



RV TRIPGEN

The Complete Guide to
RV Travel in
Mississippi

Speed limits, towing rules, NPS reservations, Natchez Trace miles,
and everything else you need to know before you cross the state line.

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RV travel in Mississippi

Mississippi is a quietly excellent RV state if you build the trip around the Natchez Trace Parkway. The Trace runs 444 miles from Nashville to Natchez, of which roughly 308 miles are in Mississippi -- a two-lane, no-trucks, no-commercial-services scenic parkway with three NPS campgrounds and a 50 mph speed limit. Add Vicksburg NMP, Shiloh (just over the TN line), the Gulf Islands NS at Ocean Springs / Biloxi, and the Civil Rights heritage trail through Jackson, and you have a coherent one- to two-week loop. The state park system is reasonable, fuel is cheap, and Mississippi coast casinos welcome RV parking. The catches are familiar Southern ones: hurricane risk on the Gulf Coast (Jun-Nov), brutal summer humidity inland, mosquitoes in the Delta, and the state sits in the heart of Dixie Alley with violent overnight tornadoes Mar-May. Mississippi also has more rural fuel gaps than its neighbours -- fill up before leaving the interstates.

Mississippi by the numbers

Boondocking + dispersed sites	209
Established campgrounds	100
Dump stations	28
Propane refills	16
Potable water fill-ups	40
Laundromats	14
RV showers	5
Verified-bad spots (overnight prohibited)	14

Source: iOverlander community database (66% of Mississippi spots verified in the last 24 months).

Driving rules

Interstate (cars)	70 mph
Interstate (trucks + towing)	70 mph
US/State highway (cars)	65 mph
US/State highway (towing)	55-65 mph (posted)
Natchez Trace Parkway	50 mph (federal, no commercial vehicles)
Built-up areas	25-35 mph (posted)
Drive on	Right

RV passenger seatbelts	Required for all front-seat occupants
Cell phone use while driving	Texting banned statewide; hand-held banned for school-bus drivers and novice drivers; hands-free recommended

Highways

RV-friendly corridors

Highway	Note
I-10	Gulf Coast corridor through Gulfport and Biloxi. Watch for hurricane-evac contraflow Jun-Nov on I-59 / US-49 northbound.
I-20	Vicksburg through Jackson to the Alabama line. Easy.
I-55	New Orleans area north through Jackson to Memphis. Easy.
I-59	Slidell (LA) up through Hattiesburg and Meridian to the Alabama line. Easy.
US-49	Hattiesburg north to Jackson and on to the Delta. Mostly four-lane divided. Reliable RV route.
US-61 (Blues Highway)	Vicksburg up through Cleveland and Clarksdale to Memphis. Mostly four-lane divided. RV-friendly; passes the Delta blues sites.
Natchez Trace Parkway	Tupelo south to Natchez. 50 mph, no commercial traffic, no billboards, no services. Allow extra time; allow no commercial fuel stops on the parkway itself. Three NPS campgrounds along the MS portion.
US-90	Coast road through Biloxi, Gulfport, and Bay St Louis. Four-lane in most stretches; runs right along the beach.

RV-restricted segments

Segment	Restriction
Natchez Trace Parkway commercial-vehicle restriction	No commercial trucks. Most private RVs are fine but oversize-load motorhomes (over 12 ft tall, over 8 ft wide, or over 55 ft total) should check the current NPS bulletin -- the parkway has trees and bridges sized for standard rigs only.
MS Delta back-levee roads (Issaquena, Sharkey counties)	Some levee-top access roads are gravel with weight-limited culverts. Stay on US-61 and US-82.
Old downtown Vicksburg and Natchez bluff streets	Steep brick and cobblestone climbs from the riverfront. Park on the bluff top, walk down.
Coastal evacuation routes during hurricane warnings	I-59 N and US-49 N become contraflow during mandatory coastal evacuations. RVs are permitted but expect 12+ hours through Jackson.

National parks + monuments

National Park / Monument	Entry fee	Reservation note
Vicksburg NMP	\$20/vehicle (7 days)	Day-use only in the park. Multiple commercial RV parks in Vicksburg proper; Battlefield Campground (commercial) is closest.
Natchez Trace Parkway	Free	Three NPS campgrounds: Rocky Springs (Natchez area, MP 54.8, free, RVs to 30 ft), Jeff Busby (MP 193.1, free, RVs to 30 ft), Meriwether Lewis (MP 385.9, TN side, free). All first-come, dry, no hookups, 14-day limit. No commercial services anywhere on the Trace -- exit at intersecting highways for fuel and dump.
Natchez NHP	Free entry	Day-use only. Natchez State Park 10 miles east has hookups.
Gulf Islands NS (Mississippi District)	Free at Davis Bayou (MS), \$25/vehicle if visiting West Ship Island	Davis Bayou CG (Ocean Springs) takes RVs to 30 ft, reservable via recreation.gov, full hookups. Ship Island accessible by ferry only -- no vehicles.
Brices Cross Roads NBS	Free entry	Day-use only. Tombigbee State Park 25 miles south has hookups.
Tupelo NB	Free entry	Day-use only. Tombigbee State Park 8 miles south has hookups.
Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home NM (Jackson)	Free entry	Day-use only. LeFleur's Bluff State Park in Jackson has hookups.
Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley NM	Free entry	Day-use only at multiple Delta sites. Stay at a commercial RV park in Greenwood.
Shiloh NMP (Mississippi side)	Free entry	Day-use; main park entrance is across the TN line. Big Hill Pond State Park (TN) 30 miles south has hookups.

State parks

Mississippi State Parks operate 25 parks; most have RV camping. Full or partial hookups at LeFleur's Bluff (Jackson), Natchez SP, Roosevelt SP, Tombigbee SP, Trace SP, Wall Doxey, John W. Kyle (Sardis Lake), Holmes County, Percy Quin, Buccaneer SP (Gulf Coast). Reservable up to 12 months ahead via mdwfp.com. Day-use \$3-5/vehicle. Camping \$20-30/night for full hookups. Buccaneer State Park rebuilt after Katrina is the closest state-park RV camping to New Orleans.

Boondocking + dispersed camping

BLM: No significant BLM presence in Mississippi. Public-land dispersed camping is restricted to national forests, the De Soto NF, and a handful of state WMAs requiring a state license or WMA permit.

National Forest: Mississippi has six national-forest units administratively grouped as the National Forests in Mississippi: De Soto (largest, southeast), Bienville (central), Holly Springs (north), Tombigbee (northeast), Homochitto (southwest), and Delta (west on the Mississippi River). All permit free dispersed

camping along forest roads with a 14-day stay limit. Developed campgrounds at Davis Lake (Tombigbee), Choctaw Lake (Tombigbee), Big Biloxi (De Soto), Clear Springs (Homochitto); most take rigs to 35-40 ft, some with electric hookups.

Stay limit: 14 days at any one location (federal rule, applies to BLM and NF dispersed).

Tribal lands

Mississippi is home to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (federally recognised), headquartered at Pearl River near Philadelphia, MS. The Choctaw operate Pearl River Resort and several cultural sites. Tribal lands are sovereign -- respect signage and ID requirements at casino entry. Pearl River Resort welcomes RV parking; check current policy on overnight stays in the casino lot.

Propane, dump stations, fuel

Propane: Plentiful in Jackson, Gulfport, Biloxi, Hattiesburg, Meridian, Tupelo, and along all interstates. Tractor Supply and U-Haul are reliable. Sparse in the Delta counties and along the rural Natchez Trace -- fill at Tupelo, Kosciusko, or Jackson before heading onto the parkway for an extended run.

Dump stations: Most Mississippi State Parks have free dumps for registered guests. Flying J / Pilot on I-10, I-20, I-55, and I-59 have fee dumps. Gulf Coast commercial parks are dense. The Natchez Trace has no commercial dumps -- use Tupelo, Jackson, or Natchez at the ends and at the major US-highway intersections.

Fuel: Diesel and gas widely available along all interstates. The Natchez Trace Parkway has zero commercial services along its entire 444-mile length -- you must exit at intersecting US highways (e.g. US-82 at French Camp, US-80 near Jackson, US-84 at Brookhaven) to fuel. Rural Delta stretches on US-61 between Cleveland and Clarksdale can run 25-30 miles between stations. Fuel prices typically among the lowest in the country.

Weather windows

Best months: Mid-October through May. Daytime highs 60-80 F. Spring brings dogwood and azalea bloom mid-Mar to early Apr. Fall is pleasant through Thanksgiving.

Avoid: June through September: 90-96 F with 85%+ humidity, brutal mosquitoes in the Delta and the De Soto NF, and near-daily afternoon thunderstorms. June through November is hurricane season on the Gulf Coast (Bay St Louis, Gulfport, Biloxi, Pascagoula). March through May is peak tornado season; Mississippi sits in Dixie Alley with frequent violent overnight tornadoes.

Climate caution

Hurricane Katrina (2005) destroyed the Mississippi Gulf Coast in a few hours; modern building codes and the casino industry have rebuilt, but the surge risk has not gone away. If a named storm has a Mississippi cone-of-uncertainty hit 72 hours out, move inland past I-20 or out of state.

Emergency + road conditions

State patrol	Dial *47 from a cell phone, or 601-987-1212 for Mississippi Highway Patrol main line
Road conditions	https://mdottraffic.com

How RV TripGen helps

Natchez Trace fuel-and-dump planning

RV Tripgen knows every commercial-services intersection along the 444-mile Natchez Trace Parkway and pre-schedules fuel, propane, and dump stops at Tupelo, Kosciusko, French Camp, Jackson, Port Gibson, and Natchez.

Dixie Alley tornado-watch awareness

RV Tripgen flags Mississippi overnight stops during active NWS tornado watches in the Mar-May peak season and surfaces nearby sturdy-shelter options (state-park bathhouses, fire halls, casino buildings) within driving distance.