fish. No gasoline motors allowed in the lake.

Hiking Trails

Wear appropriate clothes and footwear for the season. Tennis shoes or hiking boots are recommended no matter what terrain. Pack plenty of water and snacks in your day pack. Take a trail map or ask for directions before you go. Stay on the trail. Consider the physical requirements of the trails and recognize your limits. Trails close at sundown, so allow time to finish your hike. Watch your step; be aware of rocks, roots and stumps that line the mountainous terrain. Additional maps from the USFS are available upon request which highlight favorite hiking destinations in the Talladega National Forest.

Do you want to support the trail system at Cheaha State Park? Join the Dirt Pass Trail Crew program online at www.alapark.com, and your donation will go directly for use towards trail resources.