

Special Feature! Travel the States: New York & Maryland

WINTER 2021

# Travel

TASTE + TOUR

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# *Lazy* PLEASURES AND *wild* ADVENTURES

Looking for a hidden-gem escape? A place delivering both wild adventures, lazy pleasures and a plethora of pursuits in between? Then plan your visit to Alabama's Black Belt region.

This area sitting smack in the center of the state is named for its blanket of dark soil. This fertile earth has long yielded an abundance of wildlife, creating a spot that's becoming known today for its equally abundant attractions and activities, many of which have their roots in that namesake dirt.

Travel scenic country backroads connecting charming small towns, where you can find local flavors like sweet pecan syrup, fiery pepper jelly, buttery cheese straws, salty boiled peanuts, craft brews, smoky BBQ and a slice of chocolaty Black Bottom pie.

Then visit Civil Rights spots alive with rich history, from famous sites like Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge to a nondescript shotgun house in Greensboro where Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. sought (and found) refuge from enraged Klan members. And don't miss Montgomery's National Memorial to Peace and Justice that shines a powerful spotlight on racial injustice.

There's artistic heritage to experience at the boyhood home of country crooner Hank Williams and in the tiny town that inspired Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," which is now recognized as the Literary Capital of the World. Search for yesterday's treasures in the nooks and corners of antiques stores or shop the creations of local woodworkers, painters of all mediums, skilled potters and more at Black Belt Treasures.

Mother Nature shows off big in the Black Belt, too. Paddle down a gentle river, or bounce, spin and splash on a thrilling stretch of whitewater. Take a shot or cast a line with multiple hunting and fishing opportunities scattered throughout this sportsman's paradise. Or, just look around; third-generation Black Belt cattle farmer Christopher Joe has earned national attention with his Connecting with Birds and Nature Tours, which invites folks to come stroll six miles of trails to view the bluebirds, swallow tailed kites, ibis and bald eagles on his land. There's even ancient history to unearth at the Moundville Archaeological Park and Sharktooth Creek Outdoor Adventure.

The Black Belt's full of surprising things to eat, see, do and learn. Come create your memories!





# Black Belt Roads...Big Surprises...Best Memories



lazy pleasures



wild adventures

