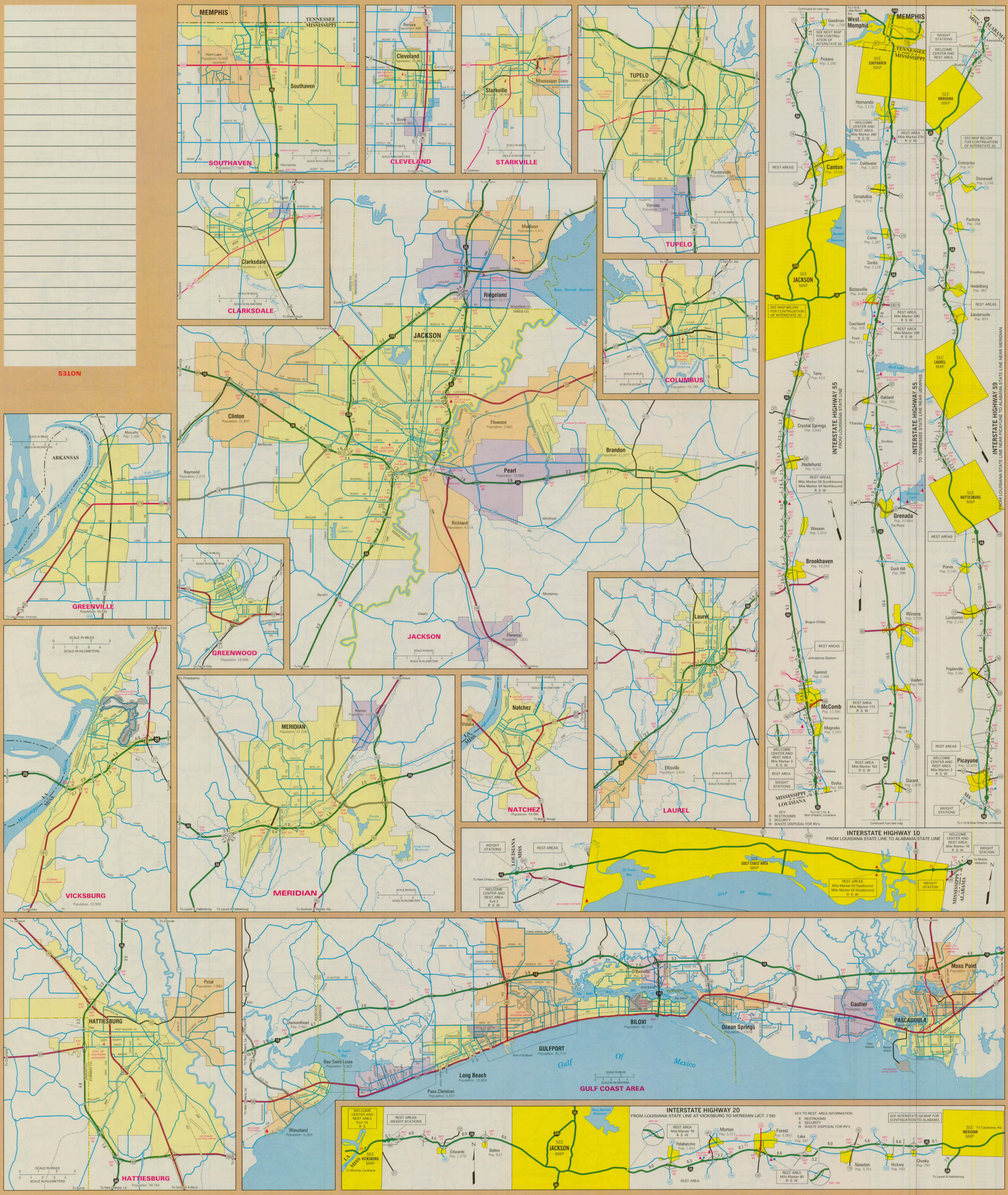


A Message from the Governor

For our distinguished citizens and visitors alike, these pages unfold *The South's Warmest Welcome* to the magic of Mississippi. The melodious Muskhogean word, "Mississippi," evokes imagery of the legendary Choctaws and Chickasaws, rugged frontiersmen, the mysterious influence of a great river system of the world, timeless Southern elegance, international trade, and consummate quality of life. Abundant resources, gracious hospitality, and unprecedented economic development form the matrix of the Mississippi Miracle. Two factors determine the spirit and strength of a state: the resources with which it is blessed and the character and productivity of its citizens. In Mississippi, we have accomplished a rare feat. We have preserved the best of our past - while advancing boldly, progressively, and purposefully to meet a promising future. The highest honor of my life has been serving the citizens of the sovereign State of Mississippi. We welcome you to our celebration of a New Millennium…*Mississippi's Millennium.*

Kirk Fordice
Governor

Kirk Fordice, Governor
Ronnie Musgrove, Lt. Governor

Mississippi Department of Transportation

Transportation Commissioners

Zack Stewart Northern District	Wayne Burkes Central District	Wayne Brown Southern District

Kenneth I. Warren, Executive Director
James H. Kopf, Chief Engineer

For emergency assistance only, call the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol

Toll-free in Mississippi	Outside Mississippi
1.800.843.5352	601.987.1212
1.800.843.5354	Cellular *47 (*HP)

PLEASE DON'T LITTER

Climate

Mississippi's moderate climate encourages outdoor activity year-round. The state experiences a noticeable change of seasons, but temperatures remain mild and pleasant throughout the year. January's average high is 50 degrees; the summer's high reaches into the 90s.

Rules of the Road

The speed limit on Mississippi interstate highways is 70 mph, unless otherwise posted. The state highway maximum speed limit is 65 mph on four-lane divided highways and 55 mph on two-lane highways. The speed limit on the Natchez Trace Parkway is 50 mph. Hauling and commercial trucking are not allowed on the Parkway. Charter buses may obtain a special permit from the Natchez Trace Parkway headquarters by calling 1.800.305.7417. Crash helmets, approved by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, are required for all persons traveling by motorcycle/motor scooter. Mandatory seat belt laws require that driver and front-seat passengers wear seat belts. All children under the age of four must be restrained in a suitable car seat while children between the ages of four and eight must be properly restrained with a seat belt.

Gun Permit Law

Firearms may be carried through the state in your vehicle. They cannot be carried on your person and must remain in the vehicle at all times. Special provisions exist for transporting firearms when traveling on the Natchez Trace Parkway. Firearms must be unloaded and outside the immediate reach of the driver or passengers. They must be transported separately from the ammunition.

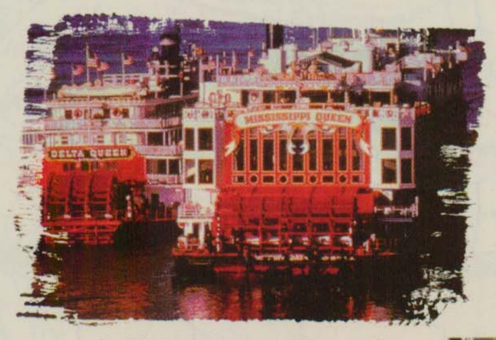
RV/Trailer Length Limits

Motor home lengths may not exceed 40 feet. The legal length for a travel trailer is 53 feet, not including the motor vehicle. The legal width may not exceed 8.5 feet and the height may not exceed 13.5 feet.

Statewide Travel Information

For free statewide travel information, call toll-free 1.800.WARMEST (927.6378) or write, Mississippi Division of Tourism, P.O. Box 1705, Ocean Springs, MS 39566-1705 or visit our web site: www.mississippi.org.

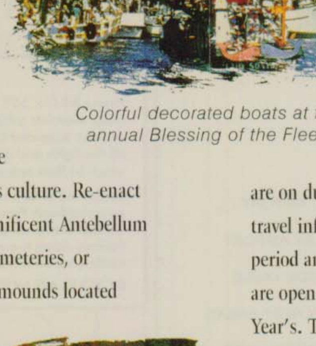
Create Your Own Mississippi



Paddleboat steamers churn up the muddy waters of "Old Man River."

Adventure

Explore the extensive outdoor activities that our state offers such as hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping. National Wildlife Refuges, over 4,000 miles of streams and 500,000 acres of lakes, provide outdoorsmen with some of the best hunting and fishing in the country. Marvel at the breathtaking landscapes of Mississippi's 28 state parks which offer rugged outdoor activity and all the modern conveniences of home.



Colorful decorated boats at the annual Blessing of the Fleet.

Celebration

Mississippi's many festivals and markets invite travelers to experience the hospitality of the *South's Warmest Welcome*. Visitors and Mississippians alike can enjoy railroad festivals, flea markets, sky-parades, furniture markets, fairs, and much more. Not only will you revel in Mississippi's tradition and good company, but you'll get a taste of what Mississippians celebrate year-round.

Pow Wow Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, Natchez.

Memories

Tour Mississippi's history and see why Mississippians treasure their vibrant heritage and luminous culture. Re-enact battles at Civil War sites, visit magnificent Antebellum homes, monuments and historic cemeteries, or experience the reverence of Indian mounds located throughout the state.

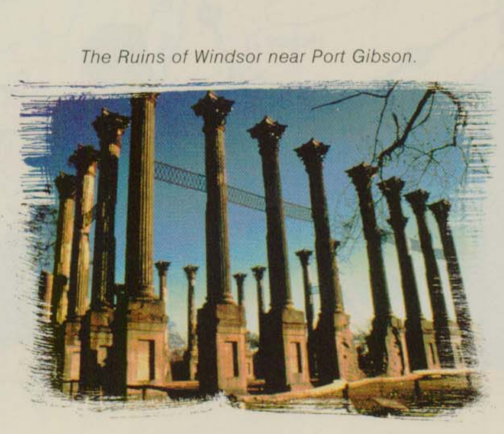
Happenings

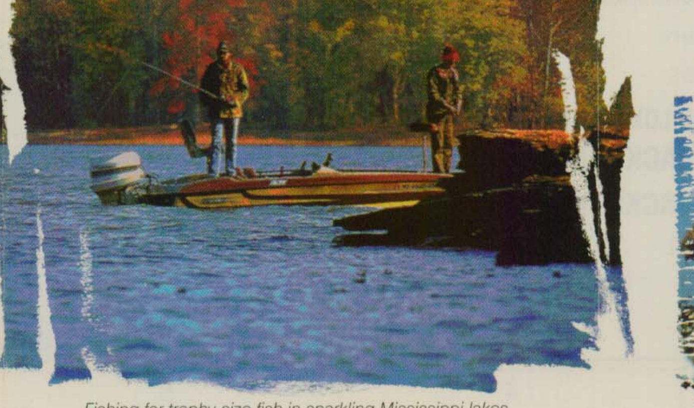
Come explore Mississippi where blues began and still lives on. Bluegrass festivals dominate the state's outdoor events with world famous entertainers gracing the rolling hills of the north to the vast flatland of the delta. These festivals celebrate culturally rich areas with performing arts, craft shows, picnics, and street fairs.

Welcome Centers

Mississippi Welcome Centers, conveniently located on major incoming routes, offer visitors courtesy in-state accommodation reservation services, TDD phones and rest rooms. Travel counselors are on duty to provide maps and brochures and assist with other travel information. These antebellum-style centers, furnished with period antiques, rank among the top facilities in the nation and are open daily except for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Twenty-four hour security is provided at all state welcome centers. The following symbol indicates welcome centers shown on this map.

The Ruins of Windsor near Port Gibson.





Fishing for trophy-size fish in sparkling Mississippi lakes.

Mississippi Delta region, the land of cotton.

MISSISSIPPI

1999 OFFICIAL HIGHWAY MAP

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