



Small is Beautiful



One of Alabama's best-kept secrets, Buck's Pocket State Park, is named for the small pocket canyon in which it is nestled. Constant water flow across the soft limestone plateau for millions of years carved this steep-sided canyon. No where else is the effect of water's power more evident than where the canyons submit to the water and open into Morgan's Cove and the wide expanse of South Sauty Creek.

In this little area, visitors can move from deep woodland and steep canyons with breathtaking views to the open waters of South Sauty Creek. This variety of landscapes makes for an excellent canoeing adventure.

As you glide down South Sauty Creek, watch for Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets stalking frogs in the shallows. Listen for the harsh rattle of Belted Kingfishers buzzing back and forth between the abundant supply of little fish and their hungry nestlings. Scan the treetops for roosting Bald Eagles.



The Coming of Fall

Each year as the temperature turns colder and animals begin their preparations for the cold winter, Buck's Pocket begins to reveal its fall colors. The vistas of deciduous forests laid out along the intricate bays of Guntersville Lake provide the

perfect backdrop to enjoy this seasonal phenomenon. During this time, the brilliant green foliage of spring and summer give way to the subtle red, oranges, yellows, and browns of fall before falling to the ground revealing only thin branches for the winter.



Eagles nesting/ADCNR Photos

Breeding and Nesting

Bald Eagles mate for life and share nesting and brood rearing responsibilities. Nests are often built in the crowns of tall trees near water. Pairs usually return to the same nest each year adding new nesting material. Some nests may reach ten feet across. Eaglets are small at hatching and require nearly three months of development before leaving the nest.



Bald Eagle in flight/ADCNR Photos

A Gathering of Eagles

Eagles numbers peak between December and February. One of the largest roosts of Bald Eagles in the state is found each winter on Town Creek, located only a few miles southwest of Morgan's Cove. Up to fifty eagles have been documented on the Town Creek roost at one time. Eagles reach their highest concentrations early in the morning and late in the afternoon when they congregate to enter or leave the roost.