



DAY TRIP TO BLAKELEY

From Spanish Fort · Baldwin County, Alabama



Photo: JodyB, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0



RIVER AND
LAKE

OPEN DAILY

A state park run by the Historic Blakeley Authority. Open daily from 8 a.m. to dusk, with a day-use fee.

Blakeley was an 1820s river port that rivaled Mobile. In April 1865 one of the last battles of the Civil War was fought around it, and the townsite and battlefield are now Historic Blakeley State Park, on the Tensaw River north of Spanish Fort. Start in the old town, walk the river boardwalk, then drive the battlefield. The park's pages list no restaurant, so bring a picnic, and book any boat cruise ahead.

A SAMPLE DAY

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| ☐ 7:45 a.m. | Drive north from Spanish Fort on AL 225. |
| ☐ 8 a.m. | The park opens. Get the battlefield tour brochure at the gatehouse. |
| ☐ 8:15 a.m. | Drive about 2 miles to Franklin Street and walk the old town: the frame outlines of about 1820 at Washington Square, the first courthouse and jail foundation, and the pavilion over the legendary Jury Oak. |
| ☐ 9:15 a.m. | Walk the quarter-mile E.O. Wilson Boardwalk on the Tensaw and find the Hiding Tree, a hollow oak of Confederate legend. |
| ☐ 10:15 a.m. | Drive the brochure's battlefield tour, which starts from the entrance: Redoubt Six and its Alabama and Missouri monuments, the Stockton Road Redan, and Redoubt Four, scene of the heaviest fighting on April 9, 1865. |
| ☐ Noon | Picnic, then Blakeley Cemetery, with early settlers' graves and a memorial to the battle's dead. |
| ☐ Afternoon | A booked delta cruise, or the 3-mile USCT Heritage Trail, past trenches dug by Black Union troops, at 6955 Cloverleaf Landing Road. Get its gate code at the gatehouse; it closes at 5 p.m. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **Redoubt Four.** The most open part of the line, with the park's rebuilt obstructions and log walls. Shoot along the line to show the ground the attack crossed.
- **The Tensaw River.** From the boardwalk, looking west. Mobile can show on the far horizon.
- **The courthouse foundation.** Under its wooden shelter; shoot in from the edge.
- **The trenches.** Best in low side light, early or late. Stay off them.
- **Filming.** Casual filming of your own visit usually needs no permit; anything more needs the director's permission. The park's pages don't mention drones.



USGS topographic map, 1921 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	7 mi, about 16 min each way from central Spanish Fort. From Mobile: 15 mi, about 29 min.
OPEN	Every day of the year, 8 a.m. to dusk. The USCT Heritage Trail tract, 2 miles north, is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
ENTRANCE	34745 State Hwy 225, Spanish Fort, AL 36527. Park office 251-626-0798.
ADMISSION	\$5 adults, \$3 ages 6 to 12, under 6 free. Veterans and active-duty military free for individual day use. Cruises and camping cost extra.
SELF-GUIDED	A free battlefield tour brochure (download it or ask at the gate); its stops are by the main roads. Free phone audio tour, 60-plus stops: 251-239-3047.
RANGER TOURS	For groups: town or battlefield walks of about 45 minutes, minimum \$75 in admission fees. Book at 251-626-0798.
TRAILS	More than 20 miles for walking, biking and riding by the park's website; well over 30 by its 2026 guide.
RESTROOMS	Several, marked on the park map, and one on the cruise boat.
FOOD AND WATER	Vending machines and picnic areas. Bring lunch and water.
BOAT CRUISES	The covered, wheelchair-accessible Delta Explorer runs the two-hour Delta Adventure and the one-hour Battle of Fort Blakeley cruises from the park dock. Book online.
RULES	Pets on a leash. Stay off the earthworks.
WEBSITE	blakeleypark.com

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 30.74222, -87.92417 • 30°44'32"N
87°55'27"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/alabama/blakeley/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.