

While in Alabama, you might enjoy a visit to:

Birmingham: Vulcan the Iron Man

56-foot statue of Vulcan, the pagan, bare-buttèd Roman god.

There are so many wonderful things to see and do in Hoover! Come discover Mother Nature's beauty at Aldridge Gardens and Moss Rock Preserve. Or, take a step back in time and explore the Folklore Center. Hoover is rich with history, nature, and beauty.

Our community hosts many charity events and cultural events designed to promote the fine arts. The Hoover Library boasts a theatre and art exhibit, and attracts some of today's bestselling authors.

Hoover is proud to host some of the largest sporting events in the Southeast. Greystone Golf Course hosts the Bruno's Memorial Classic, benefiting local Alabama charities. We also invite you to join us at the SEC Baseball Tournament, held annually at the Hoover Met, or come cheer on the Birmingham Barons as they take on visiting teams.

The opening of the Riverchase Galleria changed the fortune of the city forever.

The Riverchase Galleria is the largest mixed-use shopping center in the southeast. It is home to more than two hundred specialty stores and is anchored by Rich's, McRae's, Parisian, Sears, and J.C. Penney. In addition, the Wynfrey Hotel at the Galleria is the only four-star hotel in the state. There are a variety of restaurants, a branch of the U.S. Post Office, and a 250,000 square foot office tower at the mall complex.

The annual 12,000,000 Galleria visitors/shoppers have spurred other retail and commercial growth in the Highway 31 and Highway 150 corridors making Hoover a shopping "Mecca" for both Alabama and the southeastern region of the US.

The Stinson Ole Place, built in the 1840's, is the centerpiece of Hoover's Folklore Center. Moved from rural Shelby County to land adjacent to Bluff Park Elementary in 1997, the Center is maintained by the Hoover Historical Society. The Center is routinely used to showcase the past century to school-aged children. Features include a smoke house, corn crib, spring house, barn, water trough, and outhouse. Volunteers dress up in period costumes and entertain the children with stories, crafts, and music from the pioneer days. For information on hosting school or civic events at the Folklore Center, contact the [Hoover Historical Society](#) at (205) 822-9392.

A perfect balance of nature and community, **Moss Rock Preserve** is a beautiful 250 acre nature preserve abundant with trees and plants, rock outcroppings, streams, waterfalls, wildlife and other unique natural features. Currently Moss Rock Preserve is home to four rare species of plants and a rare variant of Little River Canyon Sandstone Glade - one of only 35 occurrences known around the world!

Moss Rock Preserve's [Boulder Field](#) is a favorite among rock climbers. With numerous technical formations, these boulders appeal to climbers of all skill levels. The City of Hoover is fortunate that these and other natural features exist in Moss Rock. As such, Moss Rock Preserve has been dedicated as a nature preserve in order to insure its long-term survivability.

Nearly 10 miles of hiking footpaths have been constructed within Moss Rock Preserve. These paths allow visitors and nature enthusiasts to witness the beauty of Moss Rock up close and personal. Trail construction and maintenance as well as other general maintenance items within Moss Rock are being carried out primarily by dedicated groups of volunteers. Groups like the Friends of Moss Rock Preserve; Southeastern Climbers Coalition; Ruffner Mountain Nature Center; Americorps; Boy Scouts of America; Hands on Birmingham; and various church and civic organizations have all graciously dedicated their time to improving Moss Rock. Hoover appreciates each of you!

Possibly the most unique feature of Moss Rock Preserve is that it belongs to the Hoover community. With increased use, Moss Rock will become more and more dependant on this community for its maintenance and general well being. In June of 2003, the City of Hoover adopted Ordinance # 03-1973 to aid in the protection and preservation of Moss Rock Preserve. Preserve Rules signs are currently posted at various trail heads around Moss Rock Preserve. Please read them as you enter. The complete text of this ordinance can be viewed by [clicking here](#) or by clicking on the **Preserve Rules** page to the left. Visitors are encouraged to report any and all violations of these rules to the Hoover Police Dept. at 822-5300.

Please do your part to keep Moss Rock scenic and wild for all generations to enjoy.

If you are interested in volunteering at Moss Rock Preserve and/or if you would like to be added to the email list of Moss Rock volunteers, please contact the City of Hoover by phone at (205) 739-7141 or by email at connerc@ci.hoover.al.us.

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"TAKE ONLY PICTURES AND LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS".