Annual Events

Huntsville Blooms
NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge
Historic Districts Walking Tours
Panoply Arts Festival
WhistleStop BBQ Weekend
Rocket City Brewfest
Concerts on the Dock (spring & fall)
Cotton Row Run

Concerts in the Park
Jazz 'n June
Purdy Butterfly House
Madison Gazebo Concerts
City Lights & Stars Concert Series
Taste the Spirit of Madison
Rocketman Triathlon
Huntsville Restaurant Week

Big Spring Crush Wine Festival
Redstone Arsenal Oktoberfest
Madison Street Festival
FolkLife Festival
Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll
Downtown Ghost Walks (summer & fall)
Monte Sano Art Festival
Scarecrow Trail and Enchanted Forest

Galaxy of Lights
Rocket City Marathon
Christmas Parades
Santa’s Village
Spirit of Christmas Past Homes Tour
Kris Kringle’s Candlelight Christmas
Ice Skating in the Park
Tinsel Trail

For detailed information on these and many more special events, visit huntsville.org or call the VISITOR CENTER at 800.772.2348.
Get to know the Rocket City...

Huntsville was established in 1805 by pioneer John Hunt, who settled at the area now known as the Big Spring. Delegates from the Alabama Territory met in Huntsville to write the constitution enabling Alabama to become the 22nd state of the Union. Huntsville grew into an important center for cotton trading, as well as a major transportation hub. The surprise capture of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad’s Huntsville Depot during the Civil War resulted in private homes being spared. Huntsville boasts the South’s largest concentration of antebellum homes.

Today, Huntsville is a high-tech city. Launched in the 1950s with the U.S. space and rocket industry, it was here that a team of scientists, led by Dr. Wernher von Braun, designed and tested the rockets that put man on the moon.

Huntsville City Population: 193,079
Huntsville Metro Population: 449,720
Madison City Population: 47,959
Madison County Population: 356,967
2016 Census Estimates
Ignite your passion for exploration at the Earth’s largest space museum, the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, home to Space Camp® and Aviation Challenge. Here, you can explore over 1,500 artifacts from America’s achievements in space exploration and get a sneak peek into what’s next for human space travel. If you’re in the mood for a different kind of exploring—say, into Huntsville’s past—venture to the city’s oldest museum, Burritt on the Mountain for breathtaking views of the Tennessee Valley. Journey back down to the valley and explore the Weeden House Museum, the former home to 19th century poet and artist Maria Howard Weeden. Get to know America’s military past and the servicemen and women of the U.S. Armed Forces at the U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum, which displays over 30 historical military vehicles from WWI to the present. Located in historic downtown, you’ll find the EarlyWorks Children’s Museum—be sure to have the kids listen to the story from the famous talking tree!

Exploring Huntsville is never complete without a stop at the Huntsville Museum of Art, home to the largest collection of art created by American women in the U.S., or a visit to the Huntsville Botanical Garden, home to the nation’s largest open-air butterfly house where something beautiful is always growing on!
DID YOU KNOW?
You’ll have access to over 100 miles of hiking and biking trails in Huntsville/Madison County.

Need a little outdoor escape? Hit the links at Hampton Cove, the northernmost stop on Alabama’s famed Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Relax by the water at Big Spring International Park in the heart of downtown Huntsville or hike on a Land Trust of North Alabama, Monte Sano State Park or Hays Nature Preserve trail. Discover a safari in the South at Harmony Park Safari where you’ll find tortoises, giraffes and more! Down south, you’ll find the peaceful Ditto Landing on the banks of the Tennessee River, where you can enjoy boating and other outdoor activities.
Did you know the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra is the oldest continuously operating professional orchestra in Alabama? Whether you’re catching a Broadway Theatre League show, Huntsville Ballet Company performance or cheering for the Huntsville Havoc (Southern Professional Hockey League), you’re sure to be entertained in the center of the city at the Von Braun Center, our 170,000 sq. ft. eco-friendly convention center.

Huntsville is home to vibrant Arts & Entertainment Districts. Enjoy the beverage of your choice while strolling in the Quigley, Meridian, Village of Providence and S.R. Butler Green (Campus No. 805) districts during designated hours. So, what’ll it be?

CHECK IT OUT:
Lowe Mill is home to the longest running Cigar Box Guitar Festival in the world.
In the ROCKET CITY there’s plenty of space to rest and rejuvenate. Whether you are planning a trip for business or pleasure, traveling with kids, looking for a romantic getaway or a girls’ night out, you will find a remarkable range of hotel options all within reach of the things you most want to do. And while you are here, indulge in one of our many luxurious spas. For a complete listing of accommodations, visit huntsville.org.

3-2-1 Engage! Connect in digital space.

Check out these photos of Rocket City attractions taken by people just like you! Snap your own pictures while you’re here and share with us on social media using the popular hashtags #VisitHuntsville or #iHeartHsv.

By Car
2 hours south of Nashville
1.5 hours north of Birmingham
3.5 hours from Memphis & Atlanta

By Plane
Huntsville International Airport has special travel deals just for you!
Head on over to HuntsvilleHotTicket.com or visit them on:
Facebook/HuntsvilleInternationalAirport
Twitter/@FlyHsv

Getting to Huntsville is easy!

Where is the Visitor Center?
Take I-565 exit 19-C going east or 19-A going west and turn right on Monroe Street. Go one block, turn right onto Church Street. The Visitor Center is located on the northeast corner of Church and Cleveland Streets at 500 Church Street NW in historic downtown.

Hours of Operation:
Monday – Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: noon to 5 p.m. Central Time
Uniquely Huntsville

There’s no way we can list all of the exceptional things to do in Huntsville, but we can get you started on the right track by giving you a small glimpse into some of these one-of-a-kind activities only found in the Rocket City and Madison County. To discover them all, visit huntsville.org.

One-of-a-kind Rocket City Shopping

**Harrison Brothers Hardware**
124 Southside Square, Huntsville
Harrison Brothers will simultaneously transport you back in time with nostalgic toys and catapult you into the pulse of the city with community art.

**Five Points Shopping District**
One of Huntsville’s Historic Districts, Five Points, is home to unique, locally-owned shops and boutiques to fit any style.

**Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment**
2211 Seminole Drive SW, Huntsville
A historic textile mill turned into an arts center, Lowe Mill is the largest privately owned arts facility in the U.S. Shoppers can buy local art of all kinds directly from artists’ studios and even grab a bite to eat. When you see the old water tower (lit up in vibrant colors at night), you’ll know you’ve arrived. (Wed.-Sat.)

**The Garage at Clinton Row**
Corner of Clinton Avenue and Jefferson Street, Huntsville
The Garage at Clinton Row is an adaptive reuse of the first floor of a city parking deck. Retail bays will offer shoppers new and diverse shopping options in the heart of downtown Huntsville.

Explore Huntsville History

**Historic Huntsville Depot** (pictured above)
Civil War Era Graffiti, 3rd floor
320 Church St NW, Huntsville
During the Civil War, Huntsville’s depot was captured by Union soldiers. Today, you can still see the written thoughts, drawings and ponderings of Confederate soldiers who were held prisoner there. The kids will love Andy, the robotic ticket agent, and his stories!

**Redstone Arsenal-NASA Marshall Space Flight Center**
Redstone Test Stands
National Historic Landmark
Witness the very spot where the Saturn V moon rocket and space shuttle engines were tested before they blasted off into outer space. Tours leave from the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, and are subject to availability.

**Maple Hill Cemetery**
202 Maple Hill Street SE, Huntsville
Cemeteries are rarely thought of as beautiful, but you haven’t seen Maple Hill. Adorned with huge oak trees and historic tombstones, Maple Hill is also the final resting place of some of Huntsville’s most unique characters.

**Historic Twickenham District**
Downtown Huntsville
Stroll through the South’s largest concentration of antebellum homes.

mmm... Homegrown Favorites

**Nick’s Ristorante**
10300 Bailey Cove Road SE, Huntsville
Steak, seafood and delicious Italian cuisine are among the most popular dining options at this south Huntsville restaurant.

**Main Street Café**
101 Main Street, Madison
Dine in an old jail cell and don’t forget to try their famous Coca-Cola cake for dessert!

**G’s Country Kitchen**
2501 Oakwood Ave NW, Huntsville
Downhome country cooking and soul food as seen on Samantha Brown’s Places to Love. Open lunch and dinner Tuesday–Saturday.

**Pane E Vino**
300 Church Street SW, Huntsville
Stylish, indoor/outdoor pizzeria at the Huntsville Museum of Art in Big Spring Park.

**1892 East Restaurant & Tavern**
720 Pratt Avenue NE, Huntsville
Located in historic Five Points, new American cuisine is prepared with the freshest ingredients.

**Huntsville Restaurant Week**, mid-August, is ten tasty days to get out and experience Huntsville’s local foodie havens (and take advantage of great savings)!
Day 1
- Stop at the Visitor Center for attraction discounts
- Visit EarlyWorks family of museums (EarlyWorks and Historic Huntsville Depot)
- Enjoy lunch and shopping at Bridge Street Town Centre
- Embrace adventure at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center
- Venture out to dinner in the idyllic Village of Providence

Day 2
- Discover breathtaking views and exciting nature trails at Burritt on the Mountain
- Check out local art and nostalgic gifts at Harrison Brothers
- View local and global art at the Huntsville Museum of Art
- Journey to quaint Historic Five Points for lunch
- Visit the Weeden House in the Twickenham Historic District
- Shop at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment (Wednesday-Saturday)
- Dine in scenic downtown Madison, just west of Huntsville

Day 3
- Explore what’s growing on at the Huntsville Botanical Garden
- Grab a bite to eat on the lovely Courthouse Square in the heart of downtown Huntsville
- Embark on the Lucky Duck Scavenger Hunt
- Remember the sacrifice of U.S. service members at the Veterans Memorial Museum
- Catch a Broadway Theatre League show or concert at the Von Braun Center and dinner downtown

**FUN FACT:**
Huntsville has the most craft breweries in Alabama!

**Rocket City Breweries**
- **Below the Radar Brewing Company**
  220 Holmes Avenue NE, Huntsville
  Brewpub
- **Blue Pants Brewery**
  500 Lanier Road, Madison
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Green Bus Brewing**
  206 Eustis Avenue, Huntsville
  Nano-brewery and Tap Room
- **InnerSpace Brewing Company**
  2414 Clinton Avenue W, Huntsville
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Mad Malts**
  109 Maple Avenue, Huntsville
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Old Black Bear Brewing Company**
  212 Main Street, Madison
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Rocket Republic Brewing Company**
  289 Production Avenue, Madison
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Salty Nut Brewery**
  2406 Clinton Avenue W, Huntsville
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Straight to Ale**
  2610 Clinton Avenue W, Huntsville
  Brewery and Tap Room
- **Yellowhammer Brewery**
  2600 Clinton Avenue W, Huntsville
  Brewery and Tap Room

**make my day**

Get ready for your adventure in the Rocket City!

Check it off as you go!