



- **LOCATION:**  
Eight miles northeast of Fort Payne, Alabama.
- **HOURS OF OPERATION:**  
7 a.m. until sundown (day use).
- **SPECIAL EVENTS:**  
Annual Wildflower Saturday and various nature programs/events.
- **RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:**  
Camping, geocaching, hiking, swimming, playground and picnic areas.
- **HOTEL AND CONVENTION FACILITIES:**  
Desoto Lodge, three meeting rooms, large scenic deck, and pavilion rentals available.
- **RENTALS:**  
Cabins, chalets, and log cabins.
- **CAMPING:**  
94 full hook-up sites, 20 primitive sites, and two large group sites. For reservations call 256-845-5075, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.
- **FISHING:**  
Fly fishing in the Little River. DeKalb County Lake and Weiss Lake within a short drive from the park.
- **HIKING:**  
15 miles of hiking trails, with 5 miles of mountain biking trails. Trails range from easy to strenuous.
- **DINING:**  
Historic Mountain Inn Restaurant.



DAVID RAINER

## DESOTO STATE PARK


**Northeast of Fort Payne, Alabama the rich natural diversity of the state is on display at Desoto State Park Resort. Modern accommodations and the best nature has to offer make Desoto a unique destination.**

Located atop Lookout Mountain in northeast Alabama the rushing waterfalls and fragrant wildflowers of Desoto State Park harmonize with the modern conveniences of the park including an Olympic-size swimming pool, tennis courts and a resort lodge. All of this combined with ample opportunities to engage in outdoor activities such as fly fishing the Little River, viewing fall colors or birding on the Azalea Cascade Boardwalk Trail make DeSoto a memorable experience.

The Park is also steeped in American history. Many of Desoto's buildings, including the lodge and some of the cabins, were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the Great Depression. Most of the stone used in the construction was sourced from the park's rock quarry, which can be found just off of the White Trail. CCC artifacts are also on display at Desoto's Nature Center next to the park's country store.

In addition to the park's convention facilities and abundant recreational opportunities, several educational experiences are offered during the year. Wildflower Saturday is an annual event that includes several hikes guided by wildflower experts. The park also hosts campfire talks covering a broad range of outdoor and historic topics. October 2009 talks include: Prehistoric Cultures of Little River Canyon and Ghosts on the Mountain. An Indian Artifact Show will be held at the park's Nature Center in November.

Geocaching, a high-tech treasure hunting game played with GPS equipment, has also become popular at Desoto. The park offers several cache sites. A complete list can be found at the Desoto section of [www.alapark.com](http://www.alapark.com).

**Other area attractions:** Little River Canyon Nature Preserve, the 104-foot Desoto Falls, Sequoyah Caverns, Cloudmont Ski & Golf, True Adventure Sports, Alabama Fan Club and Museum, Ft. Payne and Mentone, Alabama. 

### DESOTO STATE PARK

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