



"Born to Celebrate"

The Town Ledger



ABSA International 69th Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Hybrid Conference

Mobile, Alabama - From Enchanting Tradition Enduring Progress



Did You Know?

- Mobile is home to "America's Amazon," one of the largest wetland ecosystems in the world!
- In 2006, one of the first ever videos to go viral on YouTube was shot in Mobile, Alabama. It was the newscast that featured the sighting of the Crichton Leprechaun.

Out and About

Do you want to explore Mobile in a whole new way? Experience the Mobile Trail Mix! You can check out these fun interactive trails at <https://www.mobile.org/plan-your-visit/mobile-trail-mix/>. They offer a curated guide to the best experiences Mobile has to offer and make planning a breeze! Whether you're a foodie, a history buff, or just wanting to unwind and explore, there's a trail for you. Enjoy your adventure!

On the Run

Downtown Mobile offers a mix of historic charm, tree-lined streets, and modern greenways, making it a great base for safe and scenic walking or running routes. One of the best routes allows runners and walkers to tour some of Mobile's iconic architecture on shady tree-lined sidewalks. Government Street, Dauphin Street, and Old Shell Road cut through most of the historic neighborhoods of Church Street, Oakleigh Garden, Leinkauf, Old Dauphin Way, and Lower Dauphin. For more information and a map, please visit <https://greatruns.com/mobile-historic-district/>

Welcome to Mobile, the "Gateway to the Gulf" and the true birthplace of America's original Mardi Gras celebration. Established in 1702 as the capital of French Louisiana, today, the port city seamlessly blends coastal charm, rich culture, and vibrant culinary scenes

As the host city for the 69th Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Hybrid Conference, Mobile offers an ideal blend of energetic entertainment and rich coastal culture. Within a short distance of the convention center, you will find dozens of locally owned restaurants & cafes, museums, art galleries, nightlife, shopping, concerts, waterfront eco-tours, and interactive historical sights. So, whether you are planning on sightseeing or relaxing between sessions or planning a pre- or post-conference adventure, this will provide you with just a taste of the hospitality that Mobile and the South have to offer!



Location: Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center
1 S. Water St Mobile, AL 36602

Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel
64 South Water St, Mobile, AL, 36602
251-650-1079

Hotels: The Battle House Renaissance Hotel & Spa
26 North Royal Street, Mobile, AL, 36602
833-311-9803

Oh the places to see!

Discover the timeless beauty of Walter and Bessie Bellingrath's legacy at Bellingrath Gardens & Home. Spread across 65 acres of pristine gardens and the grand estate, this is your gateway to an unforgettable experience. <https://bellingrath.org/>

In 1963, Alabama schoolchildren were able to raise enough money to have the historic USS ALABAMA (BB-60) moved from Seattle, Washington, to Mobile, Alabama. Step back in time as you board the WWII battleship and submarine USS DRUM. Discover over 30 aircraft, military vehicles, memorials, and more. <https://www.ussalabama.com/>

The first Catholic Parish on the Gulf Coast was established at Mobile in 1703, one year after the founding of Mobile. When Mobile was relocated to its present site in 1711, the Parish Church was rebuilt on the West side of Royal street just North of Conti Street, under the patronage of Our Lady of Mobile. It was in 1781, in Mobile's Spanish period, that the parish received its present title "Church of the Immaculate Conception." The Basilica and Cathedral Square are two of the must-visit spots in town. <https://www.mobilecathedral.org/>

The National Maritime Museum of the Gulf is the only museum in the world dedicated to the rich history and traditions of the Gulf of America. With 8 "decks" and more than 80 immersive and interactive exhibits you'll dive deep into famous shipwrecks, Atlantic slave trade, the Civil War and World War II, early settlements and trade routes, marine archeology, catastrophic hurricanes, maritime commerce and shipbuilding, navigation, offshore oil and gas platforms and much more. Don't miss the opportunity to step out on one of the balconies and enjoy the tremendous views of the Mobile River and the Port of Mobile. You may even be able to get a wave and a honk from a tugboat as it passes by! <https://nmmog.org/>

The Mobile Carnival Museum highlights the history of Mardi Gras in its true birthplace - Mobile, Alabama. The museum features 14 galleries, video presentations, a pictorial hallway, and an interactive float area - all in a restored historic mansion. Experience Mobile's Mardi Gras - the Mother of Mystics, the oldest Carnival celebration in the United States at the Mobile Carnival Museum! A visit to Mobile isn't complete until you've toured this magical museum! <https://mobilecarnivalmuseum.com/>

Visiting Africatown is a powerful journey into one of America's most extraordinary historic communities—a place built by survivors of the last known slave ship, the Clotilda, who used their African knowledge, skills, and unity to form a thriving, self-governed town after emancipation. Today, Africatown welcomes visitors from around the world to explore its rich cultural heritage, resilient legacy, and living history preserved across more than 23 significant sites. <https://visitafricatownal.org/>

Coffee?

Great Day Latte - 10 S Conception St

Coffee Monster – 100 N Florida St

Knucklebones Elixir Co. – 202 Government St

Serda's Coffee Company – 3 S Royal St

Carpe Diem Coffee & Tea Company - 4072 Old Shell Rd



Braided River Brewing Company - 420 St Louis St

Oyster City Brewing Company – 600 Government St

Iron Hand Brewing – 206 State St



Bluegill Restaurant - Rustic, waterfront hangout known for oysters, live music & sunset views of Mobile Bay. 3775 Battleship Pkwy, Spanish Fort, AL 36527 <https://www.bluegillrestaurant.com/>

Dauphin's Casual Fine Dining – 34th-floor venue with panoramic views & select French Creole fare and piano bar. 107 St Francis St Ste 3400, Mobile, AL 36602 <https://www.godauphins.com/>

Wintzell's Oyster House – founded as a six-stool oyster bar in 1938, the flagship location on Dauphin Street recently celebrated its 80th anniversary and is known far and wide for its "oysters — fried, stewed or nude." 605 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36602 <https://wintzellsoysterhouse.com/>

Debris Po-Boys & Drinks – a cozy, rustic eatery in the heart of Historic Downtown! A true Southern kitchen packed with mouthwatering flavors and laid-back vibes. 276 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36602 <https://debrispoboys.com/>

Mo' Bay Beignet Co. – Cozy up with coffee, fried dough and a pile of powdered sugar. Come sit awhile and see how they are making life sweeter. 451 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL 36602 <https://mobaybeignetco.com/>



The French who came to found the city had instructions from Louis XIV to collect and send back botanical specimens, and Iberville, busy with the establishment of a great new colony for the glory of France, was careful to obey his King's instructions. Visitors to Mobile in the 1820's wrote of the "villas" along the bay shore, where luxuriant gardens were enclosed by hedges of Cherokee roses. During the Civil War, one of the great laments of the populace was that the avenues of oaks which graced the suburban estates had to be destroyed when the city's fortifications were erected. In the 1870's and 80's, missionaries from Mobile to China took live oak acorns with them and planted groves which still flourish there. In 1974, the South Alabama Horticultural & Botanical Society Inc. agreed to develop and maintain the current 100 acres as Mobile Botanical Gardens. <https://mobilebotanicalgardens.org/>

Voted "America's Birdiest City" for the third consecutive year, the Dauphin Island Audubon Bird Sanctuary is 164 acres of beautiful woodlands with miles of walking trails through pines, live oaks, magnolias, swamps, and along Gulf beaches. Especially popular is the 1/2 mile nature interpretive trail loop, which includes the freshwater lake, dune systems, Gulf beach, and swamp. The trail features educational signs explaining the various animals, vegetation and their interconnection in these ecosystems. Come see the hundreds of species of birds that migrate through this island habitat, and surround yourself with the serenity of maritime forest, marshes, swamps, and a beach. <https://www.townofdauphinisland.org/things-to-do/audubon-bird-sanctuary>

The Environmental Studies Center is a 500-acre natural playground and natural sciences education facility designed to provide a unique learning experience. Exhibits house animals native to Alabama and gives visitors a chance to trade screen time for swamp time while exploring the incredible biodiversity of the Gulf Coast region. The Center hosts an incredible variety of ecosystems, including pine and bay forests, murky swamps, fresh flowing streams, a carnivorous plant bog, and a massive 20-acre lake. It also features fascinating indoor and outdoor exhibits housing live animals, making it the perfect spot to get face-to-face with local reptiles, fish, and birds. It isn't just an educational center; it also plays a vital role in the community by operating a dedicated wildlife rehabilitation program that helps injured and orphaned native creatures get back on their feet (or wings!). <https://www.mcpsesc.com/>

The Alabama Aquarium is an exciting place that highlights the four key habitats of coastal Alabama: the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta, Mobile Bay, the Barrier Islands, and the Northern Gulf of Mexico. It includes the 10,000 square foot Exhibit Hall, a 7,000 gallon sting ray touch pool, and the Living Marsh Boardwalk. This facility has over 30 aquariums totaling over 30,000 gallons with more than 100 species on display. The aquarium showcases the plants, animals, and other natural resources found in the Estuary and its surrounding marine habitats. Through beautiful visual exhibits and engaging interactive exhibits, the Alabama Aquarium will leave you with a broader understanding of the interactions that take place in Mobile Bay, the fourth-largest estuary system in the United States. <https://www.disl.edu/aquarium/>



Funky, colorful, feisty, festive, historic, hip, cultured, cool, and happening, this coastal town can be called a lot of things with its vibrant, nearly 325-year history! Mobile has lots of stories to tell and long-standing traditions celebrated on a regular basis. Once called the Paris of the South, Mobile has long been a cultural center of the Gulf Coast, marching to the beat of its own drum, celebrating the unique, and embracing the unusual. Experience the culture, and discover why Mobile is a place to celebrate, unwind, relax, and have fun. For more information on things to see and do, visit the official tourism web page for the city <https://www.mobile.org/>