



# A View with a Vision



The Tennessee River has left its mark across Northern Alabama carving away the ancient limestone to leave a series of plateaus and valleys. The community of Gorham's Bluff sits atop one of these plateaus and enjoys an unbeatable view of the Tennessee River and Guntersville Reservoir.

## 1 Gorham's Bluff

The community of Gorham's Bluff has a goal to preserve the landscape's natural beauty for future generations. They have established a sociable community where human connections are valued and energy thrives. The community prides itself on being a place where discovery, exploration, and creativity are celebrated and nourished.



View from Gorham's Bluff/ADCNR Photos

### You Can Almost See Forever

With much of Northern Alabama laid out at your feet, the view from Gorham's Bluff is the ideal spot to enjoy a relaxing sunset. Birders should check this area in fall for migrant raptors cruising past at eye level. Turkey Vultures and Bald Eagles can be seen year-round.

## 2 Raccoon Gulf Small Wildlife Area

This 3,400-acre reserve stretches along the south shore of Coon Gulf just below Gorham's Bluff. The small wildlife area is owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority who cooperates with Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) to manage for wildlife, including the endangered Gray Bat.

## 3 Raccoon Creek WMA

Raccoon Creek is a 7,000-acre wildlife management area managed by the ADCNR for waterfowl and small game. Raccoon Creek WMA borders Coon Gulf on the west and extends for a short distance upstream into Raccoon Creek. This rugged area on Coon Gulf's north shore is best explored by boat.



Canoes/Teaming for Wildlife

### Down at Water Level

Canoe and boat excursions allow visitors to get intimate views of the quiet waters of Coon Gulf. Look for Wood Ducks and Green Herons as you paddle your way quietly upstream. Be on the lookout for the gulf's namesake, the mischievous raccoon, as it hunts in the shallows for crayfish and frogs.



Bald Eagles nesting/ADCNR Photos

### Nesting Eagles

Each year a resident pair of Bald Eagles tends their nest of young in the woodlands along Raccoon Creek. These majestic birds use the warm air rising along Gorham's Bluff to soar high above the bay and grant a lucky onlooker an eye level glance at our national symbol.



Roosting Gray Bats/ADCNR, Keith Hudson

### Do Not Disturb

The Gray Bat, a federally endangered species, roosts in caves along the edge of Gorham's Bluff. These mammals are endangered due to human disturbance of the caves in which they live. Fortunately, the decline of Gray Bats seems to have been reversed as their roosting and breeding caves are being protected.