





GUIDE TO MOBILE

A great place to live, play and grow a business.

Mobile Chamber











2021 GUIDE TO MOBILE



Mobile is a great place to live, play, raise a family and grow a business. Founded in 1702, this port city is one of America's oldest. Known for its Southern hospitality, rich traditions and an enthusiastic spirit of fun and celebration, Mobile offers an unmatched quality of life. Our streets are lined with massive live oaks, colorful azaleas and historic neighborhoods. A vibrant downtown and quality healthcare and education are just some of the things that make our city so livable. Located at the mouth of the Mobile River at Mobile Bay, leading to the Gulf of Mexico, Mobile is only 30 minutes from the sandy white beaches of Dauphin Island, yet the mountains of northern Alabama are only a few hours away. Our diverse city offers an endless array of fun and enriching activities – from the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo to freshwater fishing, museums to the modern IMAX Dome Theater, tee time on the course to tea time at a historic antebellum home. Then there's the world-renowned Bellingrath Gardens, Battleship USS ALABAMA, Dauphin Island Sailboat Regatta, Mardi Gras and the Christmas parade of boats along Dog River. Discover what makes Mobile home!

Mobile Chamber

451 Government Street • Mobile, AL 36602
P.O. Box 2187 • Mobile, AL 36652-2187
251.433.6951 mobilechamber.com

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It's Mo-beel!

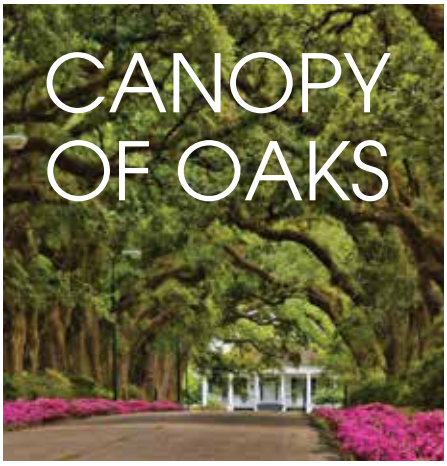
The city's name is pronounced "mo-beel," (with a soft emphasis on the second syllable). The name was given by the French and comes from the Maubila Indians.



AMERICA'S AMAZON

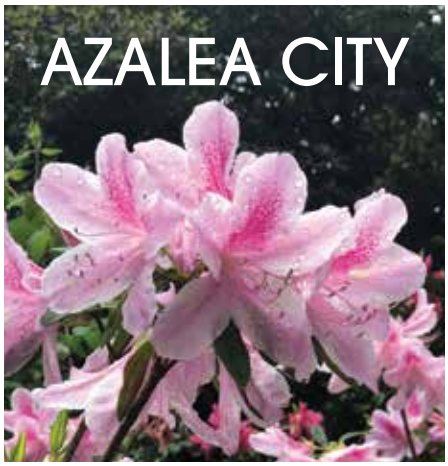
Mobile-Tensaw River Delta

The **Mobile-Tensaw River Delta**, the second-largest river delta in the United States, covers more than 260,000 acres of water, swamps, river bottoms and marshes perfect for exploring, fishing, hunting, boating, canoeing and birding. Designated by the U.S. Congress as a National Natural Landmark, the area is rich in diverse wildlife.



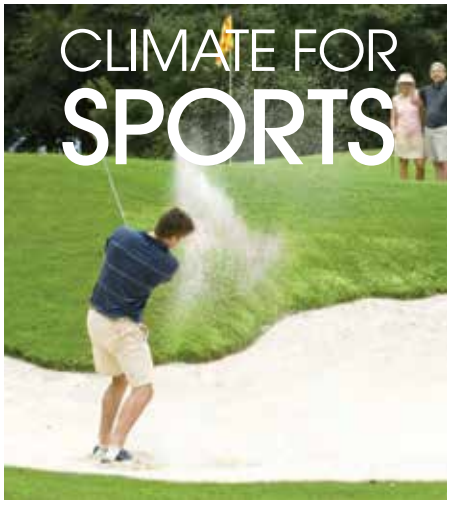
CANOPY OF OAKS

Mobile is known for its miles of streets canopied by majestic live oaks. The city's oldest living resident, the Duffee Oak, is a massive 300-year-old oak tree and is one of 3,000 live oaks in Mobile more than 100 years old.



AZALEA CITY

Mobile is known as the Azalea City thanks to Fifisse Langlois, who first brought the bright pink blossoms here from his father's garden in Toulouse, France, in 1754.



CLIMATE FOR SPORTS

From golf to fishing to tennis, Mobile has most every sporting option and a mild climate for yearlong enjoyment. Regional golf is among the nation's finest, with more than 25 courses.

LEARN MORE

Mobile has four major universities – one public, **University of South Alabama**; one private Jesuit, **Spring Hill College**; one private Southern Baptist institution, **University of Mobile**; and private **Faulkner University**. **Mobile County Public Schools** is the largest public school system in the state and one of the most populous in the country.

INTERNATIONAL ROOTS

Founded in 1702, Mobile is one of the oldest U.S. cities. Six different flags have flown over the city: France, Spain, Great Britain, Republic of Alabama, Confederacy, and United States of America.



3 CENTURIES OF FUN



Mobile is the birthplace of Mardi Gras in the United States. The first masked carnival society paraded through downtown streets in 1830. Now more than 50 parading and non-parading societies maintain the city's Mardi Gras traditions, including three weeks of parades, balls and pageantry.

MOBILE BY THE NUMBERS

Mobile Bay Region

The Mobile Bay region is located in southwest Alabama at the head of Mobile Bay. The region includes Mobile and Baldwin counties and covers an area of 2,828 square miles, with the city of Mobile as the dominant urban area.



Photo by Colette Boehm

Mobile Area Population

	Population	Median Age
City of Mobile	191,485	37
Mobile County	414,659	37
Baldwin County	208,107	42
Mobile Bay Area	622,766	39

Source: Chmura Economics, JobsEQ

With a 2015 estimated census population of 619,104, the Mobile Bay region is Alabama's second-largest metro area. Mobile County, the second-largest county in the state, has 414,659 residents. Baldwin County's population is 208,107 and has increased more than 12 percent since 2010, making it the fastest-growing county in Alabama. The population for the city of Mobile is 191,485.



Mobile Bay National Estuary photo

Climate

Mobile's mild, semi-tropical climate makes outdoor activities enjoyable year-round. Thanks to the Gulf of Mexico air, summers are consistently warm and the winters are mild. The Mobile area averages approximately 219 days of sunshine every year. That makes it sunny 60 percent of the year.

Clear Days	103
Partly Cloudy Days	116
Annual Average Temperature	67.5
Coldest Month – January Average	50
Warmest Month – July Average	82.2
Annual Average Rainfall	64 inches
Annual Average Snow	0
Prevailing Wind Direction	North

ALREADY HOME TO MORE THAN **40** AEROSPACE COMPANIES

HOME TO AIRBUS U.S. MANUFACTURING FACILITY — THE COMPANY'S FIRST PRODUCTION SITE IN AMERICA.
The initial $600 million, roughly 60-acre assembly plant is located at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley.



Median Household Income

City of Mobile	$40,588
Mobile County	$46,166
Mobile Bay Area	$49,451

Source: Chmura Economics, JobsEQ



MORE THAN **200** BUSINESSES SERVING THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY



An Airbus A220, built for Delta Airlines, takes off from Brookley Field.

Photo by Tad Denson, Airwind Inc.

The Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce is the lead economic developer for the City of Mobile and Mobile County. Our economic success is attributed to the collaborative efforts of Team Mobile – a group including the city, county, Chamber, Alabama State Port Authority, Mobile Airport Authority and local utility and educational entities.

According to an economic impact study by Auburn University at Montgomery, Mobile has the most diverse economy in Alabama. Since 2010, local economic development efforts garnered $4.56 billion in capital investment at new and existing area companies, created 8,694 new jobs and retained another 541 jobs. Learn more at mobilechamber.com/economic-development.

8,694
NEW JOBS CREATED

$4.56B
IN CAPITAL INVESTMENTS
AT NEW AND EXISTING COMPANIES

The following companies are among the most recent to announce new or additional investment here:

Airbus
Aircraft Manufacturing
airbus.com

Mobile is the fourth city in the world and the only U.S. city to assemble the A320 aircraft family. Airbus recently completed a hangar to assemble smaller, single-aisle A220 jetliners.

Aker Solutions
Oilfield Services
akersolutions.com

The company added Oscilay umbilicals, linking surface and seafloor oil and gas equipment, to its manufacturing capabilities and relocated most of its professional staff to Mobile.

Amazon
Warehousing
amazon.com

Amazon's first investment in the state was a sortation center in Mobile. More than a million packages a month come through the local warehouse.

AM/NS Calvert
Steel Manufacturing
usa.arcelormittal.com

The joint venture of ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel is expanding to produce slabs currently brought from Brazil. The company manufactures rolled carbon steel products for the automotive, construction and other industries.

APM Terminals Mobile Container Terminal
Stevedoring Contractors
apmterminals.com

Mobile's growing container port recently completed a container berth and container yard expansions. The company continues to be a draw for distributors looking to reach Midwest and Canadian customers.



Austal USA builds combat and transport ships for the U.S. Navy at Mobile's waterfront. *Austal USA photo*

Arkema
Chemicals
arkema-americas.com

The company added a facility to produce PEKK (Poly-Ether-Ketone-Ketone), a lightweight, high-strength plastic used in various industries from aerospace to 3D printing.

Austal USA
Shipbuilding
austalusa.com

The company acquired additional waterfront land, buildings and existing dry dock along the Mobile River. Austal USA builds Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport vessels for the U.S. Navy.

AutoMOBILE International Terminal
Roll-on/Roll-off

The Alabama State Port Authority and AutoMOBILE International Terminal announced an automobile roll on/roll off operation. When completed, the facility is anticipated to process 150,000 units annually.

Bay Steel
Steel
baysteelcorp.com

This locally owned business recently purchased land to build an office and warehouse facility for its steel and aluminum products. Once completed, Bay Steel plans to triple the number of overhead cranes.

BendPak
Auto Lifts
bendpak.com

BendPak opened its new distribution center to reach its Midwest, East Coast and Canadian markets, and soon after announced an expansion. The company manufactures and sells automotive lifts used in car dealerships and parking garages.

EXPANSIONS AT
57
EXISTING COMPANIES

AVERAGE SALARY OF JOBS CREATED
$57,374

Berg Pipe
Steel Pipe
bergpipe.com

Berg is increasing capacity and its number of employees. The company manufactures large-diameter steel pipe used to transport natural gas and oil, primarily in North America.

Canfor Southern Pine
Lumber
canfor.com

Canfor moved its U.S. headquarters to Mobile from Canada. The lumber company has sawmills across North America, including one here.

Continental Aerospace Technologies
Aircraft Engines
continental.aero

A recently completed state-of-the-art manufacturing facility and corporate office secured the company's re-commitment to Mobile as its corporate global headquarters.

Evonik
Chemicals
evonik.com

Evonik expanded production and established a chemical park for companies to benefit from the company's byproducts. One high-profile partnership is with BASF Agricultural Solutions.

Incoa Performance Minerals
Special Minerals

The start-up company is under construction to provide calcium carbonate used as a filler in a variety of products from antacids to paint to U.S. markets.

Innovation Portal
innovation-portal.com

The nonprofit incubator and innovation hub renovated a building in Mobile's technology corridor to retain, support and accelerate the central Gulf Coast's highest-performing startups.

Jones Welding Co.
Machining, Fabrication & Welding
jwcmachine.com

The local company's investment is aimed at increasing volume and complexity of products with modern equipment and technology. JWC specializes in industrial equipment repair.

Kemira
Chemicals
kemira.com

Kemira recently expanded its footprint, production and the number of employees. The company uses chemistry to add quality to paper/board products, ensure water and food packaging safety, and maximize energy resources.

Kimberly-Clark Corp.
Paper Products
kimberly-clark.com

The company announced multiple investments, including a new product line, an onsite heat and power plant, additional converting line and an expanded recycled fiber facility.

MAAS Aviation
Aviation Technology
maasaviation.com

In addition to the paint shop MAAS set up at Airbus, the company completed a twin-bay paint shop dedicated to maintenance, repair and overhaul.

Millard Maritime
Maritime Terminals
millardmaritime.com

The privately owned port facility located in south Mobile County broke ground to expand its rail capacity.

MTC Logistics
Refrigerated & Frozen Warehousing
mtccold.com

The logistics company is expanding to Mobile, building a cold storage distribution facility focused on import and export cargo.



Evonik is located in south Mobile county, and has several recent expansions.



AM/NS Calvert is part of a growing steel industry in the Mobile area.

Prism Systems
Software Development
prismsystems.com

The Mobile-based company recently completed a research and development lab. Prism creates systems control software for Fortune 500 companies and other customers.

Safran USA
Aviation Nacelles
safran-usa.com

The manufacturing operation will produce and install aircraft nacelles that house the engine and related components. The company has three operations here.

SpillTech
High-Tech Sorbents
spilltech.com

The company manufactures and distributes a variety of high-performance absorbent products used in industrial environments and during hazmat incidences. SpillTech announced two investments in 2020, both to increase capacity.

SSAB
Steel Manufacturing
ssab.com

The company moved its U.S. division's head office to Mobile. SSAB's manufacturing facility in Axis produces steel plate used in automobiles, elevator buckets and other sectors.

Threaded Fasteners
Industrial Components
threadedfasteners.com

The local company is constructing a building to fabricate, assemble and package its bolts and specialty headed products for maritime, industrial, transportation, utility customers and more. Threaded Fasteners recently completed a galvanizing facility.

Walmart
Warehousing & Distribution
walmart.com

The company opened its newest direct import distribution center in Mobile, one of six in the U.S. The facility stocks Walmart's other distribution centers along the Central Gulf Coast.

31 NEW BUSINESSES RECRUITED

Mobile's Industry Clusters

- Aviation/ Aerospace
- Chemical
- Health Care
- Information Technology
- Maritime
- Logistics/ Distribution
- Oil & Gas
- Steel

MOBILE AREA MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Employment Base

Number of Employees Per Industry



*includes federal employees

Source: Jobs EQ, Chmura Economics & Analytics

Employers by Employee Count	Product or Service
4,000-plus employees	
Austal USA	Shipbuilding
Infirmary Health System	Health Care
Ingalls Shipbuilding	Shipbuilding
Mobile County Public Schools	K-12 Public Education
University of South Alabama & USA Health System	Education/Health Care
2,999 – 1,000 employees	
Alorica	Inbound Call Center
AltaPointe	Health Care
AM/NS Calvert	Steel
Baldwin County Board of Education	Education
Chevron	Oil
City of Mobile	Local Government
Mobile County	Local Government
CPSI	Software
Providence Hospital	Health Care
Springhill Medical Center	Health Care
VT MAE	Aerospace Maintenance & Repair
999 – 500 employees	
Airbus	Aerospace
Alabama Power	Utility
Alabama State Port Authority	Maritime/Transportation
Army Corps of Engineers	Engineering
AT&T	Utility
BASF	Chemicals
Boise Paper	Paper
Evonik	Chemicals
G.A. West & Co.	Industrial Construction
Grand Hotel Marriott Resort	Tourism
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	Paper
Outokumpu Stainless USA	Steel
Regions Bank	Financial
SSAB	Steel
499 – 250 employees	
Alabama Orthopaedic Clinic	Health Care
Canfor Southern Pine	Lumber
Cardiology Associates	Health Care
Coca-Cola Bottling Co.	Food Services
Continental Motors	Aerospace Engines
Fresenius Medical Care	Health Care
Hargrove Engineers + Constructors	Engineering
Masland Carpets	Carpet
Mobile Area Water & Sewer System	Utility
Olin Corp.	Chemicals
Phelps Dunbar	Legal
Premier Medical	Health Care
Spring Hill College	Education
The Hiller Cos.	Fire Systems & Safety
The SSI Group	Software
Thompson Engineering	Engineering
UOP Honeywell	Chemicals
World Omni Financial Corp.	Inbound/Outbound Call Center



EASY ACCESS TO NORTH AMERICA AND WORLD MARKETS

By land, by air or by sea – you can get here from anywhere.

Mobile is the largest Gulf Coast city between New Orleans and Tampa. A few interesting notes about our water economy: the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta is the second largest in the U.S.; Mobile Bay is the fourth largest estuary in the nation; and Mobile Bay holds the second largest natural gas reserve in the world.

2 AIRPORTS IN MOBILE, BOTH WITH FAA PART 139 CERTIFICATION

11TH LARGEST PORT BY VOLUME IN THE U.S.

2 INTERSTATE SYSTEMS: I-10 AND I-65

ACCESS TO **15,000** MILES OF INLAND WATERWAYS

4 100-GAUGE POST-PANAMAX AND SUPER POST-PANAMAX SHIP-TO-SHORE CRANES

5 CLASS 1 RAILROADS



Mobile's working port is located in downtown Mobile.





When it comes to infrastructure and extensive transportation options, Mobile leads the way. The city's strategic location on the central Gulf Coast and abundant transportation options keep commerce moving and growing. Major rail, ship and highway transportation systems converge along the Mobile River at the Port of Mobile to link Mobile businesses with the nation and the world. In addition to a deepwater port, Mobile has two major interstate connectors, five Class I railroad service providers and two airports.

Port of Mobile

Over the past decade, the **Alabama State Port Authority** has invested more than $700 million at the Port of Mobile, including a container terminal, a steel terminal, expansion at McDuffie Coal Terminal, a rail ferry terminal, new warehouses and a turning basin. The 45-foot ship channel with its 1,000-foot turning basin is only three hours from deepwater. Plans are underway to deepen it by 20 to 50 feet **APM Terminal - Mobile**, a state-of-the-art marine terminal, is Post-Panamax and Super Post-Panamax capable and offers global access to shippers. Weekly container carrier services shipping to destinations worldwide include China Shipping Container Lines (CSCL), CMA CGM, Cosco Shipping, Maersk, Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC) and Zim Integrated Shipping Services. An intermodal container transfer facility provides an intermodal rail option to shippers in North Alabama, Tennessee and surrounding states. McDuffie Coal Terminal is the largest import coal terminal in the nation.

Alabama Cruise Terminal

The **Alabama Cruise Terminal** features a 66,000-square-foot terminal, state-of-the-art security and an attached 500-space parking deck with easy access to interstates 10 and 65. Carnival recently announced the terminal will be the home port for its *Sensation*.

Railroads

Mobile is served by five national Class I railroads: CSX, Canadian National, Alabama Gulf Coast Railroad - BNSF, Norfolk Southern and Kansas City Southern with piggyback and containerized freight service.

Highway System

Mobile's highway system includes two major interstates and five federal highways. Interstate 10, the southernmost coast-to-coast interstate highway in the U.S. connects Jacksonville to Los Angeles. Interstate 65, a major north-south route, links the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast. The area's federal highways are U.S. 31, 43, 45, 90 and 98.

As a major manufacturing center and port city, Mobile offers competitive trucking for shippers. Most major regional and national trucking lines serve Mobile and operate terminals in the area.

Airlines

The **Mobile Airport Authority** owns and operates Mobile's two airports, Mobile Regional Airport (MOB) and the Mobile Downtown Airport (BFM) at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley. Mobile Regional Airport is served by Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and American Airlines. Daily flights go to some of the nation's largest hubs: Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston.

Air Cargo

From the Mobile Downtown Airport, near the port and downtown, Mobile has FedEx air cargo service.

Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley

A former U.S. Air Force base located on Mobile Bay near downtown, Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley was transformed into a leading 1,700-acre industrial and trade complex. Built around a fully operational airfield with a 9,600-foot runway, the complex offers transportation infrastructure second to none. Along with a fully operational airport able to accommodate the largest aircraft, Brookley provides superb road and rail access.

Public Transportation

Mobile is served by **The Wave Transit System**, offering bus service throughout the city. The Wave also operates Moda!, a free bus route in downtown Mobile. **Baldwin Rural Area Transportation System (BRATS)** operates BayLinc, a daily commuter bus connecting Baldwin and Mobile counties.

Transportation Online

To learn more about transportation options in the Mobile area, visit these websites:

- **Alabama State Port Authority**
  asdd.com
- **City of Mobile**
  cityofmobile.org
- **Mobile County**
  mobilecountyal.gov
- **Mobile Airport Authority**
  mobairport.com
- **The Wave Transit System**
  thewavetransit.com

5 MAJOR HOSPITALS WITH MORE THAN 1,900 BEDS











Top row, L-R: Mobile Infirmary, Providence Hospital. Bottom row, L-R: Springhill Medical Center, University Hospital, USA Children's and Women's Hospital.

Mobile is a regional center for medical care, research and education. Nearly 15 percent of Mobile's workforce is employed in the health care sector.

Area hospitals include general facilities, a children's and women's hospital, a private mental health hospital and a rehabilitation hospital. Mobile is also home to a cancer research center affiliated with the University of South Alabama. In addition, Mobile is home to the first academic cancer research institute on the Gulf Coast, USA Mitchell Cancer Institute.

Military hospitals are located within 60 miles of Mobile at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., and Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss.

There are also many outpatient surgical centers, emergency clinics, military personnel clinics, home healthcare services, assisted living facilities and nursing homes.

Healthcare companies are more than just healthy here. They're thriving, thanks to strides Mobile is making in medical care, research and education.

Mobile Area Chamber-member healthcare facilities include:

Mobile Infirmary

5 Mobile Infirmary Circle, Mobile
251.435.2071
infirmaryhealth.org

Mobile Infirmary has 681 beds, a trauma center and more than 650 physicians. The Infirmary is the largest non-governmental, not-for-profit hospital in Alabama and offers a complete range of medical services, including surgery and rehabilitation. Infirmary Health System also includes JL Bedsole/Rotary Rehabilitation Hospital, North Baldwin Infirmary and Thomas Hospital.

JL Bedsole/Rotary Rehabilitation Hospital

5 Mobile Infirmary Cir., Mobile
251.435.3417
infirmaryhealth.org

Rotary Rehabilitation Hospital has 42 beds and offers continuing treatment for various conditions, including head injuries, strokes, chronic pain and cerebral palsy.

North Baldwin Infirmary

1815 Hand Ave., Bay Minette
251.937.5521
nbinfirmary.com

North Baldwin Infirmary provides residents of North Baldwin County with surgical, outpatient diagnostic, emergency, radiology and laboratory services. The 70-bed hospital also offers a state-of-the-art birth center.

Thomas Hospital

750 Morphy Ave., Fairhope
251.928.2375
infirmaryhealth.org

Thomas Hospital, an Infirmary Health System hospital, has 162 beds. It has a full outpatient diagnostic and surgical center to accommodate the expanding population in Baldwin County.

Ascension Providence

6801 Airport Blvd., Mobile
251.633.1000
healthcare.ascension.org

Serving the Mobile area since 1854, Providence Hospital has 349 beds and is a full-service medical and surgical facility. It includes a rehabilitation and wellness center and an outpatient center. The Cancer Center at Providence Hospital is affiliated with the M.D. Anderson Physicians Network. Providence is one of only seven health care systems in the nation – the only one in Alabama – to provide services under the M.D. Anderson program.

15% of Local Workforce is EMPLOYED IN HEALTH CARE

Springhill Medical Center
3719 Dauphin St., Mobile
251.344.9630
springhillmedicalcenter.com

Springhill Medical Center has 263 beds and offers emergency medicine, a diagnostic center, a women's center and family-centered labor and delivery. It is the only private hospital in Mobile. The campus is also home to primary care physicians, a senior residence, sleep center, cancer center, athletic club, orthopedic surgery center, wound care and hyperbaric center and an emergency department.

University of South Alabama

The College of Medicine at the University of South Alabama (USA) serves the central Gulf Coast and the southern half of the state, and is the region's largest health care system. The college's research department keeps Mobile's health care on the cutting edge of medical science. The university supports a medical system that includes University Hospital, USA Children's and Women's Hospital and USA Mitchell Cancer Institute.

University Hospital
2451 University Hospital Dr., Mobile
251.471.7000
usahealthsystem.com/uh

University Hospital has 406 beds and is the region's only Level 1 trauma center and burn unit with emergency departments. The hospital has centers of excellence in stroke care and cardiovascular diseases and a wide range of acute care services.

USA Children's and Women's Hospital
1700 Center St., Mobile
251.415.1000
usahealthsystem.com/usacwh

USA Children's and Women's Hospital has 219 beds and is dedicated exclusively to the care of women and children. The hospital provides general services and specialized programs such as a regional neonatal intensive care nursery.



USA's Mitchell Cancer Institute, an academic cancer research and treatment facility, is at the forefront in the fight to find new ways to cure and prevent cancer.

USA Mitchell Cancer Institute
1660 Springhill Ave., Mobile
251.665.8000
usamci.com

The USA Mitchell Cancer Institute is the first academic cancer research institute along the upper Gulf Coast region. MCI provides advanced, comprehensive cancer care with a highly skilled team of professionals working together to address the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of patients and their families.

AltaPointe Health Systems
5750-A Southland Dr., Mobile
251.450.2211
altapointe.org

AltaPointe Health Systems oversees a comprehensive regional system of mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse prevention programs in Mobile, Baldwin and Washington counties.

Mercy LIFE
2900 Springhill Ave., Mobile
251.287-8420
mercylifeal.com

The Mercy LIFE of Alabama Health Center offers clinical and rehabilitative services as well as a PACE program for at-home care of the elderly.

Emergency Ambulatory Response

Mobile County has six medical transport agencies, including two aero-medical services (Baptist Hospital Life Flight and Gulf Coast).

Mobile Area Chamber-member companies include:

- **Ferriss Industries Inc. d/b/a First Response Services**
  12400 U.S. Hwy. 43 N., Axis
  251.421.8214
- **Lifeguard Transportation Service of Mobile**
  22 Midtown Park W., Mobile
  251.338.8556 (office)
  251.338.3338 (dispatch)
  lifeguardambulance.com
- **Mobile County EMS**
  7921C Tanner Williams Rd., Mobile
  251.343.7131
  mobilecountyems.org

REAL ESTATE

Mobile is a great place to live, and it's also a great place to buy a house.

The median house value in Mobile County is $126,600, well below the national median of $204,900.

Mobile also has a much lower cost of living than most cities its size, and is among the lowest out of all U.S. metropolitan areas according to Q1 2020 data from the Council for Community and Economic Research.

When it comes to housing options, Mobile has it all in a range of affordable prices – downtown living, rural solitude, historic neighborhoods, modern subdivisions, waterfront homes and suburban apartment complexes.

There is a selection of existing houses in Mobile's downtown and midtown neighborhoods, in seven historic residential districts, ranging from mansions to Victorian cottages. Farther away from the central business district, suburban neighborhoods offer the options of rolling hills or quiet cul-de-sacs.

New houses also are available both in town and in the suburbs. New subdivisions, with a variety of house plans, are under development throughout the area, and new housing options downtown can put you a short walk from the central business district.

For a list of Mobile Area Chamber-member Realtors, visit mobilechamber.com. You may also want to visit these real estate associations:

Mobile Area Association of Realtors:
mobilerealtors.com

Baldwin REALTORS®:
baldwinrealtors.com



Mobile's cost of living is consistently one of the lowest of the 80 mid-size U.S. metropolitan areas.







A Strong Workforce for a Growing Mobile

Mobile's growing business community counts on a strong, talented and dedicated workforce. Abundant education programs ensure local residents have the skills area employers need. Among the most recognized state-led workforce training programs in the country, AIDT offers comprehensive pre-employment selection and on-the-job training specific to a qualifying company's needs. In Mobile, AIDT operates the Alabama Aviation Training Center, AIDT Maritime Training Center and the Erich Heine Learning Center.

Mobile is home to several colleges and universities. The largest is the **University of South Alabama**, with more than 16,000 students. **Faulkner University**, **Spring Hill College** and **University of Mobile** are privately run.

There are also numerous community colleges, training centers and apprenticeship programs, including **Bishop State Community College**, **Alabama Aviation Center** and **Coastal Alabama Community College**. There were over 28,000 students enrolled in higher education in Fall 2019. In the spring of 2016, a new 25,000-square-foot advanced manufacturing training facility was announced to help the **Alabama Community College System** meet employer needs for skilled workers.

In addition to having the state's largest Advanced Placement program, **Mobile County Public Schools** has 12 Signature Academies with career-oriented curriculums based on current and projected job openings. Included areas of focus are advanced information technology, aerospace, coastal studies, engineering, entrepreneurship, health, international studies, manufacturing and maritime.

TOP 5
U.S. TRAINING AGENCY, AIDT



AIDT operates three centers in Mobile: Alabama Aviation Training Center, AIDT Maritime Training Center and the Erich Heine Learning Center.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chickasaw City Schools

201 N. Craft Hwy., Chickasaw
251.452.2256 chickasawschools.com

Chickasaw City Schools serves students in grades K-12 within the Chickasaw city limits with an early learning center, elementary, middle and high school. In the fall of 2020, the system opened Alabama Destinations Career Academy (ALDCA) – an online statewide program of the Chickasaw City Schools providing students with an interactive and engaging learning experience. The academy serves students across the state in grades K-10.

Mobile County Public Schools

1 Magnum Pass, Mobile
251.221.4000 mcpss.com

Mobile County Public Schools has nearly 54,000 children, making it Alabama's largest public school system. The system has two International Baccalaureate high schools, a magnet program serving students in K-8 and 14 National Blue Ribbon Schools, the highest award given by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Callahan School for the Deaf and Blind and Augusta Evans Special School offer services to special-needs students.

In 2021, Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies will open to grades 6-9 in downtown Mobile.

New students enrolling in a public school should bring their parent or legal guardian, a photo ID, two proofs of residence and the student's social security card, birth certificate, certificate of immunization and report cards. Immunizations are required for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Rubella, Measles and Mumps.

Any child who will be five or six years old on or before Sept. 1 is eligible for kindergarten or first grade, respectively.

There are two additional public school systems in Mobile County – Saraland and Satsuma.

Alabama School of Mathematics and Science

1255 Dauphin St., Mobile
251.441.2100 asms.net

The Alabama School of Mathematics and Science attracts some of the brightest high school sophomores, juniors and seniors from all parts of the state and offers outreach programs for local students and schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The area has a large parochial school system operated by the Catholic Archdiocese of Mobile. Many other schools are operated through churches or private boards, including Mobile's only charter school ACCEL Day and Evening Academy is operated by the Mobile Area Education Foundation. In all, there are more than 40 private and denominational schools in Mobile.

Mobile Area Chamber-member private and parochial schools include:

Archdiocese of Mobile Department of Catholic Education

352 Government St., Mobile
251.438.4611 archmobileschools.org

Cottage Hill Christian Academy

K – 5 **7355 Creekwood Dr., Mobile**
251.634.2513
6 - 12 **3100 Cottage Hill Rd., Mobile**
251.301.0050 accelacademymobile.com

Little Flower Catholic School
Pre-K (3 & 4), K – 8
2103 Government St., Mobile
251.479.5761 littleflowermobile.com

McGill-Toolen Catholic High School
Grades 9 – 12
1501 Old Shell Road, Mobile
251.445.2900 mcgill-toolen.org

Mobile Christian
K – 12
5900 Cottage Hill Rd., Mobile
251.666.1613 mobilechristian.org

Renaissance School of the Eastern Shore
Pre-K – 10 grades
10526 County Rd. 64, Daphne
251.990.0041 rs.education.com

St. Luke's Episcopal School
Pre-K – 12
3975 Japonica Lane, Mobile
251.666.2991 stlukesmobile.com

St. Mary's Catholic School
Grades K – 8
107 N. Lafayette St., Mobile
251.433.9904 stmarymobile.org

St. Paul's Episcopal School
Grades Pre-K – 12
161 Dogwood Lane, Mobile
251.342.6700 stpaulsmobile.net

UMS-Wright Preparatory School
Grades Pre-K – 12
65 N. Mobile St., Mobile
251.479.6551 ums-wright.org

COLLEGES

The Mobile area is home to several four-year institutions and two-year community colleges and career training establishments.

Alabama Aviation Center at Mobile
A Unit of Coastal Alabama Community College
1975 Avenue C, Mobile
251.580.4930 coastalalabama.edu

Alabama Aviation Center at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley trains students to work in aviation maintenance and avionics. It was the first two-year college to be designated as an official FAA Educational Resource Center. The facility accommodates 300 students.

Bishop State Community College

Bishop State Community College has four campuses and works with local industries to provide training programs for new and existing employees. In addition to university transfer programs, the college is expanding its technology training to match the needs of Mobile industries.

Main Campus
351 N. Broad St., Mobile
251.405.7000 bishop.edu

Carver Campus
414 Stanton Rd., Mobile
251.662.5362

Southwest Campus
925 Dauphin Island Pkwy., Mobile
251.665.4100

Baker-Gaines Central Campus
1365 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Mobile 251.405.4400

Coastal Alabama Community College
1900 S. U.S. Hwy. 31, Bay Minette
251.580.2100 coastalalabama.edu

A public two-year institution in Baldwin County, it has three campuses located in Bay Minette, Gulf Shores and Fairhope.

Faulkner University
3943 Airport Blvd., Mobile
251.380.9090 faulkner.edu

Faulkner University maintains a campus in Mobile where students can attain associate degrees in most major subjects.

Fortis College
7033 Airport Blvd., Mobile
251.344.1203 fortis.edu

Fortis College offers a variety of programs in healthcare and air conditioning and refrigeration.

MTI Business Solutions
6300 Grelot Rd., Ste. G123, Mobile
251.281.1060 mtibusiness.com

MTI Business Solutions provides business training and computer training to individuals as well as to companies of all sizes.

Remington College
828 Downtowner Loop W., Mobile
251.243-.0639
remingtoncollege.edu/mobile

Remington College offers programs including medical technology, computer technology and criminal justice.

Spring Hill College
4000 Dauphin St., Mobile
251.380.4000 shc.edu

Spring Hill College, founded in 1830, is one of the nation's oldest Jesuit institutions. Recognized as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the South, it offers graduate programs in business administration, theology, liberal arts, nursing and education, as well as a Division for Lifelong Studies for adults wishing to further their education.

University of South Alabama
307 University Blvd., Mobile
251.460.6101 southalabama.edu

The University of South Alabama has nearly 14,000 students at campuses in Mobile and Baldwin counties. The university offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree programs.

In healthcare, USA provides students with an exceptional medical education through the colleges of medicine, nursing and allied health professions.

University of Mobile
5735 College Parkway, Mobile
251.675.5990 umobile.edu

The University of Mobile is a private institution affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. The university offers on-campus and online bachelor's and master's degree programs in over 40 areas of study.

MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS

Mobile has museums and attractions celebrating almost any local topic: history, art, science, horticulture, marine biology, antebellum architecture and, of course, the pageantry and revelry of Mardi Gras. These world-class museums not only make Mobile a cultural destination, but also provide educational facilities seldom found in a city its size.

The History Museum of Mobile and Welcome Center

111 S. Royal St., Mobile
251.208.7569
museumofmobile.com

The History Museum of Mobile, located in a national landmark building, uses interactive exhibits to tell the story of Mobile's more than 300-year history. The museum also serves as the city's official welcome center.

Mobile Carnival Museum

355 Government St., Mobile
251.432.3324
mobilecarnivalmuseum.com

The William J. and Emily Staples Hearin Mobile Carnival Museum showcases Mobile as the birthplace of Mardi Gras. The museum allows visitors to experience the excitement of a Mardi Gras parade any time of the year.



Mobile Medical Museum

1664 Springhill Ave., Mobile
251.415.1109
mobilemedicalmuseum.com

The Mobile Medical Museum uncovers 200 years of medical history.

Alabama Contemporary Art Center

301 Conti St., Mobile
251.208.5671
alabamacontemporary.org

The Alabama Contemporary Art Center shows modern art in an industrial setting in the center of downtown.

Mobile Museum of Art

4850 Museum Dr., Mobile
251.208.5200
mobilemuseumofart.com

The Mobile Museum of Art is the setting for a permanent collection of more than 9,000 works of art spanning two centuries, as well as a changing series of traveling exhibitions and regional art exhibits.

Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center

65 Government St., Mobile
251.208.6881
exploreum.com

The Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center features permanent exhibitions including "My BodyWorks," "Hands on Hall" and "Minds on Hall," as well as major traveling exhibits and movies in the J.L.Bedsole IMAX® Dome Theater.





Clockwise from above left: Mobile Carnival Museum, the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center and Mobile Museum of Art.

MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS



Bellingrath Gardens Mirror Lake

NATURAL BEAUTY

Bellingrath Gardens and Home

12401 Bellingrath Rd., Theodore
251.973-2217 bellingrath.org

Bellingrath Gardens and Home, just south of the city, is one of America's most beautiful display gardens and one of the Gulf Coast's most popular attractions.

Mobile Botanical Gardens

5151 Museum Dr., Mobile
251.342.0555
mobilebotanicalgardens.org

Located near Langan Park, Mobile Botanical Gardens encompasses a 100-acre site of cultivated gardens, woodland trails and a longleaf pine forest.

Estuarium at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab

101 Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island
251.861.2141 disl.org

The Estuarium at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab shows visitors the ecological balance of the four key fish and wildlife habitats of coastal Alabama: the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Mobile Bay, the Barrier Islands and the Gulf of Mexico.

Five Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center

30945 Five Rivers Blvd., Spanish Fort
251.625.0814
alabama5rivers.com

Just minutes from downtown, the state's 83-acre waterfront complex, 5 Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center, provides public access to the wonders of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta with hundreds of miles of rivers and wetlands.

HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUMS

Bragg-Mitchell Mansion

1906 Springhill Ave., Mobile
251.471.6364
braggmitchellmansion.com

The Bragg-Mitchell Mansion gives a glimpse of lavish plantation life.

Condé-Charlotte Museum House

104 Theatre St., Mobile
251.432.4722
facebook.com/Conde-Charlotte-Museum-House

The Condé-Charlotte House, built in the 1820s, is one of the city's oldest surviving houses and is furnished to represent five periods of Mobile's history.

Oakleigh Historic Complex

300 Oakleigh Place, Mobile
251. 432.6161 historicoakleigh.com

Built in 1833, Oakleigh, a classic example of Greek Revival architecture, is Mobile's official antebellum mansion.

Other house museums include the Richards-DAR House, known for its exceptional iron-lace balconies, and the Portier House, home to Mobile's first five Catholic bishops.

HISTORIC SITES

Battleship Memorial Park

2703 Battleship Pkwy., Mobile
251.433.2703 ussalabama.com

Battleship Memorial Park features the USS ALABAMA, a World War II-era battleship, along with the submarine USS DRUM, an aircraft pavilion of historic planes and several war memorials.

Fort Condé

150 S. Royal St., Mobile

Fort Condé is a partial replica of the French colonial fort built in the early 1700s. Using costumed re-enactors, the attraction recreates Mobile's colonial history under the French, Spanish and English.

Guarding the mouth of Mobile Bay, historic Fort Gaines on Dauphin Island and Fort Morgan on the opposite shore played major roles in the Civil War.

Mobile has one of the Gulf Coast's liveliest performing arts scenes. Locally produced opera, symphony, dance and theater, along with traveling shows, give Mobilians a variety of performance options nearly any week of the year.

PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS

Mobile Opera presents two major opera productions each year, along with a variety of educational programs.

Mobile Symphony offers a full season of classical and pops concerts at the Saenger Theatre, student concerts and in-school programs. The symphony has become known as one of the nation's best regional orchestras.

Mobile Ballet presents three major productions each year, featuring its own company and soloists from some of the world's best dance companies. It also operates a dance academy.

Several local theater groups are active in the community, many with their own theater homes. The **Mobile Theatre Guild** has won acclaim at several international competitions. The **Joe Jefferson Players** is Alabama's oldest dramatic company.

The **Playhouse in the Park** trains Mobile's next theater generation at its theater in Langan Park. Another organization offering opportunities for young performers is **Drama Camp Productions at Sunny Side Theater**.

The **Mobile Pops** and other music groups, including **Mobile Piano Ensemble**, present concerts at various locations throughout the year.

Mobile's Singing Children have performed throughout the nation and is a popular outlet for talented youth.

THEATERS AND ART CENTERS

The historic **Saenger Theatre** attracts a number of the nation's top touring acts. The ornate 1,800-seat theater is also home to the Mobile Symphony.

The **Mobile Civic Center** is a multipurpose complex including an arena, theater and exhibit hall. The theater is home to Mobile Opera, Mobile Ballet and traveling productions.

Bernheim Hall, renovated as part of the expansion of the Ben May Main Library of the Mobile Public Library, offers a more intimate setting for performances, lectures and film.

University of South Alabama Laidlaw Performing Arts Center offers music, theater and dance performances by student, faculty and community groups and is home to Mobile Chamber Music.

The **Mobile Arts Council** is a nonprofit organization promoting the development of quality arts programs and cultural growth.



Mobile Symphony photo

The Mobile Symphony Orchestra is one of the Gulf Coast's top regional orchestras.

Performing Arts Online

Find out more about events in the Mobile Bay area by visiting cityofmobile.org/calendar.

To learn more about the performing arts in the Mobile area, visit these websites:

- **Joe Jefferson Players**
  joejeffersonplayers.com
- **Mobile Arts Council**
  mobilearts.org
- **Mobile Ballet**
  mobileballet.org
- **Mobile Civic Center**
  mobilecivicccenter.com
- **Mobile Chamber Music**
  mobilechambermusic.org
- **Mobile Mystery Dinners**
  mobilemysterydinners.com
- **Mobile Opera**
  mobileopera.org
- **Mobile Pops**
  themobilepops.com
- **Mobile Public Library**
  mobilepubliclibrary.org
- **Mobile Saenger Theatre**
  mobilesaenger.com
- **Mobile's Singing Children**
  mobilesingingchildren.org
- **Mobile Symphony Orchestra**
  mobilesymphony.org
- **Mobile Theatre Guild**
  mobiletheatreguild.org
- **Playhouse in the Park**
  playhouseinthepark.org
- **Sunny Side Theater**
  sunnysidedrama.com
- **The Steeple**
  thesteeplemobile.com
- **University of South Alabama Laidlaw Performing Arts Center**
  southalabama.edu/colleges/music/laidlaw.html



The Ben May Main Library is located in downtown Mobile.

MOBILE PUBLIC LIBRARY

With more than 600,000 items in its collection, the Mobile Public Library serves the citizens of the city of Mobile and Mobile County with 10 locations and a bookmobile. The library not only offers books, but also audio books, CDs, DVDs and e-books.

The Local History and Genealogy Division boasts one of the best regional collections of major city newspapers from 1851 and the Press-Register from 1817, as well as impressive sets of maps and census records unmatched on the central Gulf Coast.

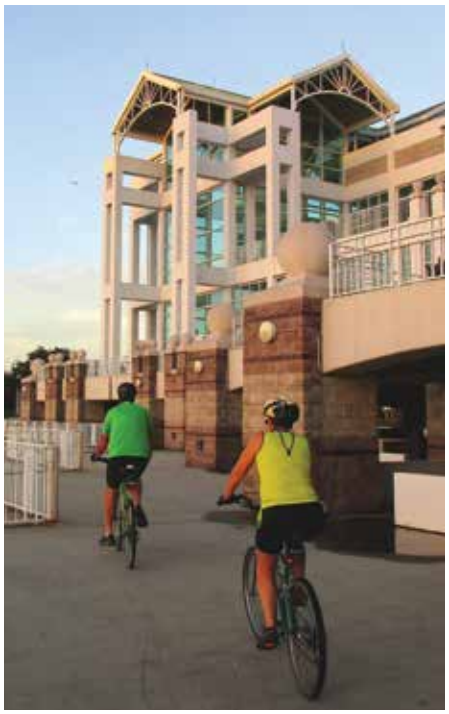
The library provides popular events for children and families, and its summer reading program is the largest in the state.

The Mobile Public Library's main branch was named among the 50 most beautiful libraries in America in a state-by-state ranking by *Elle Decor* magazine in 2016.

Find out more about the library and its services at mobilepubliclibrary.org.

- **Ben May Main Library**
  701 Government St., Mobile
  251.340.1535
  mobilepubliclibrary.org
- **Monte L. Moorer/Spring Hill Branch**
  4 S. McGregor Ave., Mobile
  251.470.7770
- **Parkway Branch**
  1924-B Dauphin Island Pkwy., Mobile
  251.470.7766
- **Saraland Public Library**
  111 Saraland Loop, Saraland
  251.675.2879
- **Semmes Regional Library**
  9150 Moffett Rd., Semmes
  251.494.4935
- **Theodore Oaks Branch**
  5808 U.S. Hwy. 90 W., Ste. E., Theodore
  251.653.5012
- **Virginia Dillard Smith/ Toulminville Branch**
  601 Stanton Rd., Mobile
  251.494.4982
- **West Regional Branch**
  5555 Grelot Rd., Mobile
  251.340.8555
- **Local History and Genealogy**
  753 Government St., Mobile
  251.494.2190

MOBILE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S **SUMMER READING** PROGRAM IS THE STATE'S LARGEST





Outdoor Alabama photo

The Mobile area's incredible climate supports year-round outdoor adventures. There are more than 70 parks and playgrounds in the Mobile area offering facilities for picnicking, canoeing, biking, hiking, camping, disc golf and other leisure activities.

Here are just a few of the options: **Bienville Square** and **Cathedral Square** are popular downtown spaces, while the 720-acre Langan Park to the west offers golf, tennis, disc golf, outdoor concerts, a children's playground and picnic areas. **Arlington Park**, on Mobile Bay near Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley, includes a pier, a kayak launch point and picnic gazebos. **Medal of Honor Park** in west Mobile features a dog park and a pavilion for outdoor concerts. **Chickasabogue Park**, a county park, has bike and foot trails, fishing, camping, canoeing and swimming.

Just minutes from downtown, the state's 83-acre waterfront complex, **5 Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center** provides public access to the wonders of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta with hundreds of miles of rivers and wetlands. Across the U.S. Hwy. 90 Causeway, **Meaher State Park** also serves as a gateway to the delta. Swamp tours are the easiest way to view this unique natural resource, where visitors can learn about birds, fish, alligators, bald eagles, black bears and other wildlife in the area.

The white sands of the Gulf of Mexico are a short drive away to Dauphin Island in Mobile County or to the shoreline of Baldwin County.

The **Alabama Coastal Birding Trail** is a birdwatcher's paradise. The trail spans two counties and is enhanced by directional and interpretive signage.



Photo by Colette Boehm

MOBILE OFFERS ABUNDANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES YEAR-ROUND

Parks Online

To find out more about parks in the Mobile area, click on one of the links below:

- **Alabama Coastal Birding Trail**
  alabamacoastalbirdingtrails.com
- **Alabama State Parks**
  alapark.com
  outdooralabama.com
- **City of Mobile**
  cityofmobile.org
- **5 Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center**
  alabama5rivers.com
- **Mobile Botanical Gardens**
  mobilebotanicalgardens.org
- **Mobile County**
  mobilecountyal.gov



Thanks to an abundance of warm, sunny days, golfing, sailing, boating, fishing or just relaxing by the water are options 12 months of the year.

Mobile has more than 25 golf courses in the metropolitan area, ranging from traditional Scottish links to rolling hills with tight fairways. **Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail** has two courses in the Mobile area, **Magnolia Grove** and **Lakewood Golf Club** in Point Clear. The *Wall Street Journal* said the Trail "may be the biggest bargain in the country" and the New York Times called the Trail "some of the best public golf on Earth."

Hancock-Whitney Stadium is home to the University of South Alabama's Jaguars, and is located on USA's main campus. The stadium is also the new home of the Reese's Senior Bowl, pitting squads of college all-stars against one another, and attracting so many scouts it is sometimes called a mini-convention of NFL coaches.

The annual **Lending Tree Bowl** held at **Ladd-Peebles Stadium** features teams from the Sun Belt and Mid-American conferences each December, drawing thousands of fans to Mobile.



The **Copeland-Cox Mobile Tennis Center**, near Langan Park, is the nation's largest public tennis facility, with 60 hard courts.

The **University of South Alabama**, **Spring Hill College**, the **University of Mobile**, **Alabama Coastal Community College** and **Bishop State Community College** field teams in basketball, baseball, and other team and individual sports for both men and women.

Mobile offers both deep sea fishing in the Gulf of Mexico and some of the South's best freshwater fishing in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. The **Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo** is one of the largest event of its kind in the world.

Thousands of runners from around the globe come to Mobile for the **Azalea Trail Run**, one of the premier 10K races in the country. **The Port City Pacers** are responsible for an almost non-stop string of races throughout the year. The annual **First Light Marathon** winds through Mobile's historic neighborhoods.

GOLF, SAILING, BOATING, FOOTBALL, SOCCER, FISHING, RUNNING

MOBILE HAS IT ALL!

Sports Online

To learn more about sports and recreation in the Mobile area, visit these websites:

- **Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo**
  adsfr.com
- **City of Mobile**
  cityofmobile.org
- **Copeland-Cox Mobile Tennis Center**
  mobiletenniscenter.net
- **Lending Tree Bowl**
  lendingtreebowl.com
- **Ladd-Peebles Memorial Stadium**
  laddpeebles.com
- **Mobile Marathon**
  halfmarathons.net/alabama-first-light-marathon-halr-marathon-fun-run/
- **Mobile Sports Authority**
  mobilesportsauthority.com
- **Mobile Sports and Entertainment Group**
  mobileseg.com
- **Mobile Sports Hall of Fame**
  mobilesportshalloffame.net
- **Port City Pacers**
  portcitypacers.com
- **Reese's Senior Bowl**
  seniorbowl.com
- **Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail**
  rtjgolf.com
- **University of South Alabama's Hancock-Whitney Stadium**
  usajaguars.com/sports/2019/1/23/hancock-whitney-stadium.aspx



Reese's Senior Bowl photo



IN A CITY BORN TO CELEBRATE **GOOD TIMES** ARE EASY TO FIND







In a city born to celebrate, there's never a shortage of entertainment options. It stands to reason that the city known for bringing Mardi Gras to America would know a thing or two about having a good time.

The list of live music venues is growing throughout the Mobile area, but downtown Mobile serves as the city's entertainment center – with a lively mix of restaurants, nightclubs, bars, galleries and theaters.

Dauphin Street and the historic **Saenger Theatre** anchor the district known as LoDa, for Lower Dauphin Street. The renovated Saenger attracts major national touring acts, including Wynton Marsalis, Jason Isbell, Alabama Shakes, Buddy Guy and Travis Tritt, and is home to the **Mobile Symphony**. Local clubs feature live music every night of the week.

A wide variety of restaurants – from elegant to casual – are popular meeting places for dinner before heading off for an evening of entertainment, music and fun.

Mobile recently joined many other cities with lively downtown entertainment scenes in creating designated entertainment districts, allowing people to mingle freely and carry beverages between establishments.

Other festivals such as **LoDa ArtWalk** bring crowds of people to downtown streets to sample what the city has to offer.

But nothing tops the excitement of Mardi Gras season, when crowds fill downtown for three weeks of parades. French soldiers and settlers first celebrated Mardi Gras in Mobile in 1703, and we've been perfecting the party ever since.

Entertainment Online

To find more entertainment options in the Mobile area, visit these websites:

- **Downtown Mobile Alliance**
  downtownmobile.org
- **Gulf Coast Ethnic and Heritage Jazz Festival**
  gcehjazzfest.corg
- **Mobile Civic Center**
  mobilecivicctr.com
- **Mobile Arts Council**
  mobilearts.org
- **Visit Mobile**
  mobile.org
- **MOJO (Mystic Order of the Jazz Obsessed)**
  mojojazz.org
- **OWA**
  visitowa.com
- **Saenger Theatre**
  mobilesaenger.com
- **The Grounds**
  thegroundsmobile.com



SEAFOOD AND FARM-FRESH PRODUCE SEASON OUR SOUTHERN COOKING







Photo by Colette Boehm

Food is what brings Mobile's diverse culture together. A strong sense of community is built by bringing folks together for a good time over exceptional food and drinks. There's always a pot of gumbo simmering on a stove somewhere, and a great meal is easy to find.

When visitors to Mobile think of local food, they automatically think of seafood.

But locals know our tables are famous for a lot more than some of the world's best shrimp and oysters. Mobile also takes great pride in a rich variety of Southern produce grown by local farmers. Farmers markets, vegetable and fruit stands and curb markets make it easy and affordable to enjoy local produce.

Surrounded by fertile farmland in both Mobile and Baldwin counties and blessed with a long growing season, Mobile enjoys a long list of homegrown treats. Summers are filled with vine-ripe tomatoes, strawberries, watermelons, field peas, cantaloupes, okra, butter beans, peaches, squash and the royalty of local produce – Silver Queen corn. Cooler weather brings turnips, collards, pecans, persimmons and citrus crops, such as satsumas and lemons.

Mobile's growing restaurant scene includes classic seafood spots, farm-to-table restaurants and a wide variety of international and ethnic cuisine.

Food Festivals Online

Celebrate Mobile's rich food heritage at these festivals:

- **Chili Cookoff**, benefit for the American Cancer Society mobilechilicookoff.org (March)
- **Blessing of the Fleet** in Bayou la Batre - fleetblessing.org (May)
- **National Shrimp Festival** in Gulf Shores - myshrimpfest.com (October)
- **Greek Fest**, three days of food, dancing, music and culture at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church greekfestmobile.org (October)

Find out about more food events in the Mobile area at themobilerundown.com.

SPRING



Azalea Trail Run: One of the premier 10K road races in the U.S. – **251.473.7223** or **pcpacers.org**

St. Patrick's Day Parade: Everyone's Irish for this holiday parade in downtown Mobile by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Mobile Historic Homes Tour: A rare glimpse inside some of Mobile's most beautiful private homes – **251.432.6161** or **historicmobile.org**

Dauphin Island Race Regatta: Popular sailing race across Mobile Bay – **251.479.8190** or **bucyc.com/dauphin-island-race**



Plantasia! Spring Plant Sale: Biannual plant sale offering thousands of plants specially selected for our Gulf Coast climate – **251.342.0555** or **mobilebotanicalgardens.org**

Blessing of the Fleet: Decorated boats receive the church's blessing for full fishing nets in Bayou La Batre – **fleetblessing.org**

Mobile Boat Show is the largest boat show on the Gulf Coast, featuring hundreds of boats and marine accessories exhibited inside, outside and in the water – **251.478.7469** or **gulfcoastshows.com**

Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival and Eastern Shore Art Association's Annual Outdoor Art Show: A weekend of art, music and food – **251.229.1874** or **thefairhopeartsandcraftsfestival.com**

Festival of Flowers: One of the nation's top garden shows features landscape displays, seminars, markets and, of course, millions of flowers – **251.266.2050** or **festivalofflowers.com**



American Cancer Society Chili Cookoff: Hot chili takes the chill off at Mardi Gras Park – **251.414.1307** or **mobilechilicookoff.org**

Brown Bag in Bienville: Free lunch-time concerts in Bienville Square – **251.208.1550** or **specialeventsmobile.org/calendar.php**

SUMMER

Distinguished Young Women: Finals of this scholarship competition bring the best and brightest high school seniors from all 50 states to Mobile – **251.438.3621** or **distinguishedyw.org**

Market on the Square: Shop for the freshest crop in town – **251.208.1550** or **specialeventsmobile.org/calendar.php**

Kids Days: Free entertainment for children in Bienville Square – **251.208.1550** or **specialeventsmobile.org/calendar.php**

Dragon Boat Festival: Family fun festival and team dragon boat racing to raise money for Fuse Project – **251.377.3484** or **fuseproject.org/dragon-boat-festival**



Summer Reading Program: The state's largest summer reading program, Mobile Public Library – **251.340.1535** or **mobilepubliclibrary.org**

Mobile's Fourth of July Celebration: Music and fireworks over the river, USS ALABAMA Battleship Park – **251.470.7749** or **cityofmobile.org**

Grand Bay Watermelon Festival: Entertainment, arts and crafts and the best watermelon around – **251.865.3456** or **grandbaywatermelonfestival.org**

Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo and Dauphin Island Young Anglers Tournament: Dauphin Island – **251.277.7079** or **adsfr.com**

Gulf Coast Ethnic and Heritage Jazz Festival: Terrific jazz performances highlight a weekend of art, education, culture and music – **251.478.4027** or **gcehjazzfest.com**

Alabama Coastal Cleanup: Mobile and Baldwin County volunteers clean up the coast – **alabamacoastalcleanup.com**

Juneteenth: Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the U.S. – **juneteenthmob.com**

FALL

Veterans Day Parade: One of the Gulf Coast's largest celebrations honoring military veterans. Parade rolls through downtown. Mobile Bay Veterans Commission **facebook.com/mobilebayveterans**

Mobile International Festival: Food, culture and entertainment from around the world – **251.285.5004** or **mobileinternationalfestival.org**

Brown Bag in Bienville: Free lunchtime concerts in Bienville Square – **251.208.1550** or **specialeventsmobile.org/calendar.php**

The BIG Event: Benefit for Big Brothers Big Sisters South Alabama – **251.344.0536, ext 107**, or **bbbssa.org**

LODA Art Walk: 2nd Friday of every month – **251.432.9796** or **mobilearts.org**

Cascading Chrysanthemums at Bellingrath Gardens: Lavish display of fall color – **251.973.2217** or **bellingrath.org**



Annual Coastal Bird Fest: Weekend full of birding events for the novice or experienced birder – **facebook.com/groups/AlabamaCoastalBirdFest**

Market in the Park: Shop for the freshest crop in town – **251.208.7540** or **facebook.com/marketsinsmobile**

Plantasia! Fall Plant Sale: Biannual plant sale offering thousands of plants especially selected for our Gulf Coast climate – **251.342-0555** or **mobilebotanicalgardens.org**

National Shrimp Festival: Four-day celebration of our favorite seafood with music, crafts and more, Gulf Shores – **251.968.7200** or **myshrimpfest.com**



Polo at the Point: A great event for hat watching, as well as world-class polo, Point Clear – **251.928.9704** or **poloatthepoint.com**

Greater Gulf State Fair: Rides, food entertainment and displays –**251.344.4573** or **greatergulfstatefair.com**

Greek Fest: Food, dancing, music and culture, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church – **251.438.9888** or **greekfestmobile.org**

WINTER

Magic Christmas in Lights: Bellingrath Gardens dressed up for the holidays – **251.973.2217** or **bellingrath.org**

Christmas Jubilee: Annual Holiday Shopping Market presented by the Junior League of Mobile – **251.471.3348** or **juniorleaguemobile.org**

Lighting of the Trees in Bienville Square: Santa and the mayor kick off the Mobile holiday season with light displays throughout downtown – **251.208.1550**

MoonPie Over Mobile: New Year's celebration featuring the dropping of a giant Moon Pie – **251.208.1550** or **ncsmobile.org** *(postponed 2020)*

Lending Tree Bowl: College football bowl game brings thousands to Mobile – **251.635.0011** or **lendingtreelbowl.com**

First Light Marathon: Mobile's annual marathon benefiting L'Arche Mobile – **251.438.2094** or **firstlightmarathon.com** *(postponed 2021)*

Reese's Senior Bowl: The best senior college football stars and NFL coaches gather in Mobile for what has become the nation's biggest pre-draft event – **251.438.2276** or **seniorbowl.com**



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration: **251.405.7000** or **bishop.edu**

Mardi Gras: Mobile's original street party includes three weeks of parades and revelry on downtown streets. For a complete schedule of parades, visit **themobilemask.com**.



DRIVER'S LICENSE

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency
Driver's License Examiner

3400 Demetropolis Rd., Mobile
251.660.2330
alea.gov (new) or mobilecountylc.com (renewals)

For out-of-state new residents, first-time issuance of an Alabama driver's license, suspended driver's license or a foreign national driver's license, you must apply at the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

New residents with a valid out-of-state driver's license have 30 days to obtain an Alabama license. If you currently have a valid out-of- state license, the only requirement is a vision screening test ($5) and surrender of your out-of-state license. Although a first-time license must be obtained through the state office, driver's licenses can be renewed at any Mobile County License Commission office or online at the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

License Fee: $36.25 (new), good for four years from date of purchase. $5 test fee for first time-drivers. Minimum age: 16
STAR ID mandatory in Alabama by Oct. 1, 2021.

AUTOMOBILE

Mobile County License Commission

3925-F Michael Blvd., Mobile
205 Government St., Mobile
251.574.8566
mobilecountylc.com

Tags are acquired from the Mobile County License Commission. A new Alabama resident is required to title and register his or her vehicle within 30 days of moving into the state with a valid out-of-state registration. There is a fee plus taxes for all passenger cars. All vehicles (built in 1975 and newer) must have titles. Registration for an out-of-state vehicle must be presented when applying for an Alabama tag. Alabama has a staggered renewal system, and the tag expiration date is according to the first letter of the last name.

The Mobile County License Commission has five convenient locations where you can register a new vehicle, renew your car tag or driver's license, obtain a hunting or fishing license or other license transactions. Tags also can be renewed online, by phone or by mail.

Mobile County License Commission Branches:

Michael Square/Main Office
3925-F Michael Blvd., Mobile 251.574.8530
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Theodore
5808 U.S. Hwy 90 W., Suite D, Theodore 251.574.3286
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Eight Mile
Eight Mile Shopping Center
4557 St. Stephens Rd., Eight Mile 251.574.3269
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Citronelle
19135 S. Main St., Citronelle 251.574.2069
Hours: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

VOTER REGISTRATION

Mobile County Probate Court Board of Registrars

205 Government St., Mobile
251.574.8586
probate.mobilecountyal.gov/elections.asp

Voter registration forms are available online and at public libraries. Non-registered residents may also fill out voter registration forms at any driver's license office of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and cards will be mailed in a few weeks.

DOGS

City of Mobile Animal Shelter

855 Owens St., Mobile
251.208.2800 (after hours 251.208.5311)
cityofmobileanimalshelter.com

All dogs within the city limits are required to be licensed. A license must be purchased during normal office hours, including 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Proof of current rabies inoculation is required for all license purchases. Inoculation certificates may be obtained from a veterinarian and are good for one year from the date of issue. City dog license tags must be renewed annually.

BUSINESS

City of Mobile Revenue Department

205 Government St., Mobile
251.208.7462
cityofmobile.org/revenue/business-licencse-application

City business licenses may be obtained from the license division of the revenue department of the city of Mobile. Rates, based upon a percentage of gross revenues, are published online. Before obtaining a license, zoning for the property of the contemplated business must be cleared with the city of Mobile zoning officer. Other municipalities in Mobile County also require the purchase of a business license.

Mobile County License Commission

3925-F Michael Blvd., Mobile
251.574.8561
mobilecountylc.com

State and county business licenses are required in addition to any business licenses of a municipality. State and county business licenses are valid for one fiscal year, Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.

Business licenses must be renewed in October to avoid penalties and interest charges. Applications for a business license are available online. Licenses may be purchased by mail or at the Michael Square office or the Downtown Office. Requirements and fees vary based on license code.

MARRIAGE

Mobile County Probate Court

205 Government St., Mobile
251.574.6050
probate.mobilecountyal.gov/marriage.asp

Minimum age to receive a marriage license is 16 with consent, 18 without consent. Minors must be accompanied by both parents or legal guardians. There is no waiting period.

Fill out the Alabama Marriage Certificate form and have it notorized. Submit to probate court within 30 days.
File it after you are married. $70 to record the certificate.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

Area Code 251

Emergencies (police, fire, ambulance) 911

Police (Non-Emergency) 251.208.7211

Automobile Registration 251.574.8551

Driver's License 251.660.2330

Voter Registration 251.574.8586

Hunting, Fishing and Boat Licenses 251.574.8563

Alabama Power 800.245.2244

Spire 800.292.4008

Mobile Area Water and Sewer System 251.694.3100

AT&T (phone/TV)
- Residence 888.757.6500
- Commercial 888.620.6900

Xfinity/Comcast Cable 251.476-7600

Mediacom 800.479.2082

City of Mobile 251.208.7777

Mobile County 251.574.4636

Visit Mobile 251.208.2000

Mobile Welcome Center 251.208.7304

Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce
451 Government St.
Mobile, AL 36602 ..... 251.433.6951

NO CITY/COUNTY WAGE TAXES

Tax Rate Range: 2% to 5% Income Brackets:
$500 to $3,000 Number of Brackets: 3

Personal Exemption:
Single/$1,500 Married/$3,000 Dependents/$300

Standard Deduction:
Single/$2,000 to $2,500
Married filing joint return/$4,000 to $7,500

Medical/Dental Deduction:
Limited to excess of 4% of adjusted gross income

MOBILE COUNTY SALES TAX RATES

City	Total Tax %
Bayou La Batre	10.0
Chickasaw	10.0
Citronelle	10.0
Creola	9.5
Dauphin Island	10.0
Mt. Vernon	9.5
Saraland	10.0
Satsuma	10.0
Semmes	8.5
Mobile	10.0
Prichard	10.0
Unincorporated	5.5

MOBILE COUNTY REVENUE COMMISSION

mobilecopropertytax.com 251.574.8530

The Revenue Commission is responsible for mapping, appraising, assessing and collecting property taxes in Mobile County. The commission grants tax exemptions to those who qualify and disburses collected taxes to state and county government agencies as directed by law.

Branches:

Michael Square/Main Office
3925-F Michael Blvd., Mobile
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Theodore
5808 U.S. Hwy. 90 W., Suite G, Theodore
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Eight Mile
Eight Mile Shopping Center
4557 St. Stephens Rd., Eight Mile
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Citronelle
109 S. Main St., Citronelle
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Downtown Mobile – Courthouse Annex
151 Government St., Mobile
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Friday

PROPERTY TAXES

Assessment rates are:
10% residential
20% commercial
30% utilities

Rate per $1,000 assessed valuation (within City of Mobile)
City of Mobile $7.00
Mobile County $20.50 State $6.50
School $29.50

A homestead exemption may be available to citizens who use their property exclusively as their home. The maximum amount of the exemption is $4,000 for state taxes and $2,000 for county taxes. Additional exemptions are available for persons over 65 years of age or disabled.

TAXES ON RETIREMENT INCOME

Social Security, civil service, state/local government and qualified private pensions are exempt. All out-of-state government pensions are tax-exempt if they are defined benefit plans.

Taxes on Military Disability and Retirement Pay

Disability retirement payment (and other benefits) paid by Veterans Affairs are exempt from Alabama taxes.

ELECTRIC

Alabama Power Co.
150 St. Joseph St., Mobile
800.245.2244 alabamapower.com

Apply for new service online and a credit report will be pulled to determine deposit and connection fee.

GARBAGE AND TRASH

Public Works Department, City of Mobile
251.208.2900

Residential garbage collection: once weekly; trash collections once every other week. Residents living outside city limits of Mobile are responsible for obtaining private service.

For new service, a credit score will be obtained through a credit reporting agency to determine if a deposit is necessary. If a deposit is needed, the deposit will be refunded as a credit after service has been maintained for 12 consecutive months.

GAS

Spire
2828 Dauphin St., Mobile
800.292.4008 spireenergy.com

For new customers, a credit assessment will be performed to determine if a deposit is required. Deposits are refunded after 12 consecutive months of on-time payments.

MEDIA

Lagniappe (weekly)
P.O. Box 3003, Mobile
251.450.4466 lagniappemobile.com

Alabama Media Group (al.com/*Press-Register*)
(3 times a week newspaper) al.com
18 S. Royal St., Mobile
251.219.5400 al.com

The Call News (weekly)
7870 State St., Citronelle
251.866.5998 thecallnews.com

WALA TV - Channel 10 (FOX)
1501 Satchel Paige Dr., Mobile
251.434.1010 fox10tv.com

WEAR TV - Channel 3 (ABC)
4990 Mobile Hwy., Pensacola
850.456.3333 weartv.com

WKRG TV - Channel 5 (CBS) and CW55
555 Broadcast Dr., Mobile
251.479.5555 wkrg.com

WPMI TV - Local 15/UTV44 (NBC) and (UPN)
661 Azalea Rd., Mobile
251.602.1500 local15tv.com or utv44.com

RECYCLING

Metro Mobile Recycling Center
1451 Government St., Mobile
251.478.3333 cityofmobile.org/recycle
Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – seven days a week

Mobile County Recycling Center
7450 Hitt Rd., Mobile
251.459.8426 mobilecountyal.gov
Hours: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. – seven days a week

TELEPHONE AND CABLE

AT&T
888.757.6500 att.com

Xfinity/Comcast Cable
1225 Satchel Paige Dr., Ste. E102, Mobile
800.934.6489 comcast.com
Hours: Monday - Saturday - 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday - Noon to 5 p.m.

Mediacom
2502 Schillinger Rd., S. #1, Mobile
855.633.4226 mediacomcable.com
Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to Noon

WATER AND SEWAGE

Mobile Area Water & Sewer System
(City of Mobile)
4725 Moffett Rd., Mobile
251.694.3100 mawss.com

Residential deposit rate of $100
Need driver's license and proof of residence

LeMoyne Water System Inc.
(North Mobile County) (municipal-owned)
11426 Old U.S. Hwy. 43, Axis
251.675.1797 lemoynewater.com

Meter application of $50 (homeowners)
Need driver's license and proof of ownership/rental agreement

Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Prichard
(City of Prichard)
125 East Clark Ave., Prichard
251.457.3396 prichardwater.com

Contact utility for details on new service.




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MOBILE











