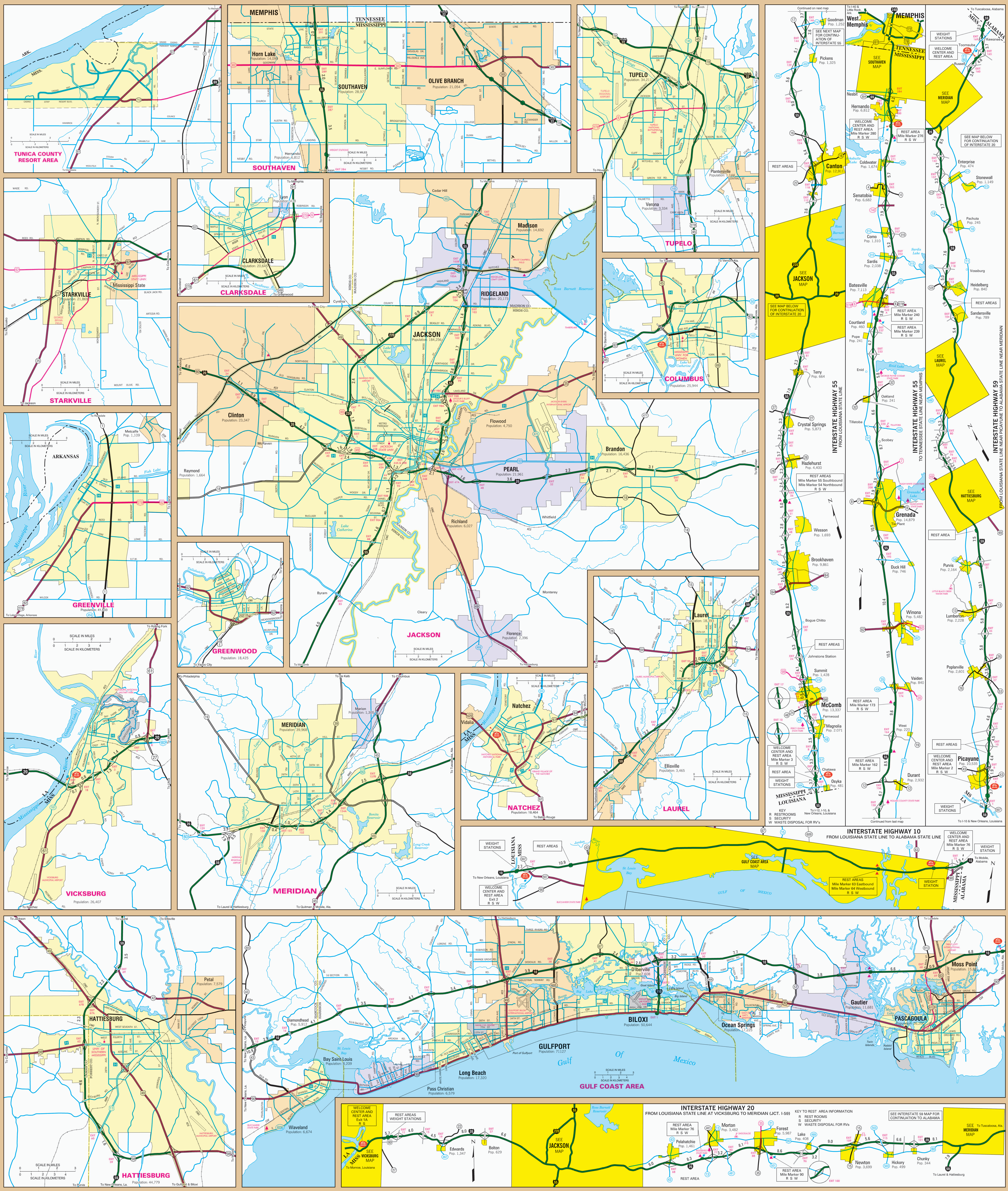
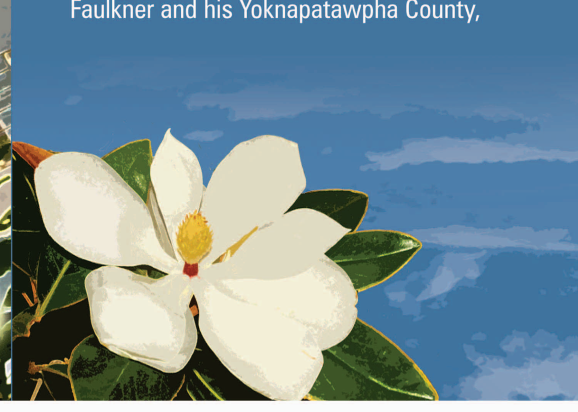


We welcome you to Mississippi's roads

Whether you are exploring Mississippi for the first time, trying to find a new route to spice up your daily commute, or coming home to a long-forgotten place, we extend a warm welcome to you and hope you enjoy your travels along Mississippi's beautiful roads and highways.

From "the most Southern place on earth," the Mississippi Delta, to the red clay hills of northeast Mississippi and down through the Piney Woods to the beaches and bayous of the Gulf Coast, Mississippi's small towns and cosmopolitan cities offer respite to the weary traveler and adventure to the intrepid. Festivals and fairs, casinos and cotton fields, four-star restaurants and front-porch picnics are just off the exit ramps in Mississippi towns across the state.

As Eudora Welty so often wrote in explanation of the South and her Mississippi, it all keeps coming back to "a sense of place." Both the factual and mythical landscapes of some of America's most canonized writers are along the highways across Mississippi. William Faulkner and his Yoknapatawpha County,



Eudora Welty and her Delta, Richard Wright, Tennessee Williams and John Grisham have all created worlds just off the exit ramps of Mississippi's highways.

If you roll down the windows as you coast down Mississippi's roads, you can almost hear the soulful sounds of Son Thomas, Elvis Presley, Jimmy Buffett, Charlie Pride, Leontyne Price, B.B. King and Faith Hill. This is, after all, the birthplace of American music - the cradle of the Blues. It was at the crossroads of Highway 61 and Highway 49 that, according to legend, Robert Johnson took his guitar from his shoulder and handed it over to the Devil who gave him mastery of the guitar. In less than a year's time, in exchange for his everlasting soul, Robert Johnson became the king of the Delta blues singers, able to play, sing, and create the greatest blues anyone had ever heard.

So whether your travels in Mississippi are for business or pleasure, whether your destination exists in history or fiction, memory or myth, you will agree that there is something about Mississippi that enchants and intoxicates your senses like no other place. Mississippi…it's like coming home.

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. Crash helmets are required for all persons traveling by motorcycle/motor scooter. Mandatory seat belt laws require that drivers and front-seat passengers wear seat belts, and children eight years old and under must be placed in an age appropriate restraint or protection device.

Recreational Vehicles and Trailers

Recreational vehicle lengths may not exceed 40 feet. The legal length for a travel trailer, including the motor vehicle, is 50 feet. The legal width may not exceed 8.5 feet and the height may not exceed 13.5 feet.

Welcome Centers

Mississippi Welcome Centers, conveniently located on major incoming routes, offer visitors courtesy in-state accommodation reservation services, TDD phones for the hearing impaired, picnic areas and restrooms. Look for this symbol:

Emergency Numbers

MDOT	1-866-521-MDOT (1-866-521-6368)
American Red Cross	1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636)
MEMA	1-800-222-MEMA (1-800-222-6362)
FEMA	1-866-877-6075
MS Hwy. Safety Patrol	601-987-1212 (*hp from any cell)
Lodging (Mississippi Tourism)	1-866-SEE-MISS (1-866-733-6477)
Campsites (MS Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks)	1-800-GO-PARKS (1-800-467-2757)
Animal Shelters	1-888-722-3106

For emergency assistance, please call the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol toll-free in Mississippi: 1.800.843.5352, 1.800.843.5354, or Cellular *47 (*HP)

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Mississippi Transportation Commission

Dick Hall
Central District

William Minor
Northern District
Chairman

Wayne Brown
Southern District

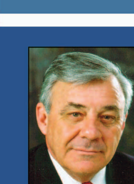
On behalf of the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), we welcome you to the Hospitality State. We hope you enjoy your travels and will spend a little extra time in our great state getting to know our people and experiencing all Mississippi has to offer.

In order to ensure that your trip through Mississippi will be a safe and memorable one, we encourage you to visit our innovative online transportation information system. By logging on to www.mstraffic.com, you will get information concerning daily traffic conditions and MDOT lane closures for maintenance and construction activity. This website will also keep you informed about any weather-related traffic concerns. You can view real-time camera images to determine traffic conditions on many of our major interstate routes. You can also sign up to receive email traffic updates and to view camera images from your mobile device.

Please also visit our web site at www.goMDOT.com, where additional information is available to assist you in your journey. Choose from over 500 city, county and state maps to help you get where you want to go.

Feel free to email our office at: comments@mdot.state.ms.us. We'd like to hear from you. Have a safe trip, and remember to buckle up!

— Mississippi Transportation Commission


Larry L. "Butch" Brown
Executive Director

MDOT

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