

A LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE FOR MODERN OUTDOORSMEN

& HOOK BARREL

MARCH-APRIL 2022

CLAYTON ANDERSON'S
Hit Song "Show Me
Your Fish"

PG. 26

HOOKING MILLIONS
Bass Pro's U.S. Open

PG. 64

MUSCLE SHOALS
There's Something
in the Water

PG. 70

+
**THE
LUNKER LIST**

PG. 8

**SHOOT™
UNITED**

Aims to Get New
Shooters on the Range
PG. 56

**GUY
FIERI**

**DISHES ON HIS LOVE
FOR THE OUTDOORS**



BLACK BEARDS, BUCKS, BASS and BACK ROAD ADVENTURES

If you're out to score a trophy buck, outwit a black beard or engage in battle with a lunker bass then take to the back roads of [Alabama's Black Belt](#)—a region that delivers both wild adventures, lazy pleasures, better stories and the best of memories!

This south-central part of the state spanning from Mississippi to Georgia is named for its blanket of dark soil. Its fertile earth has long yielded an abundance of wildlife providing legendary deer hunts, exploding bobwhite coveys, plentiful gobblers on the roost and snarly wild boars. More than fifty outfitters call the Black Belt home and public lands are top-notch for hunting success. Our many rivers and lakes are renowned fisheries for aggressive bass, a mess of crappie, monster catfish and full-tilt thrills on whitewater rapids.

If the adrenaline rush is not your game, then visit for a slower paced adventure. You'll find paddle excursions by canoe or kayak are the perfect vehicles for wildlife observation, birding and gator sightings, all of which provide perfect photo-ops. Our resort state parks offer great hiking trails, camping and fire-side marshmallow roasts and river views.

Our scenic backroads connect charming small towns that are steeped in history and folklore as rich as that black dirt. Living off the land is the way of life around here and farmers markets dot the landscape around almost every corner. You can feed your adventure on local flavors like fried green tomatoes, fiery pepper jelly, buttery cheese straws, salty boiled peanuts, craft brews, distilled spirits, smoky BBQ and a slice of that all-time southern favorite—Pecan Pie.

There's artistic heritage to experience at the boyhood home of country crooner Hank Williams and in the tiny home town of Harper Lee that inspired her to pen "To Kill a Mockingbird". Search for yesterday's treasures in the nooks and crannies of antiques stores or shop the creations of local talented woodworkers, painters of all mediums, skilled potters and more.

Mother Nature shows off big in the Black Belt. So, grab your gear and head to Alabama's Black Belt for your adventure!