



There's magic coursing through the towns, the people, and the nature of Alabama's Fayette, Lamar, Marion and Winston counties. The hardworking people who call this region home find joy in each other and the beautiful moments they create in a place where it's easy to feel like you belong. A rich slice of Americana steeped in nostalgia.

Alabama's I-22 Region has a deep and diverse history, from the Indigenous peoples who built mounds as centers of cultural activity, to the families split in the Civil War, and the coal miners who found some of the best domestic seams available in the United States.

When driving down the roads and in towns of Alabama's I-22 Region, you're hit with a wave of nostalgia. With over 25 sites on the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage, this region has history dancing through its charming streets.

- 1 Dual Destiny Monument
- 2 Houston Historic Jail
- 3 First 9-1-1 Call Marker
- 4 Byler Road
- 5 Corinth Church
- 6 Church of the Forest
- 7 Hamilton Methodist Church
- 8 Brilliant Methodist Church
- 9 Hamilton Mounds Site
- 10 Fayette Depot Museum
- 11 Berea Church of Christ
- 12 Old City Cemetery
- 13 Mining, Logging, and Agricultural Mural
- 14 Coal Miners Memorial Marker
- 15 Pastime Theatre
- 16 Jackson Military Road
- 17 Old Stagecoach Inn / Moore-Hill House

36 Hours Exploring History & Heritage

Alabama's I-22 Region

Route.

Winston > Marion > Fayette > Lamar

Take a walk through history from Native American settlers to the first emergency call in the nation. This tour takes you county by county and shares some interesting stories and facts about our state and region – we've sprinkled in some did you know facts to give you an edge during your next trivia night to impress your friends and family!

On the eve of the Civil War, Winston County caught national attention. Many citizens petitioned to break away from Alabama completely. During the secession crisis, Unionists in Winston County declared their right to secede from Alabama, much as the state seceded from the Union. Although the county pulled back from the bold step of secession and hoped to remain neutral in the conflict, it remained under state control and was the scene of violent acts of retribution during and after the war. While here visit Double Springs to see the **1 Dual Destiny statue** that honors its dual history as both Union and Confederate sympathizers were represented in the county.

Be sure to stop by the **2 Houston Jail** in Winston County, the only surviving log jail in north Alabama and the second-oldest log jail in the nation. Constructed around 1868 from hand-hewn hardwood logs with nails to prevent prisoners from sawing their way to freedom, the jail replaced an earlier one destroyed during the Civil War.

Did you know ... that the **3 First 9-1-1 Call** came from Haleyville and it became the first municipality to answer an emergency 911 call after AT&T reserved the digits 911 nationwide. The Haleyville Area Chamber of Commerce and the town come together each year to host a two-day festival to celebrate the town's role in making the first 911 call and to honor law enforcement and emergency personnel. Before leaving Haleyville, be sure to stop by **4 Byler Road**, Alabama's first state road that was considered "the Main Street of Northwest Alabama."

Hallelujah Trail

The North Alabama **Hallelujah Trail** features 32 churches that are at least 100 years old, stand on their original sites, still hold services, and are accessible to the public. The **5 Corinth Church** in Winston County was organized and joined in 1884. It has been completely restored to its original appearance, has no power or water and only an outhouse for a rest room. Services are still held there early on Sunday mornings. The **6 Church of the Forest** organized under its first name of Grayson. In 1952 the church was given its current name, "Church of the Forest" due to its beautiful surroundings in the heart of **Bankhead National Forest**. In Marion County, the **7 Hamilton Methodist Church**, formerly called Toll Gate, was established in 1868. The **8 Brilliant Methodist Church** located on Main Street remains a cornerstone of the town. Built in the early 1920s by local coal miners, it still holds weekly services.

Native American Monumental Architecture

Alabama is home to one of the densest concentrations of ancient Native American monumental architecture in all of North America. Some of these sites were rivaled in size and complexity only by cities built by the ancient civilizations of Central and South America, as well as the contemporary cities of medieval Europe.

The **9 Hamilton Mounds** site is the largest Indigenous mound site in Marion County. The site includes three mounds along the left bank of the Buttahatchee River. Archaeologists believe the mounds were built during the Early Mississippian period when people were transitioning to new ways of life and using new tools and manufacturing techniques for pottery.

Local History

The **10 Fayette Depot Museum** is located in the restored historic train station that was constructed in 1887. The museum displays many local, historical artifacts from eras past, including a Civil War-era drum, an extensive collection of flags and a train track with model trains.

Continuing with the tour of historic churches in the area, visit the **11 Berea Church of Christ historic marker**. Berea was one of the oldest and largest church in the area, and many congregations were started by members of Berea Church. A visit to **12 Old City Cemetery**, a beautifully-maintained and tranquil historic site includes Civil War graves.

Before heading to Marion County, snap a selfie with the **13 Mining, Logging and Agriculture Mural** in Berry for a visual of the agricultural history in Fayette County and use #SweetHomeMurals.

The **14 Coal Miners' Memorial Marker** pays homage to the rich coal mining history of the area as the town of Brilliant was built around the coal mining industry in the late 1800s. The large coal reserves in the area sparked railroad construction and industrial development throughout Alabama. The railroad is the reason the City of Guin came into existence.

Head to the **15 Pastime Theatre** in Winfield. Built in 1937, the pre-Civil Rights building still tells the story of Alabama's segregated past. Call to schedule a tour and learn more about the theatre's history.

Be sure to visit **16 Jackson Military Road**, named for Gen. Andrew Jackson. During the War of 1812 and the Creek War of 1813-14, Jackson and his federal troops traveled across much of what was then known as the Old Southwest, including present-day Alabama, as they fought both the British Army and Native Americans.

Next, head to Lamar County and visit a historic structure of interest, the Moore-Hill House constructed in 1834, also known as the **17 Old Stagecoach Inn**. This is a private historic home located near present-day Sulligent. The home's first occupant was James Moore, a veteran of Andrew Jackson's army in the Creek War, and his family. According to legend, the Moore-Hill House was used in spring 1889 as a hiding place by noted **train robber Rube Burrow**, who was the subject of a manhunt.

Lodging Options

Rose House Inn
325 2nd Avenue NW
Fayette, AL 35555

Days Inn by Wyndham
1849 Military St S
Hamilton, AL 35570

Vernon Motel
44554 HWY 17
Vernon, AL 35592

Hidden Cove RV Outdoor Resort
687 County Road 3919
Arley, AL 35541

Dining Options

Charles Cafeteria and Grill
226 2nd Avenue NE,
Fayette, AL 35555

Eagle Rock and Grill
17628 Highway 18 E
Berry, AL

Happy Days Café
525 Front Street
Sulligent, AL 35586

Elie Mae's Café
2406 US Highway 43
Winfield, AL 35594

Dixie Den
907 20th St
Haleyville, AL 35565