

Museum of Alabama

AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY

Teacher & Tour Group Guide

- Tour Options for All Grades
- Group Tour Guidelines
- Traveling Backpacks & Trunks
- Teacher Resources



Alabama DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES & HISTORY

Welcome to the *Museum of Alabama!*

The Museum of Alabama, located at the Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery, is the only destination where you can explore Alabama's story from prehistory to the present. Every year, we welcome thousands of students and visitors from Alabama and around the globe to learn about the people and events that have shaped our state's past. This guide has all the information you need to plan the perfect museum experience for your school or tour group. Thanks for visiting!

→ ADMISSION

Admission and cost for group tours of the Museum of Alabama is always FREE!

→ GROUP SIZES

Guided tours are designed for 15 people or more. Groups larger than 30 may be divided into smaller tour units. Please note that group size includes teachers and chaperones. If galleries are at capacity, chaperones may be asked to wait in the lobby to ensure safety and the quality of the students' visit. See individual tour descriptions for group size guidelines.

→ RESERVATIONS

Reservations are required for group tours. To book a tour, call our Tour Line at (334) 242-4364.

→ MUSEUM STORE

Our Museum Store offers a variety of unique merchandise including books, children's items, Alabama art, and Alabama-made products at many different price points. Groups are invited to shop before or after their scheduled tour time. Let your guide know if your group would like to browse the store.

→ LUNCH OPTIONS

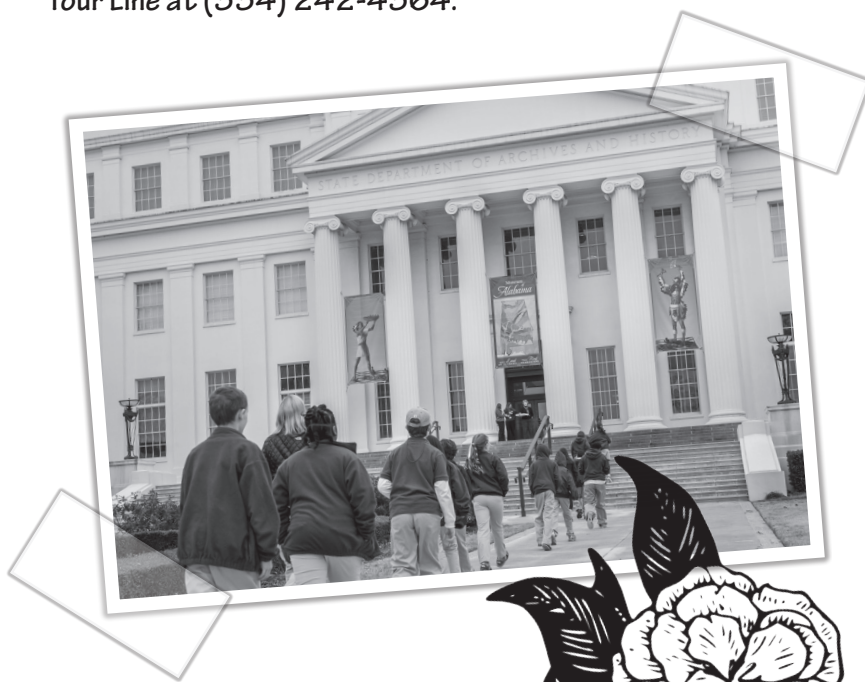
Groups are encouraged to enjoy brown bag lunches on our front lawn, terrace, and 12 picnic tables. No indoor seating is available. Several restaurants are within walking distance of the museum. Ask our front desk staff for directions.

→ DIRECTIONS

The Museum of Alabama is located inside the Alabama Department of Archives and History at 624 Washington Avenue. We are directly across the street from the State Capitol. Limited parking for buses and cars is available in a lot behind the Archives' building on Adams Ave. Free parking is also available on Bainbridge St., south of Adams.

SEE MORE DETAILED TOUR GUIDELINES ON PAGE 4

*Find Your Story
at the home of
Alabama history*



About Our Exhibits



ALABAMA VOICES

Alabama Voices covers the dramatic unfolding of Alabama history from the dawn of the 1700s to the beginning of the 21st century. More than 800 artifacts, hundreds of images and documents, and twenty-two audiovisual programs tell the story of struggles over the land, the rise of a cotton economy, the Civil War, industrialization, world wars, civil rights, the race to the moon, and more. Voices taken from diaries, letters, speeches, songs, and other sources convey the experiences of Alabamians who lived through and shaped the history of the state.

THE FIRST ALABAMIANS

Discover the inspiring story of 14,000 years of Native American history in Alabama. This exhibit includes beautiful murals, maps, a diorama, and artifacts from the Museum's extensive archaeological collection.

THE LAND OF ALABAMA

The story of Alabama begins in the land. Learn about the geography, geology, and biodiversity that set the stage for our state's history.



ALABAMA TREASURES

This gallery features temporary exhibits that highlight the rich history and unique stories of our state and its people.

HANDS-ON GALLERY AND GRANDMA'S ATTIC

Featuring monthly crafts, stories, and dress-up opportunities, this gallery is perfect for children and families.



Tour Options

At-a-Glance

Group tours are offered Monday through Friday on the hour from 9:00 to 3:00 unless otherwise noted.

YEAR ROUND:

→ Alabama History Highlights

- Recommended Group Size: 2 Classes (60 people)
- Length: 60 minutes

**ALL TOURS
ARE FREE!**

FALL TERM (SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER):

→ The First Alabamians

- Maximum Group Size: 2 Classes (60 people)
- Length: 60 minutes

See tour
descriptions
beginning on
page 5

→ Museum Explorer

- Maximum Group Size: 1 Class (30 people)
- Length: 90 minutes
- Availability: Wednesdays only, 9:00 to 2:00

SUMMER/FALL (JUNE - DECEMBER):

→ Then & Now

- Maximum Group Size: 1 Class (30 people)
- Length: 60 minutes



→ **Group size includes teachers & chaperones** ←

Please note: Groups larger than 30 may be divided into smaller tour units. If exhibit galleries are at capacity, chaperones may be asked to wait in the lobby to ensure safety and the quality of the students' visit.

Have Questions? Want to book a tour? Call (334) 242-4364

Tour Guidelines

CANCELLATIONS/LATE ARRIVALS:

If you need to cancel or will arrive late for your scheduled tour, call (334) 242-4364 as soon as possible. Reservations are held for 15 minutes.

LOADING ZONE/PARKING:

Unload and load buses on Bainbridge St. at the corner of Bainbridge and Washington Ave. This is a safe loading zone ONLY. Limited parking for buses and cars is available in the Archives' free parking lot, located directly behind the building on Adams Ave. Unmetered parking is available along Bainbridge St., south of Adams.

ARRIVAL:

All tour groups should enter the front of the building (Washington Ave. entrance). Museum guides will meet your group at this entrance. Large groups will be split into smaller tour units.

TOUR TIME:

Your scheduled time slot includes orientation, exhibit tour, and transition time. The actual time spent in the museum exhibits will be less than your scheduled time slot. Restroom breaks and late arrivals will decrease the amount of time available on the tour.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Staff often take photographs of tour groups for publicity and promotional purposes. If your group has individuals who are not permitted to have their photograph taken, please inform the staff upon arrival. Photography of the museum exhibits is allowed without flash.

RESTROOMS:

Restroom time is NOT included in your tour time. If your group will need to use the restroom, please inform the staff upon arrival.

FOOD & DRINK:

Food and drink are prohibited inside the museum. We do not have indoor lunch facilities, but encourage groups to picnic on our front terrace and lawn. Twelve picnic tables are available on our terrace.

SOUVENIRS:

We welcome groups to shop before or after their scheduled tour time. If you would like to visit the Museum Store, please inform our staff upon arrival.



60-Minute Tour

Alabama History Highlights



Overview: On this always-popular tour, discover Alabama's story through the artifacts, images, and documents in the *Alabama Voices* exhibit.

Grade Level/Group Size: Grades K-3, 4-6, 7-12
Recommended Group Size: 2 Classes (60 people)
Group size includes teachers and chaperones

Availability: Year Round, Monday - Friday

Tour Times: 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00

Tour Length: 60 Minutes

Itinerary:

Alabama Voices Exhibit	45 Minutes
Orientation and Transition Time	15 minutes

 **Correlates to Alabama Social Studies Course of Study Standards**



Have Questions?
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Call (334) 242-4364
All tours are Free!

60-Minute Tour

The First Alabamians

Overview: Learn about the lifestyles and cultures of the first inhabitants of Alabama through discovery activities and exploration of related exhibits.

Grade Level/Group Size: Grades 3 – 6
Maximum Group Size: 2 Classes (60 people)
Group size includes teachers and chaperones

Availability: Fall Term (September – December), Monday - Friday

Tour Times: 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00

Tour Length: 60 Minutes

Itinerary:

Part 1: Exhibits	25 minutes
Part 2: Classroom Discovery Activities and Hands-On Stations	25 minutes
Orientation and Transition Time	10 minutes

Part 1: Exhibits

Explore thousands of years of Native American history and learn about the relationships between Creek Indians, Europeans, and Americans.

Part 2: Classroom Discovery Activities and Hands-On Stations

Grind corn, use a pump drill, decorate pottery, and learn about trade between Native Americans and Europeans through an artifact touch-it table.

Correlates to Alabama Social Studies Course of Study Standards

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90-Minute Tour

Museum Explorer



Overview: A comprehensive overview of Alabama history through an exhibit-based tour of the Museum of Alabama.

Grade Level/Group Size: Grades K-3, 4-6, 7-12

Maximum Group Size: 1 Class (30 people)

Group size includes teachers and chaperones

Availability: Fall Term (September – December), Wednesdays Only

Tour Times: Call for availability

Tour Length: 90 minutes

Itinerary:

Alabama Voices Exhibit	80 minutes
First Alabamians Exhibit	
Alabama Treasures Exhibit	
Orientation and Transition Time	10 minutes

 **Correlates to Alabama Social Studies Course of Study Standards**



60-Minute Tour

Then & Now

→ Perfect for Younger Visitors! ←



Overview: Learn about famous Alabamians and how life has changed in our state through discovery activities and old-fashioned games.

Grade Level/Group Size: Grades K - 4
Maximum Group Size: 1 Class (30 People)

Availability: Summer/Fall (June - December),
Monday - Friday

Tour Times: 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00,
2:00, 3:00

Tour Length: 60 Minutes

Itinerary:

Classroom Discovery Activities
Orientation and Transition Time

50 minutes
10 minutes

Have Questions?
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All Tours Are Free!



Traveling Resources

Trekking Through History and Traveling Backpacks

Our traveling backpacks are a great way to engage your students and enhance the classroom learning experience. Backpacks are available in different themes of Alabama history and correspond with *Alabama Course of Study: Social Studies*. Each backpack arrives filled with touch-its, activity sheets, primary sources, games, and multimedia resources.

Backpack Themes:

Southeastern Indians
Archaeology
Statehood
Cotton
Civil War
Civil Rights
Flight and Space
World War I



Southeastern Indian Traveling Trunks

This fun and interactive teaching kit was developed in collaboration with Alabama teachers. It includes artifact reproductions, books, maps, activity sheets, lesson plans, and multimedia resources to help students learn about the lives, cultures, and experiences of Southeastern Indians.



Traveling Backpacks and Trunks are available on loan for one week from Friday to Friday. Cost is \$10 for backpacks and \$50 for trunks. To reserve your Backpack or Trunk, visit archives.alabama.gov.

Teacher Resources:

Visit archives.alabama.gov
for more great Alabama history resources
like these:

- Teacher-created lesson plans and activities using documents, photographs, and other primary sources.
- Virtual field trips through Alabama Digital Learning.
- History at Home crafts and activities that incorporate historical and seasonal themes.
- Large selection of activities and worksheets to enhance your visit and the classroom learning experience.
- Sign up for our emails to stay informed about special events, new exhibits and resources, teacher workshops, and more!

Connect with Us on Social Media!

@AlabamaArchives

#AlabamaHistory



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at the Alabama Department of Archives & History
624 Washington Avenue

Montgomery, Alabama 36130

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