



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



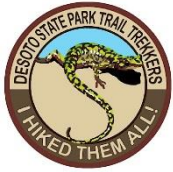
Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held almost every Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto's James L. Wynn Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. All programs are open & free to everyone. *Seating is 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

March 2022

April 2022

Blow Your Own Ornament

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. Design and literally “blow” your own ornament with the help of a glass artist. Check out even more classes and info at www.orbixhotglass.com.

Date: Friday, April 1, 2022

Time: Time slots available between 12:45 & 3:30

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$39.00 per ornament. Pre-registration required. Ages 5 to adult. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email info@orbixhotglass.com for details.

Hike with a Naturalist-Leave No Trace

JSU Field Schools-Little River Canyon National Preserve

Join JSU Field School staff on a beautiful outdoor adventure hike to Little Falls on Bridge Trail and the Little Falls Trail. Three-mile moderate with varying terrain, & plan to eat lunch at the Little Falls Waterfall. Come on out and enjoy the great outdoors!

Date: Friday, April 1, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (10 miles from DeSoto State Park)
Fee: Free & open to everyone. For any info, contact the Canyon Center at 256.845-3548

Yoga on the Mountain: Fight Those Winter Blues

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join us for a fun yoga class in DeSoto State Park! This winter we wanted to offer some inside classes until it warms up, at a time that might help fight off those winter blues. We all know how these long winter nights can be!

Instructor Destin Padgett will guide participants 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, April 1st

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Benefield Interpretive Center (Nature Center) next to the Country Store on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks) Bring mat or towel.

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

Dutch Oven Cooking Demo

Hosted by JSU Field Schools

Dutch ovens have been in use for hundreds of years; especially when our country was expanding and families were on the move. Unable to bring their large cook stoves with them, women learned how to cook entire meals from stews & soups to bread & desserts, in their Dutch ovens. Learn the basics about Dutch ovens, how to clean & care for your cookware, AND cook (& eat!) dinner & dessert at the same time!

This is a demonstration so you can swing by anytime, & the best time is when food is just coming off the fire. Drop in whenever you like & check out the food!

Date: April 2, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (CST)

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (10 miles from DeSoto State Park)

Fee: Free & open to everyone. For any info, contact the Canyon Center at 256.845-3548

Blow Your Own Ornament

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes.

Design and literally "blow" your own ornament with the help of a glass artist. Check out even more classes and info at www.orbixhotglass.com.

Date: Friday, April 8, 2022

Time: Time slots available between 12:45 & 3:30

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$39.00 per ornament. Pre-registration required. Ages 5 to adult. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email info@orbixhotglass.com for details.

Restorative Yoga Walk-Dusk to Dark

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in ending your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is DeSoto State Park. Walk along the park's boardwalk trail, following Laurel Creek. Listen to the sounds of Azalea Cascade as instructor Destin Padgett guides you in restorative yoga poses.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Bring a yoga mat or towel, water & snack. About the walk: The boardwalk trail is ADA-accessible 1,000-foot-long boardwalk with benches along the way. The walk is considered easy, ending at a large platform overlooking Azalea Cascade.

Date: April 8, 2022

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: \$5.00 per person (cash or check). Pre-registration is required, so we 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. If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380.

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

Early Spring Hike in DeSoto State Park

One of the most beautiful times of the year at DeSoto State Park! Join DSP Staff on a moderate meandering hike along the Little River trail to see what species of plants is starting to grow and bloom after a long winter season. We will learn some natural history of the plants, and some medicinal and historical uses as well.

Wonderful views of the West Fork of Little River, Indian Falls, and Lodge Falls along the route. Will stop and eat at the Mountain Inn Restaurant in the park to eat lunch (outside seating, bring your own or order), then head back towards the Country Store. Approx. 2 miles round trip, moderate along rocky terrain.

Date: Saturday, April 9, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Benefield Interpretive Center (Next to DeSoto's Country Store)

Fee: Free and open to everyone. Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be social distancing on the trail as much as possible. 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)

Blow Your Own Ornament

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. Design and literally "blow" your own ornament with the help of a glass artist. Check out even more classes and info at www.orbixhotglass.com.

Date: Friday, April 15, 2022

Time: Time slots available between 12:45 & 3:30

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$39.00 per ornament. Pre-registration required. Ages 5 to adult. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email info@orbixhotglass.com for details.

Hike with a Naturalist-Canyon Mouth Park

JSU Field Schools-Little River Canyon National Preserve

Join JSU Field School staff on a beautiful outdoor adventure hike in the Canyon Mouth Park. Easy hike with varying terrain, come on out and enjoy the great outdoors!

Date: April 16, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (10 miles from DeSoto State Park)

Fee: Free & open to everyone. No pre-registration required, it is a fee-free day at Canyon Mouth Park. For any info, contact the Canyon Center at 256.845-3548

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: April 16, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning- Door Signs

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.

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning and painting designs from artist April Blanks, and will work on a 10 inch circle piece with wording of their choice. This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: April 16, 2022

Time: 2 class times available: 9:00-11:30 OR 12:30-3:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info. Examples of April's work: www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/

Yoga on the Mountain: Neverland Trail Yoga Hike

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses AND hiking along beautiful trails. This hike will be a mix of trail hiking with an outdoor yoga session. Combining hiking and yoga practice in the great outdoors confers benefits unmatched in any other setting. You get the light cardio and strength-building that hiking offers, the toning, flexibility, and relaxation that yoga offers, and the powerful connection to Mother Nature that being outdoors offers.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Wear closed-toe shoes & weather

appropriate clothes; bring a hike-friendly yoga mat or towel if you wish (most poses will be standing poses), water and a snack.

About the hike: This hike is approximately 3 1/2 miles round trip, moderate. Trail weaves thru hardwood forest with sandstone outcroppings, streams, wetlands, and an old homeplace along the trail. Great time of year for wildflowers!

Date: April 21, 2022

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on Co. Rd. 89-will caravan to Lost Falls Trailhead

Fee: \$5.00 per person. Pre-registration is required, so we 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. If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming:

256.845.5380.

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

Blow Your Own Ornament

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Design and literally "blow" your own ornament with the help of a glass artist. Check out even more classes and info at www.orbixhotglass.com.

Date: Friday, April 22, 2022

Time: Time slots available between 12:45 & 3:30

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$39.00 per ornament. Pre-registration required. Ages 5 to adult. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email info@orbixhotglass.com for details.

Serious Skills Series: Leaf Pounding Class

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.

Leaf pounding is a simple, stunning technique, historically used by Cherokee women to decorate fabric. Pounding with a rock or a hammer transfers the natural dyes of a leaf to fabric while retaining the design of the original leaf. In this class, join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes on a quick walk to ID leaves that can be used for leaf pounding, then get a chance to unleash your creativity to make a beautiful and unique piece of fabric to take home. Participants can also bring their own fabric like t-shirts, handkerchiefs, pillowcases, etc. as long as it is 100% cotton. This class is for ages 8 to adult.

Date: Friday, April 22, 2022 (Earth Day)

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$10.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info. This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion, be prepared for whatever weather conditions are present.

Jr. Ranger Day

Little River Canyon National Preserve

One of the favorite activities for visitors to Little River Canyon National Preserve is to become a Junior Ranger! The Junior Ranger program is an activity-based program,

focusing on young visitors ages 5-13 (although children of all ages can complete the Junior Ranger book). The program invites youth to join the National Park Service family by giving children the opportunity to explore and learn about their parks and learn how they can help protect them today and into the future. Schedule: 10:00 ranger-led hike, 12:00 & 2:00 history program, 4:00 ranger-led hike, plus touch table and activities.

Date: April 23, 2022

Time: 10:00-4:00

Where: Little River Canyon National Preserve-Little River Falls parking area (10 miles from DeSoto State Park)

Fee: Free and open to everyone. For more information contact the National Park Service at (256) 845-9605. www.nps.gov/liri/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm

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! Learn about Little River, an outstanding water source with its clear water & plant & animal life. Discover the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

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: Saturday, April 23, 2022

Time: 9:00-11:30 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Location given at time of registration.

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)

Yoga on the Mountain: Restorative Yoga Walk

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park. Walk along the park's boardwalk trail, following Laurel Creek. Listen to the sounds of Azalea Cascade as instructor Destin Padgett guides you in restorative yoga poses.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Bring a yoga mat or towel, water & snack.

About the walk: The boardwalk trail is ADA-accessible 1,000-foot-long boardwalk with benches along the way. The walk is considered easy, ending at a large platform overlooking Azalea Cascade.

Date: April 24, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: \$5.00 per person (cash or check). Pre-registration is required, so we 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. If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380.

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

Blow Your Own Ornament

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Date: Friday, April 29, 2022

Time: Time slots available between 12:45 & 3:30

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$39.00 per ornament. Pre-registration required. Ages 5 to adult. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email info@orbixhotglass.com for details.

May 2022

30th Annual Wildflower Saturday 2022

Weekend of Friday, May 6th & Saturday 7th, 2022

Wildflower Saturday is an annual event held in DeSoto State Park atop Lookout Mountain in Fort Payne, Alabama, always the first Saturday of May

Springtime at DeSoto State Park is truly beautiful, with wildflowers & trees blooming around every corner. Join DeSoto State Park staff & guest speakers for a wonderful weekend of learning about the many species of blooming plants found on Lookout Mountain. Choose to stay the whole weekend, or just come for the day to enjoy the hikes and programs.

Weekend starts off with a welcome social and guest speaker program on Friday night, a day full of hikes to choose from and a guest speaker on Saturday night.

Fee: Free & open to everyone. No pre-registration required. We do ask that groups over 10 please RSVP to help us make everyone's wildflower experience better!

For schedule & information about hikes see www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday

Serious Skills Series: The Art of Woodburning- Make Your Own Souvenir

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.

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning “writing with fire” dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning from artist April Blanks, and will work on their own souvenir magnet designs featuring several waterfalls & scenes in DeSoto State Park. Practice basic techniques using a pen-like burning tool and paint. This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: May 14, 2022

Time: 2 class times available: 9:00-11:00 OR 12:00-2:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info. Examples of April's work: www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/

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 for weather (you may get wet), headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2022

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 May 10th, 2022 – at 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.

You will be contacted by phone and payment will be required at time of registration**

www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Free Community Concert- Will Dooley and Company

Enjoy Mentone at night with a FREE concert with Will Dooley & Company. This free concert will be held at the Linger Longer Pavilion (behind the Mentone Inn in downtown Mentone). Some artists will be set up around the pavilion. Seating on the lawn is limited, so bring a chair or blanket to enjoy an evening under the stars! Food will be served by Fontastic Foods beginning at 5:00 p.m. until they run out.

Date: May 20, 2022

Time: 7:00–10:00 pm

Where: Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone!

The Big Art Pop Up

Mentone, Alabama

Sponsored by Little River Arts Council & Mentone Inn

This fun event will showcase local artists & makers in a small-festival setting in beautiful Mentone, Alabama. Grab some good eats from the Fontastic Food Truck, enjoy art demonstrations and browse through many original works of art on the grounds of the Mentone Inn.

Date: May 21, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CST)

Where: Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! For artist sign up info, see

www.littleriverartscouncil.org/events

Serious Skills Series: Leaf Pounding Class

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.

Leaf pounding is a simple, stunning technique, historically used by Cherokee women to decorate fabric. Pounding with a rock or a hammer transfers the natural dyes of a leaf to fabric while retaining the design of the original leaf. In this class, join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes on a quick walk to ID leaves that can be used for leaf pounding, then get a chance to unleash your creativity to make a beautiful and unique piece of fabric to take home. Participants can also bring their own fabric like t-shirts, handkerchiefs, pillowcases, etc. as long as it is 100% cotton. This class is for ages 8 to adult.

Date: Saturday, May 21, 2022

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$10.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info. This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion, be prepared for whatever weather conditions are present.

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: May 21, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see

www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The CCC Quarry

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 83rd Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff & volunteers on a moderate hike to the CCC Quarry. Learn how the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the original structures that you can still see in the park today. Moderate hike along mountainous terrain, some rocky terrain. Approximately 2 miles round trip

Date: Friday, May 27, 2022

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

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) Trail may be wet. Please

be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well-behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times. WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The ‘Unfinished Bridge’

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 83rd Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff on a moderate hike to the Civilian Conservation Corp's 'unfinished' Bridge. Learn the history of why the CCC left it standing and see several original structures. Moderate hike on Gilliam Loop Trail & old CCC roadbed. Approx. 4 miles round trip.

Date: Saturday, May 28, 2022

Time: 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Where: Meet at DeSoto State Park's Gillam Loop Trailhead (Just past DeSoto's Lodge on Blalock Drive)

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) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well-behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times. WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: Trail Shelter along Little River

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 83rd Anniversary of its dedication day, join DSP Staff & volunteers on a moderate hike to the trailside shelter located on Little River. Learn how the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the original structures that you can still see in the park today. Moderate hike along mountainous terrain, mildly strenuous due to rocky terrain. Approximately 1.10 miles round trip

Date: Sunday, May 29, 2022

Time: 9:00 am-11:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

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) Trail may be wet. Please

be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well-behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times. WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

June 2022

Serious Skills Series: The Art of Woodburning-DeSoto's Stonework

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.

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning from artist April Blanks and will work on their own souvenir magnet designs using a pen-like burning tool & acrylic paint. The designs for this class features beautiful stonework by the builders of DeSoto State Park, the Civilian Conservation Corps (late 1930s-early 1940s). This class is for ages 10 to adult.

Date: June 4, 2022

Time: 2 class times available: 9:00-11:00 OR 12:00-2:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info. Examples of April's work: www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/

Bluegrass on the Rim

JSU's Little River Canyon Center

Jacksonville State University presents the premiere Bluegrass on the Rim at Little River Canyon. Enjoy bluegrass performers play authentic mountain music, guaranteed to resonate with die-hard bluegrass purists as well as followers of folk, country, rhythm & blues and rock & roll. You'll hear bluegrass talent from around the country.

Date: Saturday, June 12, 2022

Time: Doors open at 6 p.m., music starts at 7:00 p.m. (CST) – so arrive early and bring lawn chairs, blankets, family and friends, to sit before the new Canyon Concert outdoor stage adjacent to the beautiful Little River Canyon National Preserve.

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center-Fort Payne, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Lineup & ticket link will be posted here: www.jsu.edu/epic/EventCC.html

Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

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.

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

Date: Saturday, June 18, 2022

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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 (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes June 14, 2022 – at 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.

You will be contacted by phone and payment will be required at time of registration**

www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: June 18, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see

www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE Summer Music Series:

Parrot Tales

Mentone, Alabama. Sponsored by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

BIO: Parrot Tales is primarily an Alabama "Jimmy Buffett Cover Band." While most other groups claim to "play Buffett", the extent of their repertoire is usually limited to only a few hit tunes. Parrot Tales covers all the songs from the early years to the most recent releases. Along with Buffett tunes, you will also get plenty of party favorites from Hank Jr., David Alan Coe, Kenny Chesney and songs from the Flora-Bama and other beach-oriented tunes. For the faint of heart, shy, or easily embarrassed, be forewarned, Spectators often become participants in all the fun and craziness of the show. Always remember, growing old is inevitable, but growing up is optional!

Bring your own chair or blanket to enjoy the show & enjoy some food from Fontastic Food Truck.

Date: June 18, 2022

Times: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! www.littleriverartscouncil.org

www.facebook.com/parrottalesband

July 2022

DeSoto State Park's Annual Independence Day events atop Lookout Mountain

This annual event is fun for both children & adults!

Celebrate Independence Day and enjoy good ol' fashioned fun at DeSoto State Park. Participate in the flag making contest, sit back & enjoy DeSoto's parade, & eat ice cream at the annual ice cream social.

Date: July 1st & 2nd, 2022

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: Free to everyone; Great for all ages!

Independence Day Flag-Making Contest

Make your own homemade flag to be judged in this fun contest. All ages are welcome to participate. Materials & flag-making rules will be available at the campground pavilion in the Improved Campground starting Thursday, June 30th if needed (Flags are made on white foam boards, participants use natural materials). Flags can be turned in any day that week but MUST be turned in no later than 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 2nd to be judged. (Turn in flags at DeSoto's Nature Center) Winners will be announced on DeSoto's facebook page on Saturday July the 2nd. (Winners will be contacted) Open to everyone-Be sure to join in the fun! Free to participate and open to all ages!

Splish & Splash Pool Party

Join the fun at our 9th Annual Splish & Splash Pool Party! Cool off in our Olympic-size pool, eat ice cream, & enter for door prizes!

\$1.00 per person-admission fee.

Friday, July 1, 2022 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Independence Day Parade

This annual event is fun for both children & adults! Decorate your vehicle to show your spirit!

Parade will start at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 2, 2021.

Begins at DeSoto's Park Headquarters & ends in DeSoto's Improved Campground in time for the Ice Cream Social. If you wish to ride along in your decorated vehicle, meet at DeSoto's Park Headquarters at 2:45 pm. We would love to have you join us in celebrating our Country's Independence Day! Free to participate!

Ice Cream Social

Social starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 2nd, located at the Campground Pavilion in DeSoto's Improved Campground. Sit around & relax, eat ice cream, & meet your fellow guests at DeSoto State Park. Flag-Making Contest winners will be announced at the Ice Cream Social.

You are welcome to bring your own favorite homemade ice cream recipe or other desserts to share with your fellow guests.

Bring your own comfortable camp chair as seating is limited. Free to participate, & open to everyone! Campground gate will be open for you.

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE Summer Music Series: Black Sedan Band

Mentone, Alabama. Sponsored by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

BIO: Black Sedan is a Birmingham, Alabama based party/dance band that covers a wide range of songs and genres from the 70s, 80s, 90s, and some current pop tunes. The band is composed of six very talented and professional musicians: lead guitar, bass guitar, percussion, keyboards, saxophone/flute, and a soulful lead vocalist/front man/entertainer whose shows are high energy, interactive and engaging. Bring your own chair or blanket to enjoy the show & enjoy some food from Fontastic Food Truck.

Date: July 9, 2022

Times: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984
Fee: Free & open to everyone! www.littleriverartscouncil.org
<https://blacksedanband.com/about-the-band>

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 for weather (you may get wet), headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Saturday, July 9, 2022

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 July 5, 2022 – at 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.

You will be contacted by phone and payment will be required at time of registration**

www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: July 16, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see

www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

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

Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

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

Pre-registration closes July 19th, 2022 – at 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. You will be contacted by phone and payment will be required at time of registration**
www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

August 2022

World's Longest Yard Sale

The World's Longest Yard Sale starts each year on the first Thursday in August and continues for 4 days (Thursday thru Sunday.)

Running from Gadsden, Alabama to West Unity, Ohio, this event allows you to travel more than 690-miles of scenic beauty and see tons of yard sales. Get started on your journey by traveling the 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway route from Gadsden, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the most "scenic rural America" in the United States

A section of this popular annual event travels thru DeSoto State Park, so be sure to use the park as your base as you travel to see the sights! (reservations recommended early)

Dates: August 4-7, 2022

For more info, see: www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/yardsale.shtml OR www.127yardsale.com/

Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

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.

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

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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 (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes August 9, 2022 – at 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. You will be contacted by phone and payment will be required at time of registration**
www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: August 20, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see

www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE Summer Music Series: Natti Love Joys

Mentone, Alabama. Sponsored by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

BIO: The Natti Love Joys, from Turtletown, TN, bring a reggae beat to Mentone. A crowd favorite at festivals and events, the Natti Love Joys have rocked the East Coast and beyond since 2003 with a blend of original roots rock reggae and classic Bob Marley covers. Lead singer Sonia Abel-Allen was part of the Love Joys, a popular all female roots reggae band that performed and recorded in the 1970s and '80s and had the hit song "All I Can Say." Bassist/vocalist Tony Allen is a former member of The Congos, another critically acclaimed reggae band. The Natti Love Joys are the hosts of the Camp Reggae Music Festival in Tennessee. The band has opened for Joan Jett, Three Dog Night, The Clash, The Ramones, and many more. Bring your own chair or blanket to enjoy the show & enjoy some food from Fontastic Food Truck.

Date: August 20, 2022

Times: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! www.littleriverartscouncil.org

www.reverbNation.com/nattilovejoys

September 2022

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE Summer Music Series: Lon Eldridge

Mentone, Alabama. Sponsored by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts

BIO: Red hot ragtime, blues, and swing from Chattanooga, Tennessee. Lon Eldridge is often said to have talent and style well beyond his years. His warm and infectious musicality is sure keep you tuned in throughout the night, coupling masterful fingerstyle guitar with clever, brilliant vocals. You'll swear there's more than one person playing on stage! Lon has toured both the USA and Europe, taking his unique blend of traditional pre-war blues, ragtime, and swing to whole new audiences. This is a show (and a moustache) you definitely don't want to miss!

Bring your own chair or blanket to enjoy the show & enjoy some food from Fontastic Food Truck.

Date: September 10, 2022

Times: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! www.littleriverartscouncil.org

www.facebook.com/lon.eldridge

www.loneldridge.bandcamp.com

Boom Days Heritage Celebration

Boom Days Heritage Celebration honors Fort Payne's rich cultural past with events that tie the history to the present, great historical artifacts, and clothing at the Fort Payne

Depot Museum, a miniatures railroad system in the original office of the Coal, and Iron Company, music covering all musical genres. City Park, once the front yard of the DeKalb Hotel with its 1889 Ginkgo trees, is filled with some of the finest arts and craftsmen in the region. There is a children's area, artist demonstrations, and a wine tasting. Boom Days begins on the third Friday of September each year and runs through Saturday ending with musical acts at the Rotary Pavilion.

Dates: September 16-17

Where: Fort Payne, Alabama (Within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For more info, see <https://boomdays.com/>

Serious Skills Series: Archery

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.

Archery is the art, practice, and skill of shooting arrows with the use of a bow.

Historically it has been used for hunting and combat and has been around for many years. Archery is also a sport that is becoming increasingly popular as an outdoor recreation activity. Ages 8 to adult

Join DeSoto State Park Staff for an opportunity to learn archery safety & techniques.

Activity is suitable for those who have never shot a bow, or for those with some previous experience. All equipment provided

Date: Saturday, September 17, 2022

Time: Class times start at 10:00 am, 11:00, & 12:00

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Picnic Area (Across the road from DSP's Country Store on County Road 89)

Fee: Free & open to the public. Pre-registration is NOT required, the public is more than welcome to come at any of the posted times. Please note: archery may be postponed due to wet conditions. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

October 2022

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 for weather (you may get wet), headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Sunday, October 9, 2022

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 4, 2022 – at 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.

ColorFest 2022

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 15-16, 2022

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

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

Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200+ classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October (skipping September for Boom Days Festival). Music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and food vendors.

Date: October 15, 2022

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. For current info see
www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl

Spookapalooza Spooktacular Campsite Contest 2022

Campers in DeSoto State Park have been decorating their campsites with Halloween decorations for years.....this year, there will be a campsite decorating contest! Decorate your site with the most original and creative Halloween décor you can find ... you might win a prize! The best decorated sites will win great prizes like free camping and more- there will be a 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winner, as well as Most Creative to boost that competitive spark!

Winners will be announced on Sunday, October 30th via DeSoto's

Facebook/Instagram(#desotostatepark) Winners will be contacted via email or phone

Regulations: We ask that decor remains on the individual sites and does not bleed over into others sites, roadways, trails, etc. Décor must be completely removed from site at camper checkout-PLEASE no glitter/confetti, paint, toilet paper or other materials that cause damage to the park. Please help us observe Leave No Trace in the park where we can, especially with picking up litter.

Date: Halloween Weekend 2022

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama. Improved Campground

Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest 2022

DeSoto State Park is glad to host the 11th Annual Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest! Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativeness, neatness, and originality. Entries can have any theme or design, i.e., Halloween, nature, fall season, etc. All ages may enter contest.

Date: Entries must be turned in no later than 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 29 2022 to be judged. Turn in at DeSoto's Country Store on County Road 89-table will be set up on porch. Winners will be announced on Sunday, October 30th via DeSoto's Facebook/Instagram(#desotostatepark)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama.

Entries may be picked up at the DSP Country Store on Sunday, October 30th. Free and Open to all age.

Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

November 2022

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 12 & 13, 2022 (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. Bring your own camp chair to hang out a while and listen to the music. 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. Call 256.997.5025 or email for more details.

Facebook page [#creativespiritmarket](#) [#desotostatepark](#) [#littleriverartscouncil](#)
www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market.html

December 2022



For even more fun events, see

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	Beth Sewell fieldschool@jsu.edu www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/
Little River Canyon National Preserve	256.845.9605	www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm
Russell Cave National Monument	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson www.nps.gov/ruca