



## FOR THE DOWNTOWN HOUND

Start out at **RAILROAD PARK**, the four-block park that's the center of Birmingham's recent revival. Grab coffee and breakfast at the Red Cat Coffee Shop across the street. Consider renting a Zyp bike to explore the city—there are pickup and dropoff points at hundreds of locations downtown and beyond.

Ride the **ROTARY TRAIL** and check out some of the city's charming shops and haunts. Don't forget to peek into the gorgeous historic Alabama Theatre ("the Showplace of the South") and the Lyric Theatre across the street—its renovation is thanks in part to a BSC graduate.

Have lunch at **THE PIZITZ FOOD HALL**, Birmingham's attention-getting attraction in the basement of a revitalized historic apartment building. Whether you're craving Japanese ramen, Nepalese dumplings, Middle Eastern kebabs, an Ethiopian platter, or Southern-style biscuits, you'll have lots of options. You can shop for souvenirs at Yellowhammer Creative's Birmingham-centric shop.

Across the street, pop into the **MCWANE SCIENCE CENTER**, a nonprofit discovery museum with four floors of exhibits and an IMAX Dome Theater. It's headed up by BSC graduate Amy Templeton '82—looks like BSC's hands-on education led her to providing hands-on experiences for thousands of kids.

If you're here in the spring or summer, wrap up your day by rooting on the Birmingham Barons at **REGIONS FIELD**, an award-winning minor-league ballpark. Catch the views of downtown and Red Mountain, or enjoy local craft brew and BBQ in one of the rocking chairs behind central field.

## FOR THE ADVENTURE SEEKER

For an adrenaline rush, there's no beating the zipline tour at **RED MOUNTAIN PARK**, which will dangle you 40 feet above the summit over historical mining sites and the surrounding valleys. Swing by the Continental Bakery in Mountain Brook to pick up everything you need for a picnic at the park, where you can also hike.

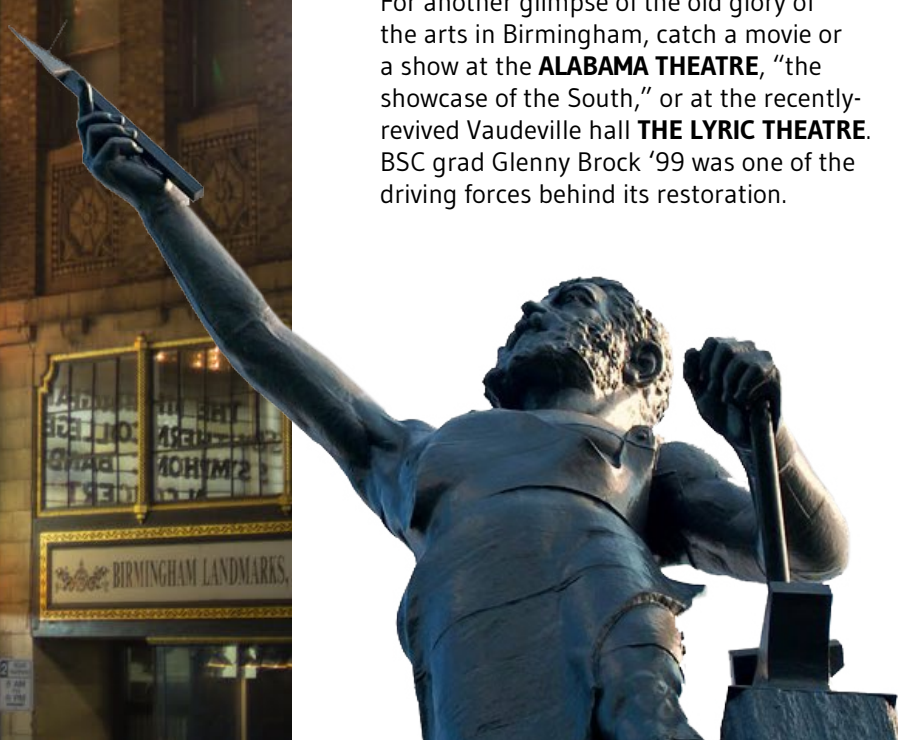
For a slower-paced enjoyment of nature, take a hike within the city limits at **RUFFNER MOUNTAIN NATURE CENTER**, one of the country's largest urban parks and home to many miles of rugged trails. The visitor center houses local animals.

For a longer stretch outdoors—or if you want to camp—Alabama's largest state park, **OAK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK**, is just 30 minutes from campus. Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, golf, swimming, boat rentals and even wakeboarding are all available.

To cool off with a summertime swim in a clear stream, head north to Pinson and **TURKEY CREEK NATURE PRESERVE**, one of the state's best swimming holes. It's also co-managed by BSC and the home of a unique endangered fish. Walk the trails and see if you can find BSC alumnus Charles Yeager '10, the preserve's director—he'll give you a special welcome!



*It's nice to have you in*



## FOR THE HISTORY BUFF

Start at **VULCAN PARK AND MUSEUM** to get acquainted with Birmingham's burly, bearded, bare-bottomed icon and to get a sense of how it all began. Walk through the museum to learn about the city's steel-making roots, then climb the observation tower (or ride the elevator) for a birds-eye view.

Did you know Birmingham was recently named a national civil rights monument by the National Park Service? Explore the **BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE** to learn about the important role our city played in the fight for human rights. Across the street, see the **16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH**, the site of the bombing that turned the nation's eyes toward Alabama, and walk through Kelly Ingram Park.

To see the city from the marchers' point of view, follow the **BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS HERITAGE TRAIL** through downtown to learn about the fight for freedom. Grab lunch in the Fourth Avenue North Historic District, the center of the thriving African-American cultural district, where black businesses grew during segregated times; visit the 1935 **CARVER THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**, home to the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame; BSC film students recently showed their documentaries there. Stop for lunch at one of several modern eateries, including brick & tin, Paramount Bar, or Trattoria Centrale. Or hit the retro John's City Diner, a longtime landmark serving a modern take on old-school cuisine.

For another glimpse of the old glory of the arts in Birmingham, catch a movie or a show at the **ALABAMA THEATRE**, "the showcase of the South," or at the recently-revived Vaudeville hall **THE LYRIC THEATRE**. BSC grad Glenny Brock '99 was one of the driving forces behind its restoration.

## FOR FAMILIES

**THE BIRMINGHAM ZOO** is the state's No. 1 attraction. There are lions, tigers, bears—even a new jaguar exhibit!

Across the street, meander through the free-to-enter **BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDEN**, with a rose garden, conservatory, bog garden, and traditional Japanese garden to explore.

You're in **MOUNTAIN BROOK VILLAGE**, with lots of options for shopping and eating afterward, including Another Broken Egg Café; Avo/Dram; and Gilchrist's, a traditional soda fountain.

## FOR THE FOODIE

Bring an appetite and drawstring pants: Birmingham is no doubt a foodie town. Zagat has picked it as a hot food city, and the San Francisco Chronicle recently highlighted us as a "tasty bite of the Deep South." At the center of it all is the nine-time James Beard Award nominee Frank Stitt, who has four restaurants in town: **HIGHLAND'S BAR AND GRILL**, the French bistro **CHEZ FONFON**, **BOTTEGA FAVORITA**, and the more casual **BOTTEGA CAFÉ**.

Options for a great dining experience don't end there. We're partial to **CAFÉ DUPONT**, owned by BSC alumnus Chris Dupont '85, who pioneered fine dining downtown. Award-winning chef Chris Hastings runs **HOT AND HOT FISH CLUB**, and more recently opened the accolade-grabbing small-plates restaurant **OVENBIRD**, which was recently featured on the Cooking Channel.

On Saturday mornings, the area around OvenBird is transformed into the **PEPPER PLACE FARMER'S MARKET**, with music, grab&go eating options, food trucks, and amazing produce and products from vendors selling everything from shitake mushrooms to salsa to sweet potato pies.

There are plenty of fun and funky options, too:

**EL BARRIO**  
**SAW'S SOUL KITCHEN/JUKE JOINT**  
**FANCY'S ON FIFTH**  
**POST OFFICE PIES**  
**BAMBOO ON 2ND**  
**CARRIGAN'S**  
**URBAN STANDARD**  
**STEEL CITY POPS**  
**NIKKI'S WEST** (near campus)





## EVENTS

**APRIL:** Junior Preview Day (Juniors)

**JULY:** College Road MAPS (Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors)

**OCTOBER/NOVEMBER:** Sample 'Southern (Juniors and Seniors)

**MARCH:** Select Southern (Admitted Seniors)



## HOTELS

### **THE REDMONT BIRMINGHAM, CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON**

Approximately 11 minutes from BSC.

2101 5th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203

Phone: 205.957.6828

Negotiated rate is \$142/night\* (+ tax) all double and single rooms with discounted \$15 overnight valet parking. BSC's corporate account code is 2624748.

Central Reservations : 1-844-HICURIO

### **DRURY INN AND SUITES - BIRMINGHAM SOUTHEAST NEAR HIGHWAY 280**

Approximately 10 minutes from BSC.

3510 Grandview Parkway, Birmingham, AL

Phone: 205.967.2450

Drury negotiated rate: \$94.00\* all Double Doubles and King Rooms / Ask for rate code # 312454 when booking your room.

### **DRURY INN AND SUITES - BIRMINGHAM SOUTHWEST HOMEWOOD LOCATION/ WILDWOOD SHOPPING CENTER**

Approximately 10 minutes from BSC.

165 State Farm Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35209

Phone: 205.940.9500

Drury negotiated rate: \$104.00\* all Double Doubles and King Rooms / Ask for rate code # 312454 when booking your room.

\*Hotel rates are subject to availability and blackout dates and may change at any time. Contact the hotels directly for assistance and/or the most up-to-date information.