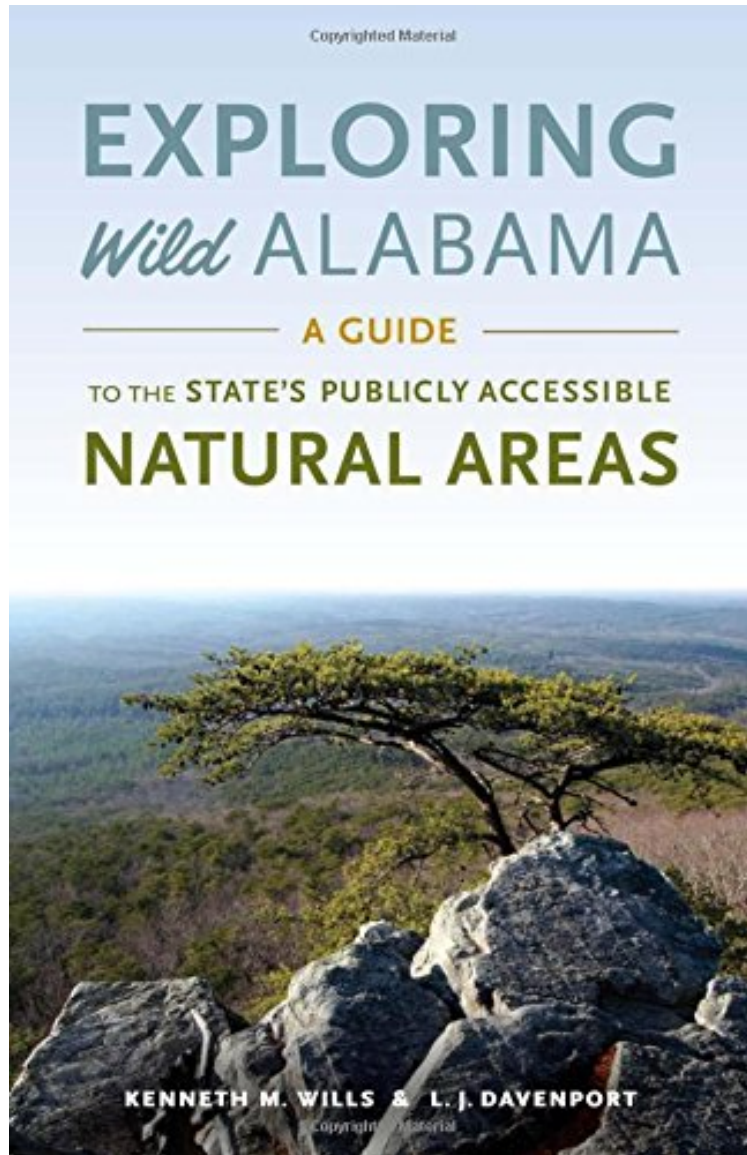


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## Exploring Wild Alabama: A Guide to the State's Publicly Accessible Natural Areas

*Kenneth M. Wills, Dr. L. J. Davenport*  
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**Kenneth M. Wills, Dr. L. J. Davenport** : Exploring Wild Alabama: A Guide to the State's Publicly Accessible Natural Areas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exploring Wild Alabama: A Guide to the State's Publicly Accessible Natural Areas:

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Wills and Davenport have compiled an excellent guide to areas of Alabama for the naturalist, tourist, sightseer, vacationer, or just plain vagabond. Concise descriptions and detailed directions are sure to please even the most savvy outdoorsperson in their pursuit of Alabama's wonderful natural treasures. A must have for travelers, hikers, and canoeists!  
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I often drive through Alabama and want to take a walking explore or an interesting stay on my trip. This book is well written, organized and informative even near/in cities like Birmingham with it's Moss Rock Preserve!  
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Excellent reference guide for outdoor Alabama! I personally know both authors who are very know Alabama well and the best places to go!

Exploring Wild Alabama is an exceptionally detailed guide to the most beautiful natural destinations in the state. From the rocky outcrops of the Appalachian plateaus to the sugar-white beaches of the Gulf Coasts Orange Beach and Dauphin Island, Alabama offers a wealth of remarkable sites to explore by car or canoe, bicycle or motorcycle, or on foot. Intrepid explorers Kenneth M. Wills and L. J. Davenport divide Alabama into eleven geographic regions that feature state parks and preserves, national monuments and forests, wildlife management areas, Nature Conservancy and Forever Wild properties, botanical gardens and arboreta, as well as falls, caverns, and rock cliffs. Exploring Wild Alabama provides detailed site entries to one hundred and fifty destinations. Each section is beautifully illustrated with color photographs and area maps. Exploring Wild Alabama includes a large state map and numerous local topographic maps to help readers locate each site. Individual site entries include written directions to each site and GPS coordinates; engaging notes about the ecology, landscape features, and local species of plants and animals of the sites; and international recreation symbols for hiking, fishing, boating, camping, hunting, and other fun outdoor activities. Wills and Davenport guide travelers to Alabama jewels such as Sand Mountain Chitwood Barrens, which harbors the rare Green Pitcher Plant and other exotic botanical species; Blowing Springs Cave in Lauderdale County, named for the cool air and the clear spring flowing out of the cave opening; Jackson Prairies in the Lime Hills region; and Bookers Mill in Conecuh County, offering diverse habitats and historic structures. Long a favorite destination for outdoor sports enthusiasts, Alabama is fast becoming a major ecotourism destination, with thousands of travelers discovering the states unsung natural treasures. Exploring Wild Alabama will be used and trusted by anyone who loves the outdoorsbirders, botanists, cave explorers, cyclists, hunters, fishermen, rock climbers, canoeists, teachers, and other outdoor enthusiasts.

In Exploring Wild Alabama Kenneth M. Wills and L. J. Davenport have put together a remarkably detailed guide to some of our state's most impressive places [ . . . ] This book tells you when, where, how, and even what time of year to visit them along with informed notes about why you should. Birmingham magazine Exploring Wild Alabama goes beyond the classic guidebook for seeing many of the natural wonders our great state has to offer. It represents the culmination of extensive field research and exploration that brings the knowledge of natural sciences and history to the general public. The work is exceptionally well-written and includes detailed descriptions of the geology, geography, flora, and fauna of each location, as well as various activities to enjoy. I look forward to seeing this book on the shelves of bookstores, gift shops, and outdoor stores throughout Alabama.  
Randy Mecredy, former director of the Alabama Museum of Natural History