

STATE OF BLISS

Gorgeous greens. Sybaritic spas. Restorative resorts. For year-round R&R escapes, look no further than Sweet Home Alabama.

Whatever brings you here, business or pleasure, you'll find ample reason to stay, play, and relax awhile. Centrally located Birmingham makes the perfect jumping-off point for exploring in every direction. But first, pause for a visit to Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa, just outside the bustling city. Among its many temptations, the resort boasts the 18-hole Ross Bridge course—part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, which stretches across the state. Ross Bridge will challenge players of all levels, even as it seduces with breathtaking scenery including a spectacular tiered waterfall. After a day on the course (or for some, an alternative), the Spa at Ross Bridge offers a wide range of treatments.



If you hear the beach calling, head south to Point Clear, on Mobile Bay, and check into the Grand Hotel Golf Resort and Spa. This magnificent historic property, nicknamed the Queen of Southern Resorts and fresh off a major renovation, is the epitome of Alabama's coastal charm. Stroll the nearby waterfront or the charming town of Fairhope—that is, if you can

tear yourself away from the resort's 20,000-square-foot spa or its two RTJ Golf Trail courses, whose names (Azalea and Dogwood) pay tribute to the lush Southern foliage.

Venture north to the vibrant cultural mecca of Muscle Shoals, where you can explore the Alabama Music Hall of Fame and the fabled recording studios that immortalized artists from Aretha Franklin to the Rolling Stones. The music and the history will stir your soul—and a stay at Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa will refresh your mind and body. Another pair of exceptional RTJ courses awaits you at Muscle Shoals: the links-style Fighting Joe (named for the only Confederate General who attained the same rank in the US Army) and Schoolmaster, which follows the rolling topography along the Tennessee River. Care for a massage at the end of the day? Say "ahhh." In Alabama, it's par for the course.



Sweet Home
Alabama