HUNTSVILLE

OFFICIAL DESTINATION GUIDE TO HUNTSVILLE/MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

#1 Best Place
to Live
for Families
in the U.S.

- U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

BEST PLACE TO RETIRE BASED ON AFFORDABILITY SOUTHERN LIVING

HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN
#6 BEST IN NORTH AMERICA | USA TODAY

HUNTSVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT #2 BEST SMALL AIRPORT IN U.S. USA TODAY

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Let's Get Started



WELCOME!

Our mission is to introduce you to the place we love, the place we call home. We're delighted to help you make unforgettable memories along the way.

HUNTSVILLE/MADISON COUNTY VISITOR CENTER® AND ADMINISTRATIVE **OFFICES**

500 Church Street NW, Suite One Huntsville, AL 35801 256.551.2230, 800.SPACE.4.U

HUNTSVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (HSV) **VISITOR CENTER**

Located in the HSV baggage claim area 1000 Glenn Hearn Boulevard SW Huntsville, AL 35824 256,772,9470

Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m.*

* Hours are subject to change. Both Visitor Centers are closed on Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

ROCKET CITY SAVINGS

We invite you to visit us at one of our two staffed Visitor Centers. Our dedicated experts can provide free brochures, maps, special offers, coupons, and helpful hints.

Ask about our Attractions Pass and the Rocket City Kids Pass for more savings. Download and get 20% off admission to most major attractions and museums. Pass may not be combined with other offers. huntsville.org/visitor-info/special-offers

WE'RE SOCIAL

Look for us at the following handles:



@VisitHuntsvilleAL



@HuntsvilleCVB



Go2HuntsvilleAL



HuntsvilleCVB



VisitHuntsvilleAL



huntsville.org/blog

SCAVENGER HUNTS AND TRAILS

Our downtown Visitor Center staff is ready to help you enjoy the challenge of a scavenger hunt or to guide you to a trail of art, faith, drinks, or history.

LUCKY DUCK

Find all 15 ducks hidden around downtown Huntsville and stop by the Visitor Center to

TRAINS ON MAIN IN MADISON

All aboard for locomotive fun with eight

SECRET ARTEMIS TRAIL

find 12 hidden rockets.

DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE SECRET ART WALK

Find all the Instagram-worthy spots.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH TRAIL

churches, each over 100 years old and still holding services.

DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE CRAFT **COFFEE TRAIL**

coffee mug.

DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE CRAFT BEER TRAIL

Pick up a custom bottle opener after making

DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE CRAFT COCKTAIL TRAIL

ALABAMA ANTIQUE TRAIL

What's old is cool again.

HISTORIC MARKER CHALLENGE





The Latest News

OPEN NOW AND COMING SOON, HUNTSVILLE IS ADDING NEW FEATURES AND RACKING UP ACCOLADES

HUNTSVILLE GETS MAJOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

As of press time for our guide, the name was still undecided, but the news is real. Huntsville is joining the musical ranks of Lollapalooza and Bonnaroo with its own multiday festival at John Hunt Park. Stay tuned to our social media for updates.

RENEWED ROCKET PARK

A full-scale mockup of the engine section of NASA's new monstrous moon rocket will soon stand among newly restored historic boosters from the space program's early years at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Additional park features include a new amphitheater, green space, and Marshall Retirees Association's Space Exploration Memorial.

THE ELECTRIC BELLE

Open now at Stovehouse, The Electric Belle serves up a wide selection of beers, wine, and cocktails in an adults-only trendy bar setting with live entertainment.





CAMP PICKLE COMES TO MIDCITY

Pickleball, the recreational lovechild of tennis, ping pong, and badminton, has been sweeping the nation, and now the fun is coming to MidCity in 2024. Camp Pickle offers a relaxed, nostalgic summer camp setting with both indoor and outdoor courts and games like darts and horseshoes.

CALLING ALL SKATERS

With a retro nod to the original, the Get-A-Way Skatepark is now open at John Hunt Park in South Huntsville. The 52,000-squarefoot facility features custommade bowls

MADISON'S CLIFT FARM ANNOUNCES ADDITIONS

The popular mixed-use development is growing, with new tenants including Wrapsody, Jim 'N Nicks BBQ, and Cava, a Mediterranean-themed restaurant.

TO THE MOON IN SOUTH HUNTSVILLE

The City of Huntsville's Sandra Moon Community Complex is currently expanding with an 800-seat theatre to bring vibrant performances to South Huntsville. Slated to open in 2025.

ORION AMPHITHEATER GETS BIG ATTENTION

When Rolling Stone covered Huntsville's newest music venue, The Orion Amphitheater, it put us on the music map. The publication interviewed Mumford & Sons cofounder/keyboardist Ben Lovett, CEO of The Venue Group that operates The Orion.

FROM ONSTAGE TO IN THE KITCHEN

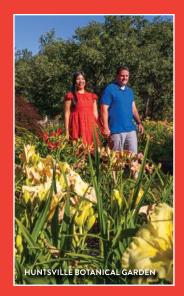
Bass player for the local cover band Beastie Goys, Trevar Akins, is used to keeping crowds happy when he is onstage. Now, he's spreading happiness as the owner of Velocé Pizza, a new restaurant at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment.

TOM BROWN'S HUNTSVILLE

Located at the Market at Hays Farm, the beloved Madison restaurant has opened a second location in South Huntsville and is serving up its steak and seafood menu.

TOP-RANKING ACCOLADES

Not to brag, BUT a few of our recent accolades include being named the #1 Best Place to Live in Alabama, #2 Best Place to Live in the U.S., #1 City in North America for Tech Growth Potential, #6 Best Botanical Garden in North America, #4 Most Affordable City in the U.S. to Live, and a top Emerging Student Travel Destination.

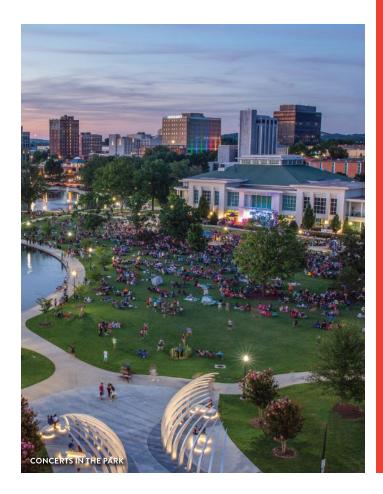


#iHeartHSV Blog

With so much happening every day in Huntsville, new businesses opening, and unique events sprouting up, how can you stay current? We've made it easy at huntsville.org/blog. Our #iHeartHsv Blog keeps you informed on the latest and greatest.

With frequent postings from talented local bloggers, you can always find something new. Our local expert recently shared her Date Night tips at Huntsville Botanical Garden. And another local shared his picks for the top spots to enjoy Huntsville's comedy scene. And the best chicken sandwich in the Rocket City? Our readers are in the know.

While checking out our blog, subscribe to our Visit Huntsville newsletter – another great way to stay informed.



America's Rocket City

HERE, EVERYONE CAN BE AN ASTRONAUT FOR THE DAY!



ong before Huntsville's U.S.
Space & Rocket Center
(USSRC) became one of
Alabama's top attractions, their
story started with a decidedly
military mission. In 1945, Dr.
Wernher von Braun and his team

were brought from Germany to the United States under a military contract. Their work was focused on the creation of ballistic rockets. In 1950, the project was moved to Huntsville's Redstone Arsenal, where the von Braun team joined forces with U.S. Army specialists. Together, these scientists and their work ultimately led to the Saturn V rocket, the craft that sent the Apollo astronauts to the moon in 1969.

During these years, Dr. von Braun was working on a down-to-earth plan for a permanent exhibit for these early accomplishments of the space program. He reached out to the state legislature with his vision for a museum. On March 17, 1970, the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (then named the Alabama Space and Rocket Center) opened to the public on land donated by the U.S. Army.

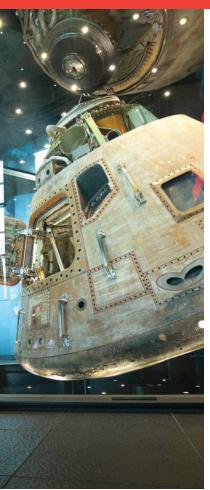
Since then, millions of visitors have stood in awe of the vast collection of rockets and memorabilia. The items on display include an Apollo 12 moon rock, the Apollo 16 command module, and the next generation of space vehicles. The center is a celebration of the past, the present, and the hopeful future of human spaceflight.



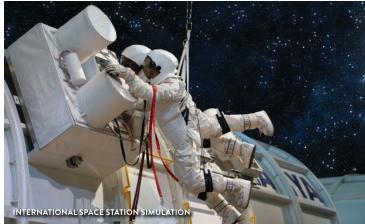
ARTIFACTS TO WOW, FROM THEN AND NOW

With a general admission ticket, you'll have plenty of exhibits to explore, including the iconic Saturn V Hall, Moon Crater, Military Park, Rocket Park (opening in 2024), Spark!Lab, and ISS: Science on Orbit. Depending on when you visit, you might catch a limited-time exhibit, simulators, and spacey tours.

Dare to Explore: Frontiers of Space is one of the newest exhibits. Get inspired by scale models of the United Launch Alliance's Vulcan rocket, Boeing's Starliner Pressure Capsule test vessel, and current models for NASA's SLS (Space Launch System). Soon-to-beadded items include Chris Sembroski's Inspiration4 SpaceX launch suit. And with NASA's Artemis 2 lunar mission planned for 2024 – sending the first astronauts to the moon in nearly 50 years – we look forward to more exhibit expansions.







GET HANDS-ON

The USSRC is not a keep-your-hands-in-your-pockets kind of museum. Here, you can get launched, turned upside down, and have a stellar VR experience.

Rocket straight up with 4 Gs on the Moon Shot, and add extraordinary experiences like MaxFlight's FS-VC

Dual system for an interactive flight simulator, go for a tumble on the Multi-Axis Trainer, or take a trip to the moon on a VR motion-based simulator. Combine VR technology with snorkeling on the DIVR+ system with sensory feedback, or get your gear on for a SCUBA diving experience with the Underwater Astronaut Trainer.

INTUITIVE® PLANETARIUM

Witness the majesty of the universe in 3D on a 52-foot screen at the National Geographic Theater. Get lost in the thrills of astronomy shows like James Webb Space Telescope: The Story Unfolds. As the telescope discovers new images, viewers can watch as our knowledge of space continues to grow. Adults, check

out Cocktails & Cosmos for a unique evening program.

BIERGARTEN: RAISE A TOAST

In celebration of the center's German heritage, the Davidson Center for Space Exploration is transformed into a Biergarten on select Thursdays, March to October. Enjoy German food, drinks, and live music.



Reach for the stars

U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER CAMPS ARE INSPIRING TOMORROW'S SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, AND ASTRONAUTS.



SPACE CAMP®

The camp that started it all, Space Camp®, has welcomed explorers since 1982. Alums are represented in all 50 states and 150+ countries. Designed using actual NASA astronaut training, camp programs focus on teamwork and leadership skills. Camp offerings include custom corporate programs for team building, scouts pursuing merit badges, and a camp specifically designed for the vision and hearing impaired.

AVIATION CHALLENGE

In this cooler-than-cool program, campers work their way from Mach I to Mach II and on to Mach III as they return each year. Mach I covers the basic principles of aviation, while Mach II takes on air combat maneuvering training and search and rescue skills for downed pilots. Mach III is supercharged, and campers focus on survival situations and communications. Get the whole family involved with the Family Aviation Challenge, based on actual military jet pilot programs.

SPACE CAMP® ROBOTICS

The days of archery and canoeing are far behind these campers. Instead, they face the challenge of using robotic technologies to tackle creative engineering solutions for problems from the real world. Attendees work as a team to design and test their concepts in the air, on land, and even underwater. The week culminates with exciting contests where serious bragging rights are on the line.







U.S. CYBER CAMP

Tomorrow's data security is in the hands of today's campers at the U.S. Cyber Academy. Lessons revolve around the ethics and responsibilities that come with safeguarding corporate networks and personal devices. At the advanced level, the work delves into hands-on programs developed in conjunction with the FBI. More than just fun, these camps prepare today's youth to skillfully address real-world challenges.

SPACE GEEK ITINERARY

We get it. All this rocket talk brings out the space geek in all of us, and during your visit you'll want to spend lots of time at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. But the space-y fun of the Rocket City extends throughout the area in some surprising ways.

Our Space Geek Itinerary is designed to help you find other out-of-this-world treasures. How else would you know to look for the rocket-evoking bell tower at the First Baptist Church or when and where to join the Von Braun Astronomical Society's weekly planetarium shows?





Learning to have *FUN*. And to have fun learning.

FROM BLOOMING FLOWERS AND BLASTING ROCKETS TO TALKING TREES AND INTERACTIVE GALLERIES, AREA ATTRACTIONS OFFER SPACES TO PLAY AND LESSONS TO LEARN.



COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

How on earth did people communicate before cell phones? Or how did businesses operate without today's powerful technology? **SIGNALS-Museum of Information Explosion**—slated to open in fall 2024—will have answers as they guide you through the past, present, and future of information technology.

From the early days of the telegraph to the first telephones, learn how communication could span great distances. Step into the world of radio and television long before satellites beamed signals from space. Marvel at the size of computers that filled entire rooms. Then, ponder what is next as we continue to evolve how information shapes our lives.



LEARNING AND PLAY THAT IS FUN AND INCLUSIVE

Seeing the interactive areas at EarlyWorks Children's Museum will have you wishing to be a kid again. Here, drawing on walls is encouraged, and motor skills and imagination are developed through pretend play in Camellia's Play Café, Keelboat, Kidstruction, and the Happy Puppy Salon.

Young learners are challenged with important STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) concepts in a fun and friendly environment. Exhibits like Tinker Lab and M.O.S.H. Pit (Museum of Science and History) allow for hands-on play while learning.

The museum has an inclusive, sensory-friendly environment, with comprehensive social narrative designed to help prepare young visitors for a new social situation. Their quiet sitting room is ideal for nursing and overstimulated children.

Kids' Space at John Hunt Park and Kids Kingdom in Madison's Dublin Park have recently undergone significant renovations. With goals of inclusive accessibility and cooperative play, the playgrounds are welcome places for families with children of all ages and abilities. Everybody Can Play Splash Pad, located at Brahan Spring Park, offers engaging play for those with or without physical limitations.







INSPIRING TOMORROW'S ROCKET SCIENTISTS

Visitors can explore STE(A)M attractions, activities, and camps. Certainly, the star attraction is the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, which includes the INTUITIVE® Planetarium and the famous Space Camp® programs. But step behind the scenes at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, a nonprofit genome research facility. Their education outreach engages student groups with hands-on, lab-based field trips to promote scientific thinking.



Look skyward with a visit to the Von Braun Astronomical Society Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Their schedule includes guest speakers every Saturday at 7:30 p.m., special Kids Nights, and other events, including presentations on impactful scientists like Kepler and Webb.

Visit our website to check out our Space Geek and STE(A)M Traveler itineraries.

Learn more. ▶ huntsville.org/ visitor-info/itineraries

Yesterday's stories revisited

HUNTSVILLE'S ATTRACTIONS INVITE YOU TO LEARN ABOUT OUR HISTORY AND TO CELEBRATE NATURE AND THE ARTS.



JEWEL ON THE MOUNTAIN

With an impressive 3,000square-foot overlook aptly named The View, Burritt on the Mountain provides a stunning look at the City of Huntsville below. On the 167-acre site you can explore the natural beauty of Round Top Mountain, learn about the lives of farmers from the 1800s, and tour the unique Burritt Mansion. Enjoy a stop at the blacksmith shop, say hello to farm animals, search for geocache treasures, and attend special events like the popular Cocktails at The View.

WHERE ALABAMA BECAME A STATE

In 1819, a group of 44 delegates gathered in the only building that was large enough to accommodate them. That meeting resulted in Alabama's admission as the 22nd state. Today's visitors to Alabama Constitution Hall Park gain valuable insight into those proceedings and what life was like for Huntsville residents of that time. Guided tours are offered Thursday-Saturday, and reservations are requested.

RELICS FROM THE PAST

Giving voice to our city's past,
Huntsville Revisited Museum
offers photos, artifacts, and
interesting stories from days gone
by. Located at the H.C. Blake Art
& History Center, the museum is
a fun place to explore and learn.
Downtown you can step back
in time at Harrison Brothers
Hardware. Established in 1897,
the store is a living time capsule
with old-fashioned candies,
marbles by the scoop, and castiron cookware.







ALL ABOARD FOR HUNTSVILLE'S RAILROAD HISTORY

Imagine travel 160 years ago when you visit the **Huntsville Depot**. Built in 1860, the Depot is one of the oldest remaining railroad structures in the U.S. The grounds surrounding the Depot are open to the public for self-guided exploration and photo opportunities. Just east of Huntsville, in Chase, the history lesson continues at the **North Alabama Railroad Museum**, where you can enjoy a fun train ride. The collection includes three historic locomotives and other significant rolling stock.

HISTORIC HOMES WITH TALES TO TELL

Birthplace and home of 19th-century artist and poet Maria Howard Weeden, the Weeden House Museum and Garden was built circa 1819. Tours highlight the leaded glass entrance fanlight, cantilevered staircase, and detailed hand-carved mantels while stories share the family's history. The Historic Lowry House is an eclectic blending of many different architectural styles. Tours include the home's connection to the Underground Railroad.

SALUTING THOSE WHO SERVED

Huntsville's past, present, and future are closely tied to the U.S. Armed Forces, and we proudly recognize those who have served. At the U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum, view 30+ military vehicles and artifacts dating from the American Revolutionary War to present day, including a Ford Pygmy serial #1, the world's oldest Jeep. Anchoring the Huntsville Madison County Veterans Memorial Park are powerful bronze statues depicting Sacrifice and Courage.







HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Blooming since 1985, the Huntsville Botanical Garden is an inviting space for everyone who appreciates natural beauty. Meander the 118 acres and take in the beauty of grassy meadows, wooded paths, water features, seasonal floral displays, and specialty gardens. Linger for a while in the daylily garden, enjoy the aromas of the herb garden, celebrate spring on the azalea trail, and visit fluttering friends at the butterfly house.

At the Tweetsville experience inside the Wicks Family Garden, step inside a larger-than-life bird house and nest as you learn about birds in their natural environment. The Garden celebrates Festifall, a two-month autumn tradition with the Scarecrow Trail, pumpkins galore, a pooch parade, hayrides, and a family campout. In winter, enjoy the twinkling lights and immersive displays at Galaxy of Lights. With designated nights for walking and driving, it's time to get festive your way. They even offer pet-friendly nights.

DUCK. DUCK. GOOSE.

The famously friendly ducks and geese and the curious koi are always ready to be fed and certainly part of the charm that lures visitors to downtown's **Big Spring International Park**. Spring visitors may catch the cherry trees in bloom. The iconic red bridge, a friendship gift from Japan, is always a popular photo op. The park is a choice venue for festivals, concerts, and events throughout the year.









CIVIL RIGHTS LESSONS

Significant Civil Rights history happened here. Book the Huntsville Civil Rights Landmarks Tour, led by SceneThat Tours, to fully understand those events and why they matter. Transportation is provided and includes five Black history sites and 10 civil rights landmarks. You can take the wheel with the Rocket City Civil Rights Driving Tour and set your own pace. Highlights include the Fifth Avenue School site, the first public school in Alabama to integrate.

DISCOVERIES BY DISTRICT

Go for a walk or a drive to check out our interesting architecture. Huntsville's residential districts feature numerous historic homes (not open for tours). The Twickenham Historic District features homes primarily from the early to late 1800s with a range of styles from Queen Anne to Greek Revival. Old Town District showcases homes from 1880 to 1929. The modest houses and bungalows of Five Points date from the 1920s to 1950s.

LET'S TAKE A TOUR

Looking for a local expert to point out cool things? Well, you're in luck in Huntsville and Madison. Each April and October, join free walking tours through historic districts. The Digital Huntsville History Tour is the perfect companion if you want to go at your own pace. With 40+ sections on the audio tour, simply listen and follow the maps and directions included.

ITINERARIES FOR THE WAY YOU LIKE TO TRAVEL

What's the plan? Whether you are putting together a Huntsville trip with your friends, with your family, or just looking for options to expand your business visit, we've got ready-to-go itineraries to make the planning easy.

CALL YOUR BEST FRIENDS

You're all busy, but it is important to reconnect with your besties. Set the scene at the **Huntsville Museum of Art** to check out the celebrated Sellars Collection of Art by American Women. Once inspired, head to **Color Me Mine** to paint your own work of art and Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment for many artsy options.

HIT THE TRAILS

Get your crew together for outdoor adventure on the hiking trails of the Land Trust of North Alabama. Savor your reward with the Craft Beer Trail, perfectly paired with a towering burger or hot wings. Then channel your inner handyman with a retro stop at Harrison Brothers Hardware.

GEEKING OUT ON SPACE

You know that astronauts left their footprints on the moon, but did you know you can find Alan Shepard's footprints right here in Huntsville? You can also dine like a German rocket scientist at Ol' Heidelberg. How about a treasure hunt to find all the rockets on the Secret Artemis Trail?



KID-FRIENDLY FOR THE WIN

The pint-size fun is interactive at EarlyWorks Children's Museum, where talking trees, a general store, and karaoke keep everyone entertained. Wicks Family Garden at Huntsville Botanical Garden is specifically designed for young visitors. With 60+ public parks and more on the horizon, there is plenty of space to play. Remember to download the Rocket City Kids Pass for big savings.

MIND YOUR BUSINESS, THEN PARTY

Finally, the meetings are over, and you've got some free time to explore Huntsville. Head out for the evening and grab a cold drink and a slice at Sam & Greg's Pizzeria. Unwind at Vintage Cigar Lounge with one of their top-shelf whiskeys.



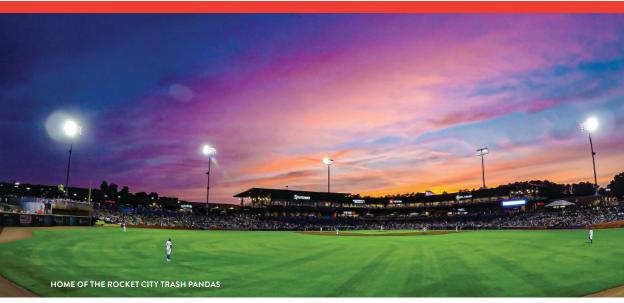




We've got sports action for LOYAL FANS cheering their teams.

HIGH-ENERGY TEAMS TAKE TO THE COURT, THE DIAMOND, THE RINK, AND THE PITCH, JOIN US IN THE STANDS TO WATCH ALL THE ACTION.

Whether your visit to Huntsville and Madison is specifically to cheer on your team or you'd just like to catch a game while you're here, we've got you covered. From professional hockey and minor league baseball to collegiate matches and racing, our local athletes and teams have a loyal following.







ROCKET CITY TRASH PANDAS

If you know, you know. Attending a minor league baseball game is a truly unique outing. From the players and umpires to the mascots and the fans, everyone is focused on having a great time and embracing the joy of the game. Look for theme nights on the schedule, including Christmas in July, which is paired with a toy drive, Space Night to benefit the U.S. Space & Rocket Center

Education Foundation, Classic Car Night, and Military Appreciation Night. The Friday night post-game fireworks are always a hit. The **Rocket City Trash Pandas** play their home games at the state-of-the-art Toyota Field in Madison. Check out the stadium's Junkyard Team Store and the official team store at nearby East Madison Shopping Center to

celebrate our beloved Rocket City

raccoon, Sprocket.

SOCCER GOALS WITH THE HUNTSVILLE CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Soccer action just got kicked up a notch with the addition of the Huntsville City Football Club, the MLS NEXT Pro affiliate team of Major League Soccer's club Nashville SC. Watch them play home matches from March to October at Wicks Family Field at Joe Davis Stadium.

PROS ON THE ICE

Think Huntsville is a little too far south to be into hockey? Wrong! The **Huntsville Havoc** of the Southern Professional Hockey League brings professional-level energy to the ice at the Von Braun Center. And just like the Trash Pandas, you can count on the Havoc to bring the fun with promotions like Star Wars Night, The Walking Dead Night, and #iHeartHsv Night.

TEEING OFF

Our mild climate allows for yearround play at local public courses Sunset Landing and Hampton Cove, which is part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

RACING AROUND

The Huntsville Speedway delivers high-speed races in the spring and summer. You might just see tomorrow's racing legends before they become household names. After all, Richard Petty, Bobby Allison, and Dale Earnhardt chased the checkered flag here.

TACKLE THIS

For hard-hitting action, cheer the Huntsville Tigers of the Women's Football Alliance. Spring games take place at Bob Jones High School. Join the loyal fans of Rocket City Roller Derby as they battle against other teams in the Women's Flat Track Derby Association.

COLLEGE TEAMS

With the Chargers of the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and the Bulldogs of Alabama A&M







WE'VE GOT GAME

For teams, fans, and sports planners, Huntsville and Madison County have top-notch venues. Our lineup includes the Von Braun Center Propst Arena, John Hunt



Park, and Toyota Field, as well as Huntsville Aquatics Center, Huntsville Ice Sports Center, Huntsville Tennis Center, Metro Kiwanis Sportsplex, Merrimack Soccer Complex, Huntsville Sand Volleyball Complex, and Huntsville Cross County Running Park. For gymnastics and cheer, head to Huntsville Gymnastics Center and Matrix Gym.

Score more information. ▼ huntsville.org/sports

outpooks for fitness & fun

GET OUT AND GET ACTIVE WITH HIKING, BIKING, FISHING, AND KAYAKING.



HIKING & BIKING

Do you prefer the smooth path of paved trails or the bouncy adventure of rocky tracks coming down the mountain? Here you can enjoy both and everything in between. Choose among more than 70 miles of trails in the Land Trust of North Alabama. Experience the views at Madison County Nature Trail on Green Mountain. Explore Wade Mountain Nature Preserve, where hiking is rewarded with scenic overlooks, and Bethel Spring Preserve for a stunning waterfall.

ON THE WATER

With 60+ miles of navigable rivers plus backwaters, it is no wonder Huntsville loves to be on the water. Running typically from March to November, the Flint River can be paddled for distances from five to 50 miles, based on convenient access points. Bring your own gear or team up with a seasoned river rat at one of our local outfitters. For those going without a guide, be sure to check the interactive map on their website for launch points and conditions.

MEET ME AT THE GREENWAY

It is easy being green in Huntsville and throughout Madison County. Big Spring International Park is the crowning jewel with its iconic red bridge and wide-open spaces in the middle of downtown. For a dog-friendly walk, head to greenways like Aldridge Creek, Big Cove Creek, or Indian Creek. For immersion in nature, choose from Goldsmith-Schiffman Wildlife Sanctuary or Blevins Gap Nature Preserve. Find your space at huntsville.org/things-to-do/outdoors/parks-greenways.







MONTE SANO MOUNTAIN SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

Perched in the clouds overlooking Huntsville, Monte Sano State
Park offers an oasis of natural beauty, just minutes from downtown. Escape for hiking and biking along miles of trails and discover the Japanese Garden. Give a fling and test your skills on the disc golf course or simply take in the wonder of spring blooms and fall foliage. Stay the day or stay longer when you rent one of the 14 rustic cabins or a campsite.

TENNESSEE RIVER WAYS

To the south, Huntsville meets the Tennessee River and the top spot to enjoy river life is **Ditto Landing. Kayak Bass Fishing**, one of the fastest growing sports in the country, is headquartered here. Huntsville has some of the best bass fishing in the world, with nearby Lakes Guntersville, Pickwick, and Wheeler. Top anglers will be casting a line in 2025 with Major League Fishing's REDCREST being hosted at the Von Braun Center in April, followed by their Toyota Series Championship in October.

BIRD IS THE WORD

Birders flock to Alabama to see the state's 425+ species of migratory and native birds. Printed guides available at our Visitor Centers or digital guides found on our website will direct you to our 13 local birding sites.





CELEBRATING the arts

LOOKING TO ARTS AND CULTURE TO UNITE US AND INSPIRE OUR KINDRED SPIRITS.



BRINGING PEOPLE AND ART TOGETHER

Located in Big Spring International Park, the **Huntsville Museum** of Art is home to a permanent collection of more than 3,200 objects. The Sellars Collection of Art by American Women, a gathering of sterling silver animals by the Italian jewelry company Buccellati, and an eclectic mix of pieces by Chihuly, Whistler, and Warhol make a visit a must-do for any art lover. Traveling exhibits are worth the return visits, and the children's area makes the museum appropriate for all ages.

THE INTERSECTION OF ART AND HISTORY

Is it an art gallery or a history museum? It is both and doubly worth your time. The H.C.

Blake Art & History Center is a delightful union of fine art and pieces of historical and cultural significance from throughout

North Alabama. Only open since 2020, the center has quickly become a hotspot for living history preservation and a celebration of our diverse artists.

HISTORIC BUILDING IS NOW A FACTORY OF A DIFFERENT KIND

What does a community do with a huge historic factory years after the last textile worker has clocked out? Here, in a district that once was home to numerous textile mills, it is reborn as Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment, the South's largest privately owned arts facility. Today what gets woven together is more than 150 working studios with 200 artists and makers, four performance venues, and seven galleries.







POWERFUL CLASSICAL PERFORMANCES

With finely tuned bodies in motion, the Huntsville Ballet takes to the stage with performances including The Nutcracker. Have Star Wars fun with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra's May the Fourth Be with You concert. The Opera Huntsville offers a moving lineup with classics like Die Fledermaus. For young fans, Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater delivers engaging performances like The Jungle Book.

MARQUEE THEATRE MOMENTS

When the curtain goes up in the Rocket City for the Broadway Theatre League, Theatre Huntsville, or Independent Musical Productions, you are in for a real treat. Well-known shows and those just making a name include performances like Beauty and the Beast, Sam Shepard's True West, Little Shop of Horrors, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Pretty Woman The Musical. Our local universities also produce quality stage shows.

ARTS HUNTSVILLE BRINGS IT ALL TOGETHER

From light-hearted comedy shows to performances that tug at your heartstrings, Huntsville celebrates with a full calendar of arts and cultural events. Connect with Arts Huntsville online and check out who's onstage during your stay.





HIT THE TRAIL FOR ARTFUL TREASURES AND CULTURAL DISCOVERIES

From community pillars of faith to not-so-hidden works of art, we've got the trails. See page 1 for a full list of trails.

Madison County is home to 16 churches that are more than 100 years old and still holding services. These places of worship represent the diverse culture and important spiritual heritage of our area. Stops on the **Foundations of Faith Trail** include Temple B'nai Sholom, the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the state, and the 1891 Gurley Methodist Church, a wonderful example of vernacular Gothic Revival.

We aren't really keeping the 22 treasures on the **Downtown Huntsville Secret Art Trail** a big secret. Popular stops include the Koi Mural for fun fish, the very galactic Space Door, and the about-to-float-away balloons of Catalyst. Each piece is worthy of an Instagram post using #iHeartHsv.









Our Rocket City SOUNDTKACK

SOME STARS ARE IN THE SKY; OTHERS ARE ONSTAGE FOR YOU TO ENJOY.

THE ORION SHINES IN BIG WAYS AND SMALL

If seeing stellar acts onstage is your mission, The Orion

Amphitheater is your destination. The schedule consistently features both the well-known and the soon to be, like Widespread Panic, Snoop Dogg, Lana Del Rey, the Outlaw Music Festival, and Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit. The newest hotspot on the grounds is Jeff & Blues, the laid-back intersection of live music, cold drinks, and good friends.

VON BRAUN CENTER WELCOMES MUSIC FANS

Whether it is a packed-out arena tour or a more intimate setting, the stages at the **Von Braun Center** offer the perfect way to take in a show. From the full-scale energy of the **Propst Arena** to the more personal feel of **Mars Music Hall** and **Mark C. Smith Concert Hall**, you can find a full lineup of options like Umphrey's McGee, Rodney Carrington, Colbie Caillat, and The Rocket City Blues Festival.

BUDGET-FRIENDLY AND COMPLETELY AWESOME

Live music can be found throughout Huntsville and Madison County. Head to fun gathering spots like The Camp at MidCity, Stovehouse, Lowe Mill A&E, Campus No. 805, and Furniture Factory Bar & Grill to enjoy the tunes while you have a bite or drinks with friends. Check out huntsvillemusic.com for free events like Concerts in the Park and Jazz in the Park, both held in downtown's Big Spring Park.

KOCKET CITY EVENTS

HUNTSVILLE KNOWS HOW TO THROW A PARTY. AND WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN IN THE FUN.



SPRING

HISTORIC WALKING TOURS YEAR-ROUND

Give a listen to the digital Huntsville history tour and enjoy a self-guided walking tour. huntsville.org/events/tours

HUNTSVILLE BLOOMS

MARCH & APRIL

The Huntsville Botanical Garden comes alive with spring blooms. hsvbg.org

ELEVATE THE STAGE MARCH

The top young gymnasts from around the country compete on the stage at the Von Braun Center. elevatethestage.com

CONFERENCE USA MEN'S & WOMEN'S BASKETBALL **CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH**

The nine schools in Conference USA will be battling it out for an automatic bid to the Big Dance. conferenceusa.com

BIG OL' BALLPARK FAIR MARCH

Toyota Field's parking lot is transformed into a fair with rides and entertainment. kisselentertainment.com

PANOPLY ARTS FESTIVAL APRIL

Big Spring Park becomes a stage for 100+ visual artists, local musicians, food trucks, and activities. artshuntsville.org

CONCERTS ON THE DOCK

APRIL & MAY

Free concert series at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment. lowemill.art/concerts

GUIDED HISTORY TOURS

APRIL

Free walking tours in Huntsville and Madison guided by local experts. huntsville.org/events

HUNTSVILLE COMIC & POP CULTURE EXPO APRIL

Alabama's largest celebration of ALL THINGS GEEK! hsvexpo.com

NASA HUMAN EXPLORATION ROVER CHALLENGE APRIL

High-tech competition as student teams design, develop, build, and test human-powered rovers. nasa.gov/stem/ roverchallenge/home

ROCKET CITY BREWFEST MAY

Beer lovers and brew masters come together to celebrate Huntsville's craft beer scene. rocketcitybrewfest.com

CAMP TO AMP FESTIVAL MAY

MidCity District celebrates with a community day of art, music, and more. theorion huntsville.com/event/ camp-to-amp-festival

CIGAR BOX GUITAR FESTIVAL MAY/JUNE

World's longest-running CBG Festival. This multi-day event is free and raises funds for music education.

cigarboxguitarfestival.com **FOOD TRUCK RALLIES**

MAY - OCTOBER

On the 3rd Friday of every month, head to Big Spring Park to chow down with 15+ food trucks. downtownhuntsville.org/ foodtrucksandtrailers

SUMMER

OAKWOOD FARMERS MARKET

MARCH - OCTOBER

Each Friday, check out the openair farmers market with food trucks, bakers, artisans, and more. youroakwoodfarms.com

BIERGARTEN

MARCH - OCTOBER

On select Thursdays, join in the Germanic fun with cuisine, drinks, and music at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. rocketcenter.com/biergarten

SMOKE IN THE OUTFIELD BBQ **FESTIVAL AUGUST**

Held at Toyota Field, festivities include live music, entertainment, and activities. milb.com/rocket-city/events

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

JUNE - AUGUST

Free series showcases local music talent from a mix of genres. artshuntsville.org/ event/concerts-in-the-park

BLACK RESTAURANT WEEK

To bring awareness and give support to the entrepreneurs and movers and shakers in the food industry. brwhsv.com

TENNESSEE VALLEY HUNTING & FISHING EXPOJULY

Join the experts to find out the latest in casting, shooting, and enjoying the outdoors. tvhfe.com

HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST AUGUST

A fun event for amateur radio operators or anyone just curious about the hobby. hamfest.org

HUNTSVILLE CULINARY MONTH & RESTAURANT WEEK AUGUST

Sink your teeth into great specials at local restaurants as we celebrate foodies and all things cuisine. huntsville.org/events

FALL

FESTIFALL AT THE GARDEN

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

A season filled with family fun includes Scarecrow Trail, Pumpkin Carving Contest, and fall floral displays. hsvbq.org

HUNTSVILLE GHOST WALK

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Hear stories from Huntsville's haunted past. huntsvilleghostwalk.com

HUNTSVILLE MUSIC MONTH SEPTEMBER

Check our website for ways to enjoy live music performances throughout the month. huntsvillemusic.com

JAZZ IN THE PARK SEPTEMBER

A month of Sunday performances at Big Spring Park. huntsvillemusic.com

CONCERTS ON THE DOCK

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Free concert series at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment. lowemill.art/concerts

MONTE SANO ART FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER

Features 100+ visual artists, live music, and local food trucks. artshuntsville.org/ event/monte-sano-arts-festival

CRUSH WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER

Celebrity chefs, tastings for wine and spirits, demos, food, and entertainment. crushwinefestival.com

REDSTONE ARSENAL OKTOBERFEST SEPTEMBER

Raise your stein for authentic German cuisine, beer, polka music, carnival rides, and dancing. redstone.armymwr.com

HUNTSVILLE HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER

Celebrate the past in the city that's building the future. huntsville.org/events/ huntsville-history-month

GUIDED HISTORY TOURS OCTOBER

Free walking tours in Huntsville and Madison guided by local experts. huntsville.org/events

WHISTLESTOP BBQ FESTIVAL **OCTOBER**

A beloved North Alabama tradition since 2001, held at MidCity. whistlestopweekend.com

MADISON STREET FESTIVAL **OCTOBER**

Enjoy a fun fall day with community parade, food vendors, exhibits, and entertainment. madisonstreetfestival.org

ROCKET CITY PRIDE FESTIVAL OCTOBER

Celebrate inclusion with the LGBTQ+ community and high-energy performances. facebook.com/rocketcityprideal

MAPLE HILL CEMETERY STROLL **OCTOBER**

A living history event with costumed characters and traditional music. huntsvillepilgrimage.org

RAILYARD BARBEQUE BRAWL & MUSIC FEST OCTOBER

Madison gets saucy with this KCBSsanctioned event. railyardbbqfest.com

WINTER

WINTER PARK AT THE ORION AMPITHEATER

NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY

Shop holiday markets, enjoy seasonal music and ice skating, and have dinner in a snow globe. theorionhuntsville.com

SKATING IN THE PARK

NOVEMBER - JANUARY

Lace up your skates to enjoy winter fun at Big Spring Park. hsvmuseum.org/events

GALAXY OF LIGHTS

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

The Huntsville Botanical Garden is decked out for the holiday season. A frequent top pick by USA Today's 10Best. hsvbg.org/galaxy

TINSEL TRAIL

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Find your holiday cheer with a display of decorated Christmas trees in Big Spring Park, tinseltrail.com

CHRISTMAS ON THE RIVER AT DITTO LANDING

DECEMBER

Tour locally designed oversized Christmas cards. dittolanding.org

CHRISTMAS PARADES

DECEMBER

Celebrate the season with community parades in Huntsville and Madison. huntsville.org/events

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS AT BURRITT ON THE MOUNTAIN

DECEMBER

Enjoy the sights, sounds, and aromas of a traditional Christmas. burrittonthemountain.com

VON BREWSKI BEER FESTIVAL JANUARY

Sample brews on tap from 50+ breweries and nosh on great snacks. vonbrauncenter.com

Let's talk SHOT!

OR BETTER YET, LET'S TALK ABOUT SHOPPING FOR CLOTHES, JEWELRY, ANTIQUES, AND UNIQUE FINDS.



ONE STOP FOR ALL THE SHOPS

No matter your fashion style, you can always find something to add to your wardrobe at Bridge Street Town Centre. Located in Research Park, here you find modern storefronts surrounded by oldworld charm. Keep the shopping fun going with stops at Parkway Place Mall, Village of Providence, and Valley Bend at Jones Farm. Head downtown to Clinton Row to shop from a collection of independently owned stores.

SHOP BOUTIQUES AND UNIQUES

When you want a look as one-of-a-kind wonderful as you truly are, it is time to seek out local specialty boutiques. Stay trendy in Madison at spots like Filthy Gorgeous and Shoe Fly. Cottage Collective and Sweet Pineapple offer the latest home décor and gift items in South Huntsville. In North Huntsville, you can get your fashion passport stamped at Travel Patterns, a community of artisans representing 50+ nations.

PRE-LOVED TREASURES

When it comes to shopping for antiques, the real fun is in the hunt. Will your searches lead to a must-have piece of heirloom jewelry or the perfect side table? Get ready to prowl to your heart's content in Huntsville at Rivenbark & Roper Antiques, University Pickers, and Railroad Station Antiques Mall, which is packed with three floors of merchandise. In historic downtown Madison, discoveries are waiting at Madison Station Antiques. See page 1 for info on our Antiques Trail.







FRESH AND FABULOUS FINDS

Imagine enjoying freshly picked fruit and a locally baked pie or cake during your stay. Make it happen at Huntsville's active farmers market scene. Take home handcrafted honey, jams and jellies, breads, and seasonal fruits and vegetables. For the utmost convenience, some markets have partnered with delivery services to bring the goodness right to your door.

DID YOU BRING ME SOMETHING?

Friends back home will be expecting something from your trip to the Rocket City. Check off your list at our downtown Visitor Center with branded Huntsville merchandise and items from local makers. While visiting local attractions, check out the gift shops for memorable souvenirs. A key spot for unique gifts, including vintage toys, is Harrison Brothers Hardware.

READY TO GET STARTED?

It's time to shop for a new outfit, gifts for those back home, fresh produce, treasures from the past, and the truly unique. And it's time to focus on some pampering for yourself. Let's get started.





EXPLORE cool spaces

WHAT WAS OLD AND FORGOTTEN NOW FEELS FRESH WITH A NEW LIFE AND A NEW MISSION.



FROM FACTORY WORK TO FUN FOR ALL

The spot where workers once clocked in for their shift at the Martin Stove Factory is now a gathering place for live music, drinks, eats, and shopping.

Stovehouse features an eclectic mix of shopping with Peachtree & Co for home furnishings, Lauren Kenzie's handcrafted jewelry, and The Vessel, which showcases pottery from local artisans. The family- and furry-friendly events calendar stays packed with live music, dancing, and trivia.

SCHOOL ISN'T THIS COOL

Ring the bell! It's time to go to Campus No. 805. On the grounds of a former middle school, today the lessons are all about having a great time. Catch a local band at Lone Goose Saloon while you enjoy their wine, beer, liquor selection. Order up an adult option at Yellowhammer Brewing, Straight to Ale, or The Bar at 805. Get your game on at Civil Axe, X-Golf, Ronnie Raygun's, and Pints and Pixels.

YESTERDAY'S MALL IS A GATHERING PLACE FOR ALL

The footprint of MidCity District was once a popular regional mall. Now the location is drawing crowds for new ways to shop, dine, and play. Stock up at Trader Joe's and REI Co-op then get ready to play at Stars and Strikes, Topgolf, Dave & Buster's, High Point Climbing and Fitness, and The Camp, which features live music, events, and a fun outdoor scene.







ARTS AND FUN, WOVEN TOGETHER

No longer a textile mill, the vibe at pet-friendly Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment is all about celebrating talented artists and makers. The largest privately owned arts facility in the southern U.S. is home to 150+ working studios and 200+ working artists and makers. Food and drink options run the gamut from Peculiar Preserves and Pizzelle's Confections to Irons Distillery. In the fall, enjoy open-air concerts.

DISCOVER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

Throughout Huntsville and Madison, our five A&E Districts offer cultural events, entertainment, and dining. To complement the outdoor activities within these districts, alcoholic beverages purchased from permitted businesses may be enjoyed outdoors in designated cups. Meet your friends and enjoy a stroll in the park, around a historic square, or through a lifestyle center.

NIGHTTIME IS THE RIGHT TIME

After seeing the sights, visiting attractions, or spending time on the water or in nature, gather with friends and family at one of Huntsville's adult playgrounds. Find the perfect mix of big-city energy and small-town community.





Rocket City Appetites

WELCOME TO A VIBRANT SOUTHERN CITY WITH GLOBAL INFLUENCES, A PLACE OF PROUD BARBECUE TRADITIONS ALONGSIDE NEW APPROACHES FROM INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE CHEFS.



e hope you packed your appetite for down-home delights and tastes from around the world. We have a sample here for you to enjoy. But we can't delve into all the culinary options in Huntsville and Madison County, so we

encourage you to visit huntsville.org/restaurantsbreweries to view all our listings and to start planning your culinary adventures.

INTERSECTION OF FOOD AND FUN

Share a meal and a laugh and celebrate being together. Dive into Loaded Pretzel Fries at Famous Eleanors, Beer Battered Onion Rings at Furniture Factory Bar & Grill, and Nashville Hot Wings at Main Event. With the apps order in, focus on a hearty sandwich like the Steak Superior at BeeZr Gastropub or Bacon Bomb Burger at Peppered Pig or a comfort food entree like Buffalo Mac & Cheese at Jonathan's Grille or Shepherd's Pie at Salt Factory Pub.

Calories don't count on vacation, so save room for dessert. Go for the Chuck's Root Beer Float at Shaggy's Burgers & Tacos, the Fried Oreos at Melt, and Chef Andy's Mom's Pecan Pie at Humphrey's Bar & Grill.



COMBINING PASSION AND ENERGY

From food trucks to fresh local ingredients, Huntsville's minority-owned restaurants are passionate about their menus. Start at **G's Country Kitchen** where the brief wait for Southern favorites is well worth it. The goodness is portable at **Soul on Wheels**. With **Superhero Chefs**, the burgers and salads are fun and fabulous. **The Veggie** caters to the vegan consumer, and **Chef Will The Palate's** vegetarian options are fresh and innovative.

WHEN THE MOON HITS YOUR EYE

Local Italian menus are on point. Amerigo wins fans with their Early Bird Menu. Big Ed's Pizza dishes out pepperoni rolls with a mom 'n pop feel. Grimaldi's Pizzeria serves up New York style; Valentina's Pizzeria offers Detroit style, while SaZa Serious Italian and Mazzara's Vinoteca dish up old-world charm.









TRIED AND TRUE

At 1892 East Restaurant & Tavern, you can enjoy their partnership with local farms and dairies. The Mean Green Egg Rolls featuring collard greens bring us back to Tom Brown's Restaurant, with locations in Madison and South Huntsville. Ol' Heidelberg Restaurant has provided authentic German cuisine for over 50 years, while Big Spring Cafe, "home of the greasy burger," has been serving up classic diner staples since 1922.

QUEUE UP FOR 'QUE

Pull up a chair at Bark & Barrel BBQ and try The Clyde with Alabama White Sauce. Get your crunch on with BBQ Pork Nachos at LawLers Barbecue and the Redneck Nachos at Moe's Original BBQ. Go for the cowboy vibe at PBR Lockhart Smokehouse, where the Smoked Baked Beans are jacked up with brisket. Opt for the legendary menu at Dreamland Bar-B-Que or challenge the norm with the Southern Banh Mi at Fusion BBQ.

SOUTHERN GOODNESS, ON A PLATE

Traditional Southern dishes include Chicken Fried Steak from Blue Plate Café and the Catfish Combo from Little Libby's Catfish & Diner. Try unique combinations with the Pimento Cheese Arancini from CO/OP Community Table and Pork Belly Grilled Cheese at Southern Chop. Top it off with bread pudding or peach cobbler at Rhythm on Monroe.

What will you order next?

THE FUN OF BEING ON VACATION IS TRYING NEW PLACES, EXPERIMENTING WITH NEW FLAVORS.



GOOD MORNING

Fuel up early with breakfast or a little later with brunch. It's all aboard for the Gravy Train sampler at **Biscuit Belly**. The menu at **Maple Street Biscuit**Company stars The Squawking Goat – a union of fried chicken, goat cheese, and pepper jelly. Satisfy your sweet tooth at

Blue Plate Café with Chocolate Chiquita Pancakes. And bring your stretchy pants for the Alabama Omelet (it's smothered in gravy) when you go to Galen's Restaurant.

SURF AND TURF

The Rocket City loves steak and seafood. Start with Southern Seafood Chowder at Cotton Row Restaurant or oysters at Sea Salt Urban Oyster Bar. The turf rules at Commerce Kitchen with Coffee Crusted New York Strip and at Char Restaurant with Prime Rib served with au jus and horseradish. Top the steak of your choice at Nick's Ristorante with Bleu Cheese Compound Butter. Choose a Seafood Boil at CATCH 25

Seafood & Brewery or Double Cut Duroc Pork Chop at Grille on Main.

GOODNESS ON A BUN

Portable and versatile, subs and sandwiches are perennial favorites. The iconic Kitchen Sink Sub at Stanlieo's Sub Villa, open since 1971, is a must-try. Go classic with Pastrami on Rye from The Standard Social Market or get creative with the Turkey Banh Mi from Mason Dixon Bakery & Bistro. Pair your favorite brew with the Nauty Cuban (including Monkeynaut mustard) at Ale's Kitchen. And a bagel is still a bun at Canadian Bakin, where lunch can be the Notorious BLT.



SWEET TREATS

Go ahead. Indulge! The Monkey Bread from The Bakingtist is worth every calorie. The Peanut **Butter Honey** mini donuts from Bigfoot's Little Donuts will have you fighting for the last one. Get a dozen cookies on the seasonal menu at Cookie Fix or signature cupcakes from Regale Cupcakery. And revisit your childhood with the Orange Creamsicle Float at Chillabay Dessert Bar.





FLIP FOR THE SIP

Go full force with the Red-Eye (coffee + espresso double shot) from Honest Coffee Roasters. Calm your chi with Piper & Leaf's artisan tea. Sip a glass of wine at Le Petit Bijou by Domaine South, refresh with a Rocket City Margarita at **Prohibition Rooftop** Bar & Grill, or savor a cocktail at The Standard. Catch brunch at Blaque Cigar Lounge before heading over to **The Brewers Cooperative** and sampling your picks of the 40 beers on tap.



ON THE TRAIL OF CRAFT DRINKS

Beer, cocktail, or coffee? Which of the Downtown Huntsville trails will you try first? Explore the whimsical craft beer scene with locally inspired names like Innerspace Brewing Company and Yellowhammer Brewery. Try

creative cocktails at Baker & Able and Stella's Elixir Lounge. For the java junkie, how about coffee at Charlie Foster's or Moon Bakeshop? Plot your trail at huntsville. org/restaurants-breweries.



MEAL ON THE MOVE

Whether you hit the drive-thru window or the counter at one of our popular quickserve restaurants like Slim Chickens, Steak Out, and Schlotzsky's Deli or opt to check out our food truck scene with unique flavors like Tamarind Island Grille, Taste of Maine, and Hippea Camper, a speedy lunch can still be healthy and delicious.



GET YOUR CULINARY PASSPORT STAMPED

Flavors from south of the border are abundant and include Rosie's Mexican Cantina for the Famoso Shrimp Burrito, the Chicken Tamale from Bandito Burrito, and Tostada de Atu'n (made with sashimi grade tuna) from La Esquina Cocina. Try something different with the Pollo Con Rajas at Phil Sandoval's Mexican Restaurante and the Floret Tacos (gochujang-glazed cauliflower) at Hound & Harvest.

Spin the globe again and warm up with Far East faves like the Pho on the weekend lunch menu at Ding How II, the Spicy Miso Ramen at Kamado Ramen, and the Spicy Pork Belly at Stone Age Korean BBQ. The heat continues with Spicy Mango Shrimp at Four Leaves and the Yellowtail Jalapeño at I Love Sushi. Jamaican rum meets Thai tea with the Som Num Naa at Phat Sammy's. Your mouth will thank you.

Get your Cajun and Creole fix at Tim's Cajun Kitchen with a bowl of hearty Seafood Jambalaya. Go Caribbean with the Oxtail and Curry Goat at M & K Jamaican Restaurant or let the flavors erupt in the Volcano Bowl from Poké Aloha Hawaiian Fresh.

Savor a creative take on onion rings with the Kale and Onion Pakora at **The Curry**. Explore the Mediterranean with the Tahini Caesar at **CAVA** or build your own Beef Shawarma Bowl at **Fresko Grille**.







Indulge with a Pain au Chocolat at L'Etoile Patisserie or a Powdered Sugar Cinnamon Crepe at Pofta Buna International Café. Journey across the pond with Old Cornwall Smokies (sardines) from The Poppy & Parliament. Give the best of the wurst a try at Hildegard's German Cuisine.

An epicurean adventure awaits in the Rocket City, and we've got just the spot to cure your cravings. Share your culinary adventure on social using #DineHsv.

For more on local dining, scan the QR code below. Stay in the know with our cool food stories, like our Gluten Free Guide to Huntsville Restaurants and Vegan-Friendly Romantic Date Night Spots, at huntsville.org/blog.







We've got space.

SPACE FOR YOUR CONVENTION OR MEETING. SPACE TO LEARN ON A FIELD TRIP OR WANDER ON A GROUP TOUR. SPACE TO PLAY AND ALWAYS SPACE FOR LOVE.

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earning from industry leaders and collaborating with kindred spirits can provide a spark of inspiration. In Huntsville, we're all about the next big thing. From the towering Saturn V Rocket at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center

to the excitement for NASA's plans to travel to Mars with the Space Launch System, here in the Rocket City, out-of-this-world experiences happen every day.

The star of our convention facilities is the sprawling, newly renovated Von Braun Center, or VBC for short. Overlooking the inviting landscape of Big Spring International Park, the VBC delivers more than 170,000 square feet of adaptable meeting, exhibit, and performance areas. With a convenient downtown location, convention and meeting attendees are just steps away from a variety of lodging, diverse cuisine, and charming shops.

The flexibility of the space allows for transformations to accommodate large-scale conventions and trade shows as well as break-out sessions, receptions, and banquets. Performance venues are ideal for concerts, shows, and ballet. The intimate Mars Music Hall and Rhythm on Monroe restaurant are popular recent additions. With onsite catering, a top-notch technical support team, and a 500-space covered parking garage, the Von Braun Center seamlessly allows your convention to shine.











WE HAVE COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES AND FRIENDLY PROS TO HELP YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

From handling your Request for Proposal with accommodations and meeting venues to arranging site inspections, our meetings team is responsive and attentive throughout the process. We're here to help you.

Need someone to assist with your daily itineraries and attendance-building communications? The staff of the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau are your go-to resource. How about assistance booking

speakers and entertainment or a unique off-site venue for an outof-this-world experience? We're raising our hands high to help.

Let's get started! Learn more about our meeting facilities, unique entertainment venues, available lodging, restaurants, and shops online and check out our Meeting Planner Guide.





Having big fun together

WHETHER ON A
GROUP TOUR OR
FIELD TRIP, PLAYING
IN A SPORTS
TOURNAMENT,
GATHERING FOR
A REUNION OR
A WEDDING,
GETTING TOGETHER
CREATES PRECIOUS
MEMORIES.



YOUR GROUP CAN DISCOVER THE ROCKET CITY IN MANY WAYS.

With so much to see and do in Huntsville, we're certain your group will have a blast. Where will you stop first? What is the best way to organize the trip? Don't let the planning overwhelm you.





Our staff is available to help, whether you choose to visit the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Huntsville Botanical Garden, our historic districts and museums, or an onstage performance. We're also a convenient hub for regional tours that include other North Alabama must-see spots like the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, Rattlesnake Saloon, Unclaimed Baggage, Cathedral Caverns, and the awe-inspiring Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Our Group Tour Guide is available for download.

IT'S FIELD TRIP TIME!

Student and youth groups will love trading in their textbooks for hands-on experiences in Huntsville. Choose from a visit to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center or a longer camp option there, a step back in time at Burritt on the Mountain, Weeden House, and Alabama Constitution Hall Historic Park, or an appreciation of arts at the Huntsville Museum of Art.

Learn more. ▼
huntsville.org/educational-escapes



HUNTSVILLE HAS GAME AND WE'RE READY TO PLAY!

Looking for a centrally located destination for your next sports event or tournament? Look to Huntsville. The area is well equipped to welcome your soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, pickleball, or golf tournaments, plus track meets and other highenergy competitions. Outstanding venues include the **Huntsville Tennis** Center, Custom Archery Center, Agribition Center, Huntsville Aquatics Center, Huntsville **Ice Sports Center** plus stadiums, raceways, parks, and lakes.



CHOOSE A REUNION LOCATION THAT EVERYONE WILL ENJOY.

Some will get wideeyed standing under a rocket, while others will love strolling among acres of blooms. You'll have those who embrace the challenge of the Downtown Craft Beer Trail and others who explore trendy boutiques. No matter how many different personalities you have in your class get-together, family reunion, or military meetup, picking Huntsville ensures they will all enjoy reconnecting, telling stories, and exploring the city.



HUNTSVILLE IS TO LOVE AND CHERISH AS A WEDDING DESTINATION.

Say "I do" from a lofty perch overlooking Huntsville at Burritt on the Mountain or make your ceremony a blast under a rocket at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Be surrounded by the past at Historic Huntsville Depot Roundhouse or choose beauty at the

Huntsville Museum of Art or Huntsville Botanical Garden. Go for the unique when you pick from an array of historic and modern venues.



OUR MISSION IS TO SERVE YOU.

From the largest of conventions with thousands of attendees to the most intimate wedding, it is our honor to help groups and meetings of all sizes experience the very best of Huntsville. Our professional CVB team (pictured below) knows and loves the area. This is our home, and we take great pride in welcoming you. Please let us know how we can be of service.







You are invited to STAY AWHILE, STAY YOUK STYLE

GET ROCKET CITY REST IN ONE OF THESE FOUR UNIQUE DISTRICTS.

DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE / MEDICAL

Stay in the heart of the action when you pick a downtown accommodation. You'll be steps from a concert, shopping, and dining.

BRIDGE STREET / U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER / RESEARCH PARK

Stay close by and have a blast touring local attractions and exploring the shops and restaurants at Bridge Street.

MIDCITY / PROVIDENCE

Conveniently located along Highway 72, a stay here keeps you connected to everywhere you want to go.

MADISON / AIRPORT

Fly in and chill out. Our hotel properties in the Madison area make it a breeze to use Huntsville International Airport (HSV).

Learn more at ▼ huntsville.org/hotels-lodging.

Accessibility Guide to Huntsville

HUNTSVILLE'S LEADERS AND BUSINESSES WANT TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

That means adaptive services for transportation, languages, wheelchair access, and autism concerns. Please reach out to us with questions on local services and features.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Orbit Huntsville Transit has shuttles equipped with wheelchair lifts. Specialized services are available with advance planning through a paratransit service. Rental car companies, local taxis, and rideshare services are often able to accommodate special needs with notice. Learn more at huntsvilleal.gov/residents/streets/public-transportation/orbit.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

You may get the chance to see local musician Taylor Burton onstage with his band The Silver Silos. As a wheelchair user and avid explorer, he provides great insight for others visiting the area. Check out his recent blog to learn more about local accessibility.







AUTISM SERVICES

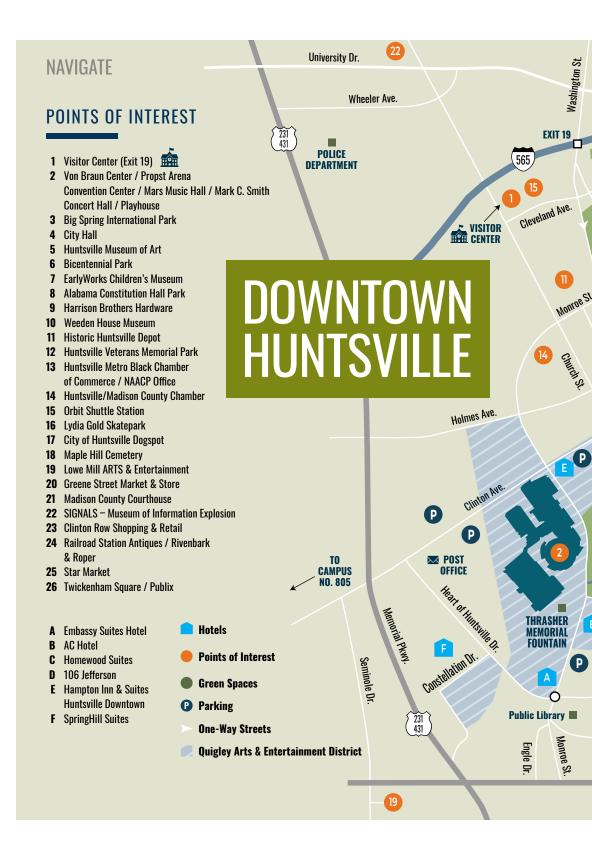
Discover the welcoming design of Cove Universal Playground, Kids' Space, and Kid's Kingdom, where all children can play together. Attend an event at the Von Braun Center, where sensory bags are available for those who may feel overwhelmed by the environment.

REMOVING LANGUAGE BARRIERS

We can connect you with American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters and foreign language services to translate and keep the communication flowing.

More information is available.

huntsville.org/visitor-info/accessibility





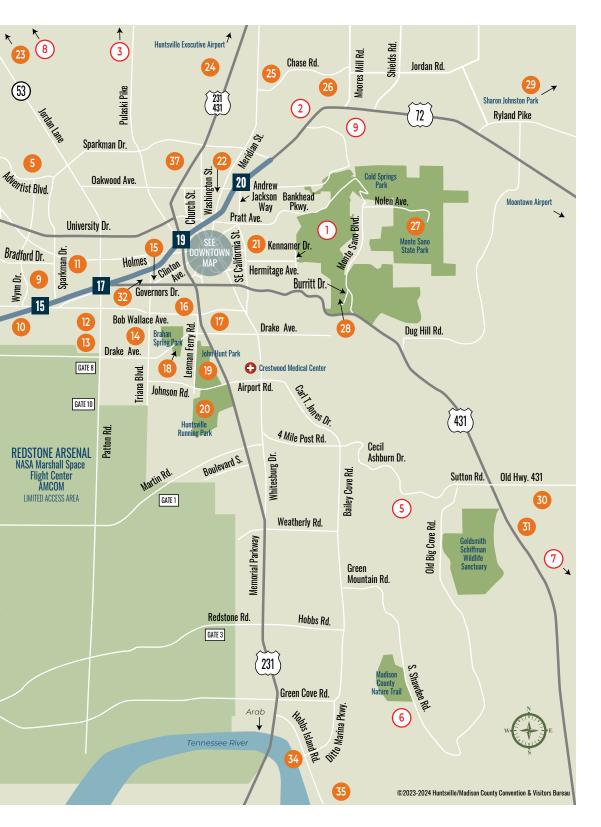
NAVIGATE ndian Creek Rd POINTS OF INTEREST Capshaw Rd. Old Monrovia Rd. Madison City Hall Oakwood Rd. Insanity Complex 72 Providence Old Monrovia Rd. 36 **Madison Chamber of Commerce** Main St.→ Athens Village of Providence 4 5 Oakwood University Madison Hospital McMurtrie Dr.→ 6 MidCity District / The Orion Amphitheater 7 Cummings Research Park West / Explorer Blvd Jackson Center Vall Triana Hwy. **MADISON Bridge Street Town Centre** Calhoun Community College 10 U.S. Space & Rocket Center Browns 11 University of Alabama in Huntsville Vovager Wav→ 12 Huntsville Botanical Garden **Dublin Park** Cabela Dr. Browns Ferry Rd. **13** Metro Kiwanis Sportsplex Governors 14 Merrimack Hall Madison Pike Mill Rd. 15 Campus No. 805 13 GATE 9 16 Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment Palmer Rd. 565 (20) 17 Parkway Place Mall Redstone Main St. Palmer Park Arsenal 18 Huntsville Aquatics Center Visitor Center Madison Blvd. John Hunt Park / Joe Davis Stadium Huntsville Ice Sports Center / Westchester Dr. Javcee Community Building / U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum / Kids' Space / Get-A-Way Skatepark / Championship Soccer Fields lendt. 20 Huntsville Tennis Center / Huntsville Running Park / ← Trademark Dr. Beach Volleyball Courts / James Record Rd. Mountain Bike Trail / JHP Disc Golf Martin Rd. 21 Maple Hill Cemetery GATE 7 22 Lincoln Mill District / Historic Lowry House Wall Triana Hwy. 23 Huntsville Dragway Huntsville International 24 Colonial Golf Course 25 Alabama A&M University / Visitor Center State Black Archives Museum 26 North Alabama Railroad Museum I-565 EXITS LAND TRUST OF NORTH ALABAMA 27 Monte Sano State Park County Line Road Monte Sano Nature Preserve 28 Burritt on the Mountain Huntsville International Airport (HSV) Chapman Mountain Nature Preserve 8 2 29 Madison County Lake 9 Madison / Madison Historic District 3 Wade Mountain Nature Preserve 10 Town Madison Boulevard / Toyota Field **(4)** Rainbow Mountain Nature Preserve 30 RTJ Golf Trail at Hampton Cove 13 Madison Boulevard / Toyota Field (5) Blevins Gap Nature Preserve 31 Havs Nature Preserve 14 Redstone Arsenal / NASA **6**) Green Mountain Nature Preserve 32 Stovehouse Huntsville Botanical Garden / (1) Bethel Spring Nature Preserve 33 Tovota Field / Town Madison U.S. Space & Rocket Center / UAH / (8) Harvest Square Nature Preserve 34 Ditto Landing Marina & Campground Sparkman Drive Hickory Cove Nature Preserve 35 Huntsville Speedway 17 **Governors Drive** Downtown Huntsville / Visitor Center / 36 Clift Farm Von Braun Center / Historic Districts / 37 H.C. Blake Art & History Center /

Alabama A&M / Memorial Parkway,

US 231 / Governors Drive, US 431

20 Oakwood Avenue

Huntsville Revisited



411

What should you pack for your Huntsville visit? It all depends on when you will be visiting. Add Huntsville, Alabama, to your favorite weather app and check out the forecast.

Follow our local news channels and remain weather aware during your stay.

WAAY (ABC), WAFF (NBC), WHNT (CBS), WHDF (CW), and WZDX (Fox)



Spring

Mar. | Apr. | May 74° / 51°

Winter

Fa11Sept. | Oct. | Nov. 75° / 52°

Dec. | Jan. | Feb. 55° / 35°

Summer

June | July | Aug.

90° / 70°

Average Highs and Lows— Temperature source: weather.gov



Time Zone
Central



Emergency 911

How to find us

HUNTSVILLE IS LOCATED IN NORTH ALABAMA AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY PLANE OR VEHICLE.

Atlanta, GA	3.5 hrs	1 hr	×
Chicago, IL	9 hrs	2 hrs	×
Columbus, OH	7.75 hrs	3.5 hrs	×
Dallas, TX	10.25 hrs	1.75 hrs	×
Denver, CO	18.5 hrs	2.75 hrs	×
Houston, TX	11.75 hrs	1.75 hrs	×
Louisville, KY	4.5 hrs	3 hrs	×
Memphis, TN	3.75 hrs	3 hrs	×
New Orleans, LA	6.5 hrs	3 hrs	×
Orlando, FL	9.5 hrs	2 hrs	×
Washington, D.C.	11.25 hrs	2 hrs	×

✗ Indicates direct flights.

Additional direct flights are available for Charlotte, NC; Detroit, MI; Las Vegas, NV; and Tampa, FL.



NUMBERS YOU MAY NEED

HUNTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

(non-emergency) 256.722.7100

MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT

(non-emergency) 256.772.5685

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

(non-emergency) 256.722.7181

ALABAMA POISON CENTER

800.222.1222

HUNTSVILLE HOSPITAL

101 Sivley Rd. 256.265.1000

CRESTWOOD HOSPITAL

1 Hospital Dr. SW 256.429.4000



How to get around

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The City of Huntsville public transit system provides convenient, fixed-route service. Paratransit service for those with disabilities is available on the same weekday and Saturday schedule. See the schedule and route maps at huntsvilleal.gov/residents/streets/public-transportation.

CYCLING

You can easily explore with an electric bike rental from Rocket City eBikes or pedal your way with Downtown BlueBikes, a bike share program.

CAR RENTALS

Make your Rocket City adventure all it can be by reserving a set of wheels at any of these helpful vendors: Avis, Budget, Dollar/ Thrifty, Enterprise, Hertz, or National/Alamo.

TAXIS

Heavily populated areas typically have cabs waiting to give you a lift to your next destination.

UBER & LYFT

Rideshare services are available for those needing transportation at any time.

PARKING APP

Make parking at a metered location easy with the Passport Parking app. Learn more at passportparking.com.

HUNTSVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Huntsville's airport (HSV) is a quick drive from downtown and offers nonstop service for popular destinations and hubs. Airport features include a connected Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, on-site dining, and car rental outlets. Airlines include American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Silver Airways, Breeze Airways, and United Airlines. 256.772.9395, flyhuntsville.com. Look for our Visitor Center near baggage claim, where we are waiting to assist you.

More information and helpful links are available at ▼ huntsville.org/visitor-info/ transportation

FAOS Frequently Asked Questions

DO YOU HAVE COUPONS OR DISCOUNTS?

Yes! We can help you save big. Our Passport coupons and the Rocket City Kids Pass are available for download at huntsville.org/visitor-info. Printed Passport coupons can be picked up at either Visitor Center.

WHAT ABOUT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION?

Certainly! The City of Huntsville public transit system runs fixed-route service with paratransit service for those with disabilities. Get more info at huntsvilleal. gov/residents/streets/public-transportation.

HOW CAN I STAY IN THE KNOW?

For the latest news from the Rocket City, sign up for our free "Hello Huntsville" E-blast. Each month we'll send you an update. Our #iHeartHsv blog is another great resource. Find both at huntsville.org.

WHEN IS CULINARY MONTH AND **HUNTSVILLE RESTAURANT WEEK?**

Let's eat! Culinary Month is each August, with Huntsville Restaurant Week serving as the main course with special menus and discounts.

CAN I VISIT THE NASA MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER AND REDSTONE ARSENAL?

The U.S. Space & Rocket Center offers exclusive daily bus tours (please confirm availability in advance) to these restricted locations. U.S. citizenship, supported by a government-issued ID, is required.

WHERE CAN I FIND LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS?

Most food trucks vary their location each week to reach more people. The best way to track them down is on their social media channels. Start with our list of trucks to narrow your search at huntsville.org/ foodtrucks.

CAN I BRING MY DOG?

Yes! Bring them to Huntsville and enjoy an array of pet-friendly options. Start your search with where to stay. Then look for great outdoor opportunities for hiking. Relax with a stop at a welcoming attraction, restaurant, or brewery. Learn more at huntsville.org/ things-to-do/pet-friendly.







Huntsvi∎e/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau

OFFICIAL DESTINATION GUIDE

President & CEO Jennifer Moore **Executive Vice President Charles Winters** Vice President of Conventions Jamie Koshofer Graphic Designer Leah Hall

All images in this guide are courtesy of the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau unless otherwise noted. Ask for a free copy of this guide via phone or website or download it at huntsville.org.

It's the LAW



ALCOHOL

Madison County is "wet," meaning alcohol sales are allowed throughout the county seven days a week. Alabama's legal drinking age is 21. Drink responsibly and use a designated driver. Official entertainment districts allow for drinks, in designated cups, to be taken outside.



DRIVING

Alabama's distracted driving laws prohibit text messaging or holding a cell phone for all drivers. Alabama seat belt law requires all passengers to wear a seat belt. Obey posted speed limits.



MOTORCYCLES/BICYCLES

When riding a motorcycle in Alabama, either as a driver or passenger, you must wear protective headgear that is designed specifically for motorcycle riders and passengers. Be aware of posted bike lanes and cyclists on the roads.



CHILD CAR SEATS

Alabama law requires children of certain ages and sizes to be seated in appropriate child car seats. Learn more about seat requirements at alea.gov/dps.



PRODUCED BY

President Dustin Gontarski
Director of Operations Sandra Stevens
Executive Editor Laura McGill

Art Director Rodger Chavis
Production Manager Lorri M. Rhodes

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Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau 500 Church Street NW | Suite One | Huntsville, AL 35801

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