

Discover the *Mid-South's* best-kept secret

# DESOTO

County

2023 VISITORS GUIDE



DeSoto  
County  
Mississippi  
has something  
for everyone.

LIVE MUSIC

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

LOCAL CUISINE

LIVE SPORTING EVENTS

BOUTIQUE SHOPPING

AND MORE

COME ON UP,

DOWN OR OVER,

Y'ALL ARE ALL

WELCOME HERE.

Real places.  
Real food.  
Real life.  
**So why not  
explore?**

*Eric Church  
at Landers Center*

It all  
starts  
at the  
top of  
the  
state.



[info@visitdesotocounty.com](mailto:info@visitdesotocounty.com)

662-393-8770

[www.visitdesotocounty.com](http://www.visitdesotocounty.com)

 | DeSoto County Tourism

 | @visitdesotocounty

 | @visitdesotocounty

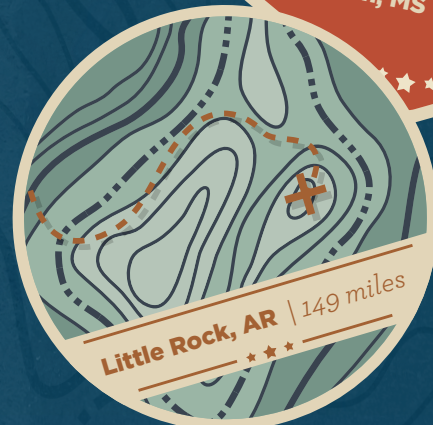
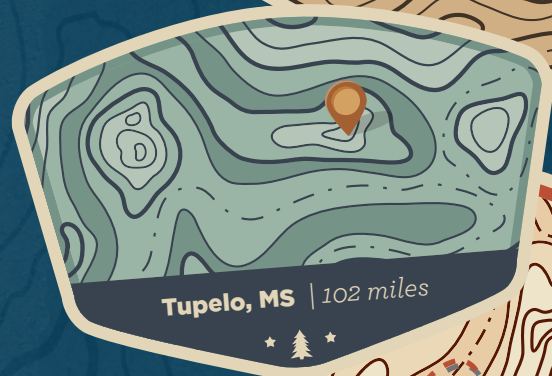
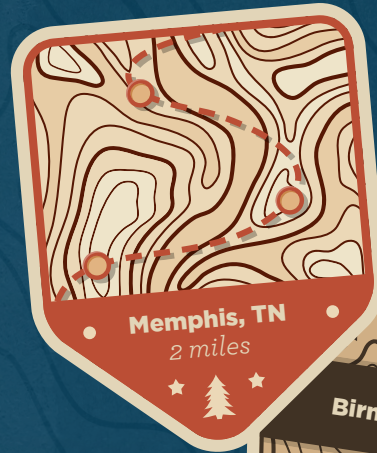
When we say “Y’all are welcome here,” we mean it. DeSoto County is a destination for all, regardless of gender, age, race, religion, socioeconomic status or sexual orientation.



What makes for an unforgettable weekend getaway? Is it enjoying a delicious Southern meal? Touring historical sites? Biking along the Mississippi River? Treating yourself to a shopping spree? Whatever it is, DeSoto County, Mississippi, is the place to escape. Just minutes from Memphis, this slice of heaven located at the top of the Magnolia State is the Mid-South’s best-kept secret and is just waiting to be discovered. ***So, come on up, down or over. Y’all are all welcome here.***



# We are always close by.







# Get outdoors in DeSoto County.

AS THE THIRD LARGEST  
COUNTY IN THE  
MAGNOLIA STATE,  
DESOTO COUNTY OFFERS  
AMPLE OPPORTUNITY  
TO DISCOVER THE  
GREAT OUTDOORS.



## HERNANDO

### Arkabutla Lake

Whether it is hunting, fishing, exploring nature trails, boating or biking, Arkabutla Lake provides a variety of activities and several ADA-accessible amenities. The area boasts more than 30,000 acres of public hunting land, 229 Class A campsites, 46 primitive campsites, eight boat ramps, swimming beaches, playgrounds, picnic areas and a disc golf course.

🚗 | 3905 Arkabutla Dam Road

☎ | 662-562-6261

💻 | [mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Arkabutla-Lake/](http://mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Arkabutla-Lake/)

## HORN LAKE

### Latimer Lakes Park

This 120-acre park features a nature walking trail, lighted tennis courts, baseball, soccer and football fields; fishing lakes, 20-hole disc golf course, a volleyball court, playground and skateboard park.

🚗 | 5633 Tulane Road

☎ | 662-342-3468

💻 | [hornlake.org/parks](http://hornlake.org/parks)

## OLIVE BRANCH

### Olive Branch City Park

Enjoy walking and mountain bike trails, a multi-lane track, dog park, tennis courts, baseball and softball fields, three fishing lakes and an ADA-accessible playground at this 135-acre property.

🚗 | 8267 Goodman Road

☎ | 662-893-5219

💻 | [obms.us/parks](http://obms.us/parks)

## SOUTHAVEN



### BankPlus Sports Center

Guests of all ages can take practice swings in batting cages, play rounds of outdoor mini golf, take part in tennis matches and more at this sprawling Southaven property.

🚗 | 3335 Pine Tar Alley

☎ | 662-890-7275

💻 | [southaven.org](http://southaven.org)

## WALLS



### Hernando DeSoto River Park

Bike, walk, fish, have a picnic, fire up the grill and more at Hernando DeSoto River Park nestled on the banks of the Mississippi River. This is DeSoto County's only public access to the Mighty Mississippi.

☎ | 662-469-8152

💻 | [desotocountymms.gov](http://desotocountymms.gov)

There are  
497 square  
miles of  
things to  
discover.





# Annual events.

DESOTO COUNTY

HOSTS ALL TYPES

OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT

THE YEAR. MARK YOUR

CALENDARS AND HEAD TO

[VISITDESOTOCOUNTY.COM](http://VISITDESOTOCOUNTY.COM)

FOR MORE INFORMATION.



## SPRING

### A'Fair Arts & Crafts Festival

Browse local vendor booths, check out craft demonstrations, let the little ones enjoy the kids' area and grab a meal from one of the many food trucks on site.

📞 | 662-280-8875

💻 | [hernandooptimist.org](http://hernandooptimist.org)

### American Bonsai Society's Rendezvous on the River

Learn the art of bonsai from the best and brightest in the industry at this annual event.

📞 | 800-582-2593

💻 | [brusselsbonsai.com](http://brusselsbonsai.com)



### Brew Fest

Choose from 150 beers from more than 60 breweries to sample and enjoy delicious local food at this annual event held at Mississippi Ale House and Brew Pub. Your Brew Fest ticket includes a souvenir pint glass.

📞 | 662-420-7538

💻 | [mississippialehouse.com](http://mississippialehouse.com)



### Cedar Hill Farm Easter Events

Celebrate Easter with an egg hunt, or by having brunch or dinner with the Easter bunny.

📞 | 662-429-2540

💻 | [gocedarhillfarm.com](http://gocedarhillfarm.com)



### DeSoto Arts Festival

Local artisans line the streets to show off their creations and food trucks abound at this annual festival.

📞 | 662-404-3361

💻 | [desotoartscouncil.com](http://desotoartscouncil.com)

### Mudbug Bash

Panola Street becomes Palmer Party Plaza every spring for food, fun and good times benefiting Palmer Home for Children.

📞 | 855-672-5637

💻 | [palmerhome.org](http://palmerhome.org)

### Southaven Springfest

This event held at Snowden Grove Park features a barbecue cooking contest that is a dual-sanctioned event, with Memphis BBQ Network and Kansas City Barbecue Society, as well as a carnival midway for the kids. Wristband nights are Tuesday-Thursday.

📞 | 662-393-6939

💻 | [southaven.org](http://southaven.org)

## SUMMER



### Annual Tri-State Blues Festival

DeSoto County is one of the birthplaces of the blues, and that deserves to be celebrated. Enjoy live music from the best in the business at this event held at Landers Center annually.

📞 | 662-280-9120

💻 | [landerscenter.com](http://landerscenter.com)

### Fourth of July Fireworks

Grab a lawn chair and head to one of the many firework displays held throughout DeSoto County in early July.

📞 | 662-393-8770

💻 | [visitdesotocounty.com/events](http://visitdesotocounty.com/events)

## FALL



### Cedar Hill Farm Events

A pumpkin patch, hayrides, a corn maze and more await you every fall at Cedar Hill Farm. For those looking for a spooky good time, check out the Haunted Farm events held in October.

📞 | 662-429-2540

🌐 | [gocedarhillfarm.com](http://gocedarhillfarm.com)



### Mid-South Fair

This annual, 10-day event is packed with fun for the whole family. Think thrill rides, kid-friendly attractions, carnival games, live music, a youth talent show, a pageant, delicious food, a petting zoo, ground acts and more.

📞 | 662-280-9120

🌐 | [midsouthfair.com](http://midsouthfair.com)



### Water Tower Festival

Shop arts and crafts from local vendors, check out the car show, listen to live music, participate in the barbecue cooking contest or the corn hole competition at this annual, family friendly event.

📞 | 662-429-9055

🌐 | [hernandoms.org](http://hernandoms.org)

## WINTER



### Cedar Hill Farm Christmas Events

Cut down your own Christmas tree, break bread with Santa and drive through the Christmas Traditions light show.

📞 | 662-429-2540

🌐 | [gocedarhillfarm.com](http://gocedarhillfarm.com)

### Holiday Open Houses

Local businesses and chambers of commerce host open houses to get you into the holiday spirit and to help you find locally made gifts.

📞 | 662-393-8770

🌐 | [visitdesotocounty.com](http://visitdesotocounty.com)

### Parades

Christmas parades abound in DeSoto County every December.

📞 | 662-393-8770

🌐 | [visitdesotocounty.com](http://visitdesotocounty.com)

### Southaven Central Park's Southern Lights

Enjoy the beauty Christmas lights bring from the comfort of your vehicle at this annual drive-through light show.

📞 | 662-280-2489

🌐 | [southaven.org](http://southaven.org)



### Hernando Chocolate Tour

Locally made chocolate treats and Valentine's Day goodies are the stars of this event held just before Valentine's Day each year.

📞 | 662-429-9055

🌐 | [hernandoms.org](http://hernandoms.org)



A close-up photograph of a guitar, focusing on the body and strings. The body is a warm, golden-brown color with a visible wood grain. There are several circular holes in the upper part of the body. The strings are silver and run vertically across the frame. The bridge is visible at the top, with two circular holes. The lower part of the image shows a white, perforated metal plate with diamond-shaped holes.

# Discover history.

DESOTO COUNTY'S

CULTURE AND CHARM

WAS CULTIVATED

BY ALL WHO CAME

BEFORE US.





### Mississippi Freedom Trail

The Mississippi Freedom Trail was created in 2011 to commemorate the people and places that played a pivotal role in the American Civil Rights Movement. It is our honor to have the March Against Fear marker in Hernando to shine a light on Civil Rights activist James Meredith's courageous acts.



### Mississippi Blues Trail

Did you know DeSoto County is one of the birthplaces of the blues? To honor the talented musicians who spent significant time in the Magnolia State, the Mississippi Blues Commission created the Mississippi Blues Trail in 2006. The trail is a sprawling collection of markers dedicated to the artists who contributed greatly to the genre. It stretches across the state,

with each marker giving a synopsis of the musicians' contributions to the blues. We're proud to have five of these markers around the county.



### Mississippi Country Music Trail

Country music has deep roots here in Mississippi, and one legendary star calls DeSoto County home. Does "goodness gracious great balls of fire!" ring a bell? Jerry Lee Lewis spent many years in Nesbit at his home referred to as The Lewis Ranch, and now lives elsewhere in DeSoto County.

Photo Credit: Mark Hilton

### DeSoto County Museum

Artifacts and memorabilia in the main building, and a restored log cabin built in the 1840s used for educational opportunities make up this DeSoto County attraction. The DeSoto County Museum packs learning and entertainment opportunities for visitors of all ages. Admission is free and exhibits rotate throughout the year, making it a great place to visit time and time again.

**We invite  
you to  
discover  
the rich  
history of  
our area.**





**We want  
you to make  
yourself at  
home while  
you're here.**

# Discover connection.

Ready to plan a trip to DeSoto County?  
Good, because y'all are all welcome  
here! Give us a call, send us an email  
or direct message us on social media  
for more information on what the top  
of Mississippi has to offer.



📞 | 662-393-8770  
💻 | [info@visitdesotocounty.com](mailto:info@visitdesotocounty.com)  
📘 | DeSoto County Tourism  
🐦 | @visitdesotocty  
📷 | @visitdesotocty



Our mission is to give every visitor an immersive,  
beyond-the-ordinary experience by promoting the unique  
attractions, history and charm of DeSoto County.



