

BARBECUE

NORTH

1. BIG BOB GIBSON BAR-B-Q — DECATUR

This 1925-founded Alabama legend is a world-champion smokehouse famous for hickory pits and the original Alabama white sauce that helped put the state on the barbecue map.

2. SALT SMOKEHOUSE — HUNTSVILLE

Salt Smokehouse pairs expertly smoked meats with bold, globally inspired flavors, earning a spot in the MICHELIN Guide and redefining what Alabama barbecue can be.

CENTRAL

3. SAW'S BBQ — BIRMINGHAM

Across Birmingham and its suburbs, SAW's is known for soulful, pit-smoked meats and signature dishes like Pork n' Greens that have become a modern Alabama barbecue calling card.

4. ARCHIBALD'S BBQ — NORTHPORT

In Northport near Tuscaloosa, Archibald's has been turning out hickory-smoked ribs and a fiery vinegar sauce since the 1960s, making it a true West Alabama institution.

5. MISS MYRA'S PIT BAR-B-Q — BIRMINGHAM

Miss Myra's is a beloved neighborhood joint for chopped pork, smoked chicken, house white sauce and can't-skip banana pudding.



6. DREAMLAND BAR-B-QUE — TUSCALOOSA

The original 1958 Dreamland in Tuscaloosa remains the state's most iconic rib stop, serving hot-and-fast hickory-fired ribs with its tangy red sauce and classic white-bread ritual.

SOUTH

7. FATTY MATTY'S BBQ — FRUITDALE

This family-run spot is a small-town favorite for big-flavor plates, loaded sides and the kind of wood-fired roadside barbecue that's worth the detour.

8. HOOK'S BBQ — TROY

Hook's is a locals-first classic, serving straightforward, smoke-kissed staples in a no-frills setting that's been feeding the Wiregrass region for decades.

GULF

9. HOG WILD BEACH & BBQ — GULF SHORES

Hog Wild mixes beach-town energy with slow-smoked favorites and inventive piled-high sandwiches, making it an easy beach-day barbecue fix.

10. DOWN SOUTH BBQ — FOLEY

Down South is a takeout-focused coastal staple for ribs, pulled pork and smoked chicken for the perfect stop on the way to the beach.



CRAFT BEER

NORTH

1. GOAT ISLAND BREWING — CULLMAN

Goat Island is a laid-back, award-winning craft brewery with a spacious taproom/beer garden and a rotating lineup that includes local favorites such as Richter's Pils and Sipsey River Red.

2. MAIN CHANNEL BREWING — GUNTERSVILLE

Based in Guntersville with a second taproom in Albertville, Main Channel is Marshall County's hometown microbrewery known for approachable local beers and a fun, food-truck-friendly hangout.

3. CROSS-EYED OWL BREWING COMPANY — DECATUR

In downtown Decatur, Cross-Eyed Owl, the city's first brewery, pairs house-brewed beers with a welcoming community-taproom vibe.

4. YELLOWHAMMER BREWING — HUNTSVILLE

At Campus 805 in Huntsville, Yellowhammer is a cornerstone of Alabama craft beer, pouring traditional, well-made styles in one of the state's most popular brewery districts.

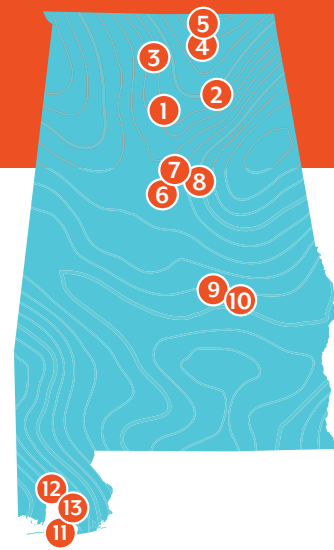
5. STRAIGHT TO ALE — HUNTSVILLE

Anchoring Campus 805 in Huntsville, Straight to Ale is one of Alabama's largest craft breweries, pouring bold house beers alongside cider and mead. Founded in 2009, it has a full kitchen and a big, welcoming taproom.

CENTRAL

6. GOOD PEOPLE BREWING — BIRMINGHAM

In Birmingham's Parkside area, Good People is a flagship Alabama brewery known for its long-running local legacy and fan-favorite core beers.



7. BACK FORTY BEER COMPANY — BIRMINGHAM

Born in Gadsden with a popular Birmingham outpost, Back Forty is an Alabama craft leader known for award-winning brews like Truck Stop Honey Brown and an energetic, food-friendly taproom scene.

8. CAHABA BREWING COMPANY — BIRMINGHAM

In Birmingham's historic Continental Gin complex, Cahaba pours a deep bench of IPAs, lagers and specialties in a big, lively taproom.

SOUTH

9. AUTAUGA CREEK CRAFT HOUSE — PRATTVILLE

In downtown Prattville, Autauga Creek Craft House is a cozy beer-forward taproom with local flavor and an easy Main Street drop-in feel.

10. COMMON BOND BREWERS — MONTGOMERY

Common Bond is Montgomery's only production brewery, serving small-batch craft beers in the warm ambience of a brick-and-beam taproom.

GULF

11. BIG BEACH BREWING — GULF SHORES

Big Beach is Alabama's southernmost brewery, pouring beach-day-ready beers in a relaxed taproom often paired with live music.

12. BRAIDED RIVER BREWING COMPANY — MOBILE

Braided River crafts Delta-inspired beers in a friendly taproom that emphasizes drinkability, community and Gulf Coast style.

13. FAIRHOPE BREWING — FAIRHOPE

Founded in 2012, Fairhope Brewing is lower Alabama's original craft brewery. It pairs a laid-back Gulf Coast taproom with a creative lineup of small-batch beers that's become a coastal staple across the region.

COFFEE

NORTH

1. DRAGON'S FORGE CAFE — HUNTSVILLE

Inside Lowe Mill, Dragon's Forge Cafe serves specialty coffee in a fantasy-tavern setting and is notable for an exclusive direct partnership with a family coffee farm in Colombia.

2. ALABASTER COFFEE COMPANY — SCOTTSBORO

Alabaster Coffee Company is a craft-coffee hub known for handcrafted espresso drinks plus a strong breakfast-and-lunch lineup in a cozy, community-first space.

CENTRAL

3. SOUTHERN GIRL COFFEE CO. — OXFORD

Southern Girl Coffee Co. roasts and blends its own beans on site, building a strong following for quality coffee and community-driven hospitality.

4. JUNE COFFEE — BIRMINGHAM

June Coffee is a small-batch roaster and café known for thoughtfully sourced beans and a clean, modern space that highlights the craft.

5. CUPPA GRACE — SYLACAUGA

Cuppa Grace is a warm, locally owned café serving espresso drinks and comfort-food bites in a community-minded setting.



📍 MURAL CITY COFFEE COMPANY



SOUTH

6. CORNERSTONE COFFEE CO. — ECLECTIC

In Eclectic near Lake Martin, Cornerstone Coffee Co. is a local favorite stop for well-crafted drinks and a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere.

7. RESTORATION 49 — TALLASSEE

In downtown Tallahassee, Restoration 49 is a highly rated café for creative lattes, pour-overs and fresh pastries, with a polished, work-friendly vibe.

8. FUSE COFFEE — TROY

On Troy's courthouse square, Fuse Coffee pairs small-town warmth with standout house specialties and a lively, modern café atmosphere.

9. MURAL CITY COFFEE COMPANY — DOTHAN

Mural City Coffee Company offers specialty coffees, house-baked goods and a beautifully restored space inspired by the city's mural culture.

GULF

10. MOKA'S COFFEE HOUSE — SARALAND

Moka's Coffee House is a family-run shop focused on high-quality coffee and a broad menu of drinks and café eats, just minutes from Mobile.

11. HAPPY PAPPYS COFFEEHOUSE — GULF SHORES

Happy Pappys is a beach-town staple with a big, handcrafted drink menu and an inviting, stay-awhile coffeehouse feel.

DISTILLERIES

NORTH

1. IRONS ONE DISTILLERY — HUNTSVILLE

In Huntsville's Lowe Mill, Irons One is a small-batch craft distillery proud to have produced Alabama's first bourbon. The distillery pours locally made whiskey in a creative, working-studio setting.

2. DAWSON DISTILLERY — LEIGHTON

Dawson Distillery revives Northwest Alabama's moonshine legacy as the region's first legal operation since Prohibition, using pure mountain spring water to craft smooth, tradition-rooted spirits.

3. GUAJANA RUM — MADISON

This family-owned Puerto Rican distillery handcrafts rum and vodka in-house, blending island heritage with Southern hospitality.

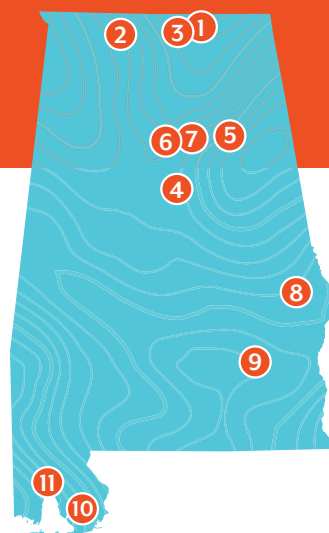
CENTRAL

4. OZAN WINERY & YELLA HOUND DISTILLERY — CALERA

Just off I-65 in Calera, Ozan pairs its destination winery with Yella Hound Distillery, crafting small-batch whiskey, vodka and gin in a Tuscan-styled vineyard setting.

5. SWEET HOME SPIRITS — LEEDS

Sweet Home Spirits bottles Alabama-inspired craft whiskey and other small-batch releases, created to taste like the state's character in a glass.



6. DREAD RIVER DISTILLING COMPANY — BIRMINGHAM

Dread River is the state's largest and most diverse distillery, known for bold local bourbon and a full-experience tasting room that helped reignite the city's whiskey scene.

7. REDMONT DISTILLING — BIRMINGHAM

Redmont Distilling in the Avondale community produces small-batch gin, bourbon and, most famously, Redmont Vodka, continuing a revived local spirits tradition.

SOUTH

8. JOHN EMERALD DISTILLING COMPANY — OPELIKA

In downtown Opelika, John Emerald — one of Alabama's first post-Prohibition legal distilleries — makes acclaimed small-batch spirits, like its single-malt whiskey, with deep local pride.

9. CLYDE MAY'S / CONECUH RIDGE DISTILLERY — TROY

Clyde May's carries forward Alabama's official state spirit, bottling Alabama-style whiskey inspired by its namesake's original bootleg recipe in a destination distillery.

GULF

10. MURDER CREEK DISTILLERY — FOLEY

In Foley's Downtown OWA, Murder Creek distills playful, flavor-forward moonshine on site, turning a local legend into a fun, coastal-Alabama tasting stop.

11. DEERFISH DISTILLING — MOBILE

In downtown Mobile, Deerfish is the city's first craft distillery. The family-run business captures Gulf Coast flavor with small-batch spirits and its signature Fish Hook vodka seltzers, plus offers tours and a welcoming tasting room.