



REGIONAL GOLD PROSPECTING SITES AND POINTS OF INTEREST

Georgia
South Carolina
North Carolina
and Alabama



**** LDMA & GPAA CLAIMS REQUIRE MEMBERSHIP TO ACCESS ****

Information compiled by Augusta, Georgia GPAA Chapter
www.augustagoldclub.com • Email: augustagoldclub@gmail.com

Updated: Fall 2025
Information and prices subject to change

CRISSON GOLD MINE (Dahlonega, Georgia)



Crisson Gold Mine offers gold panning, gem mining, self-guided walkthrough tours of historic equipment, and knowledgeable instructors, as well as being the largest stock dealer of mining equipment in the southeast. They are also the largest rock & mineral shop in North Georgia. High-Grade gold ore available for purchase.

General Admission: Adult: (13+): \$18.95, Youth (12 & under): \$15.95

(Children 3 and under are free - with paid adult admission)

Includes historical mining equipment, museum tour, gold panning and gem shifting

Trommel or Gold Cube rental fee: \$10 to use the equipment as long as it takes to run through the scoop(s) of ore + tractor scoop of gold ore: \$125-\$225

Hours: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, Open 7 days a week

CLOSED: Thanksgiving and Christmas Day

www.crissongoldmine.com • Email: info@crissongoldmine.com • Phone: 706-864-6363

2736 Morrison Moore Pkwy E, Dahlonega, GA 30533

DAHLONEGA GOLD MUSEUM (Dahlonega, Georgia)



The museum is housed inside the 1836 Lumpkin County Courthouse, one of the oldest courthouse buildings in Georgia. Visitors can also explore the courthouse features, including beautiful wooden chapel seats from 1889 and the judge's chambers. The museum features a 17 minute film, gold nuggets and coins, a gift shop, and more.

General Admission: Adults: \$10.00, Seniors: \$7.50, Youth (6-17): \$7.00, Children (6 & under): \$3.50

Hours: Monday thru Saturday 9:00 am – 4:45 pm, Sunday 10:00 am – 4:45 pm

CLOSED: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day

www.gastateparks.org/DahlonegaGoldMuseum • Phone: 706-864-2257

1 Public Square, Dahlonega, GA 30533

CONSOLIDATED GOLD MINE (Dahlonega, Georgia)



Travel 200 feet underground and 100 years back in time! Visitors will enjoy a 40 minute underground adventure of the mine with one of their friendly and knowledgeable miners. After your tour, you will receive gold panning instructions with the chance to try if for yourself and hopefully strike it rich! While you are at the mine, don't forget to try their "Gemstone Grubbin'" for a great family experience.

General Admission: Adults (13+): \$24.95, Children: \$15.95 Ages 3-12 (children ages 2 and under are free)

Includes a 40-minute tour over 20 stories underground, gold panning instruction from award-winning panners, and a free gold sample to try your luck.

Gem Mining: Buckets start at \$30 • **Gold Panning:** Starting at \$40

Hours: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Open 7 days a week

CLOSED: Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day (adjusted hours Christmas Eve)

www.consolidatedgoldmine.com • Email: consolidatedgoldmine@gmail.com • Phone: 706-864-8473

185 Consolidated Gold Mine Road, Dahlonega, GA 30533

LDMA LOUD MINE CAMP (Cleveland, Georgia)

LDMA Loud Mine is Georgia's premier prospecting destination! This haven beckons families to relish the joys of the great outdoors with a plethora of activities to indulge in. Immerse yourself in the charm of organized events and multi-day outings, making cherished memories that will last a lifetime. Discover the perfect campground that exudes a warm and family-friendly ambiance, catering to all your desires.

- RV Sites
- Dry Camping/Tent Camping Sites Available
- Showers/Restroom
- Clubhouse, Card Room, Community Fire Pit
- Dump Station
- Panning Station
- Equipment Rentals
- Paydirt Piles

Phone: 706-219-3075 • Address: 575 Abb Helton Road, Cleveland, GA 30528

GPAA BUCHANAN PROPERTY (Tallapoosa, Georgia)

The GPAA Buchanan property (also known as “The Farm”) is located in Tallapoosa, Georgia near the Georgia/Alabama border. Tallapoosa is located about one hour west of Atlanta. Beech Creek runs through this claim. Those looking to pan, sluice, high-bank, and/or dredge will not have any issues locating an area to prospect on the creek. Camping is primitive and no electricity or water is available at the site. There are portable toilets available. Bring all the supplies you will need.

2818-3002 GA-120, Tallapoosa, GA 30176

PINE MOUNTAIN GOLD MUSEUM (Villa Rica, Georgia)



The Pine Mountain Gold Museum at Stockmar Park is a unique historical site with a museum, actual mining sites, nature trails, and gold panning all at one location. Experience gold mining techniques spanning over 100 years beginning in the 1820s through the early 1930s. Listed on

the National Register of Historic Places, the Pine Mountain Gold Museum is located on the site of an actual gold mine and tells the story of the Villa Rica mines through exhibits in the 4,800-square-foot museum. Enjoy a scenic trek around the 27 acre park featuring intact ruins of Pine Mountain's gold mining past. Gold and gemstone panning also available.

Museum Admission: Adults: \$8.00, Seniors (over 55): \$6.00, Children (under 12): \$6.00 (Children under 2 are free), Military/First-Responders: \$6.00

Pine Mountain Scenic Railroad: \$8.00 per ticket, Children ages 2 and under are free with ticketed adult.

Panning for Gold, or Gemstones: *Includes instruction and assistance from one of their miners*

Gold: \$10.00 Per gold pan (Ages 12+)

Gemstones: \$8.00 Per gemstone pan

Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

CLOSED: Sunday, Monday, and during the months of October and December

https://www.villarica.org/pine_mountain_gold_museum

1881 Stockmar Road, Villa Rica, GA 30180

OUTPOST GOLD & GEM MINING COMPANY (Helen, Georgia)



The Outpost Gold & Gem Mining Company is a family attraction that is fun for all ages. Try your luck with their Georgia Gold Rush Paydirt Buckets filled with either Concentrated Gold or take a chance on their Gemstone Buckets with rare earth gems, such as rubies, sapphires, emeralds, amethyst, topaz, and more! All of their panning tables are covered and they are open rain or shine. Get hands on lessons from their trained and helpful staff who are always nearby to help you identify your finds and evaluate them.

Small Gold Bucket: \$15.00 / 1-Quart Paydirt Bucket

Large Gold Bucket: \$30.00 / 1-Gallon Paydirt Bucket

Old Prospector's Small Gold Bucket: \$50.00 / 1-Gallon Concentrated Paydirt Bucket

Old Prospector's Large Gold Bucket: \$150.00 / 2-Gallon Concentrated Paydirt Bucket

Mother Lode Gold Bucket: \$250.00 / 2-Gallon Super Concentrated Paydirt Bucket

Mini Gem Bucket: \$7.00 / 1-Quart Gem Rough Mix

Small Gem Bucket: \$20.00 / 1-Gallon Gem Rough Mix

Large Gem Bucket: \$35.00 / 2-Gallon Gem Rough Mix

Outpost Family Bucket: \$100.00 / 6-Gallon Gem Rough & Fossil Mix

Hours: Sunday thru Thursday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

CLOSED: Thanksgiving and Christmas

www.outpostgoldandgems.com • Email: sales@goldandgem.com • Phone: 706-878-5065

7901 South Main Street, Helen, GA 30545

HERITAGE GOLD MINE PARK (McCormick, South Carolina)



Step back into time at the starting point of the 1852 Dorn Gold Mine. Explore the original features of the 1850's mine including the open trench, several pits and vertical shafts, dewatering piping, and a horizontal tunnel. Guided or self-guided tours available. Learn how to pan for gold just like the old-timers did, and you keep what you find. Or if you prefer, screen for gemstones. Group tours available by appointment.

Mine Tour: \$3, Ages under 5 - Free

Gold Ore: \$10 per 1/2 gallon bucket, \$60 for 3 gallon bags

Gemstones: \$5 per bucket

Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Open May through October on the first and third Saturdays, and the associated Sundays

www.heritagegoldmine.com • Email: dorngold@live.com • Phone: 706-877-3080

209 N Mine Street, McCormick, SC 29835

MARTIN PROSPECTING/M&J COINS (Inman, South Carolina)



Martin Prospecting is South Carolina's only prospecting store. Offering a variety of gold prospecting equipment and accessories, Martin Prospecting is located in Inman, South Carolina. They also offer metal detecting supplies. Looking for coins and currency? M&J Coins have you covered with their selection of coins and related ephemera.

Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

CLOSED: Saturday and Sunday

www.martinprospecting.com • Phone: 864-586-1163

298 Brass Rail Road, Inman, SC 29349

LDMA OCONEE CAMP (Tamassee, South Carolina)

The hidden treasures of Oconee Camp, where precious gold awaits. Immerse yourself in the tranquility of this rustic retreat and indulge in the thrill of a few extra pounds-after all, gold is known to be heavy!

- RV Sites
- Dry Camping/Tent Camping Sites Available
 - Community Fire Pit
 - Panning Station
 - Equipment Rentals
 - Paydirt Piles

Phone: 864-944-8325 • Address: 475 LDMA Drive, Tamassee, SC 29686

REED GOLD MINE (Midland, North Carolina)



Reed Gold Mine is the site of the first documented gold find in the United States. From this discovery, gold mining spread gradually to nearby counties and eventually into other southern states. A visitor center, trails, and self-guided mine tour are available for free. Daily guided tours of the mine and gold panning are available for a small fee.

General Admission: Free

Underground Mine Guided Tours: Adults (18-64): \$5.00, Seniors (65+) & Military: \$4.00, Youth (3-17): \$1.00, Children (0-2): Free

Gold Panning Fees: \$5.00 per person

Panning is available Tuesday through Saturday from March to November (Weather permitting).

Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

CLOSED: Sunday, Monday, and most major holidays

www.historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/reed-gold-mine • Email: reed@dncr.nc.gov • Phone: 704-721-4653

9621 Reed Mine Road, Midland, NC 28107

CAROLINA PROSPECTORS (Statesville, North Carolina)



Carolina Prospectors has all the prospecting tools and gear you need to find the gold with over 900 products specifically chosen to help you find more gold. Plus Coins, Currency, Rocks, Minerals, Rock Hounding and supplies for all. Carolina Prospectors is located in the heart of North Carolina gold country.

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:30 am – 5:30 pm, Saturday 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

CLOSED: Sunday, Monday and Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day

www.carolinaprospectors.net • Phone: 704-450-1639

414 Turnersburg Hwy, Statesville, NC 28625

LDMA VEIN MOUNTAIN CAMP (Nebo, North Carolina)

This area boasts deep layers of alluvial gravels, with dense clay layers in between. Soft bedrock overlays the region, both within LDMA Vein Mountain and its surroundings. The property is dotted with numerous gold-bearing quartz veins, making it an ideal destination for a family weekend getaway.

- RV Sites
- Dry Camping/Tent Camping Sites Available
- Showers
- Covered Community Area, Community Fire Pit
 - Panning Station
 - Equipment Rentals

- Paydirt Piles
- Dump Station

Phone: 828-652-0144 • Address: 3216 Vein Mt. Road, Nebo, NC 28761

Emerald Village (Little Switzerland, North Carolina)



Emerald Village is a group of gem, mining, and historical attractions nestled deep in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway and within an hour's drive of Asheville, Boone, and Blowing Rock. Located in a spectacular mountain setting, Emerald Village is home to 12 historic real mines and has been featured on National Geographic TV, the Travel Channel, and more. Tour the Bon Ami Mine (home of the NC Mining Museum), pan for gold and embark on a Black Light Mine Tour on select evenings.

The NC Mining Museum: *Self-guided underground mine tour*

\$15 - Ages 13 and up

\$10 - Ages 5-12 (Ages 4 & under are free with a paying adult)

Gem Buckets: Start at \$15 and go up to \$500 • **Gold Panning:** Starts at \$25 and goes up to \$500

Discovery Mill Building: *10 levels of exhibits*

\$8 - Ages 13 and up

\$6 - Ages 5-12 (Ages 4 & under are free with a paying adult)

Dig Your Own at Crabtree Emerald Mine:

\$25 per person - Ages 13 & up

\$5 per person - Ages 5-12 (Ages 4 & under are free with a paying adult)

Tools available for rent - \$25 per day, plus deposit. Waiver of liability form must be signed.

Mineral Collecting on the McKinney Mine Dumps:

\$25 per person - Ages 13 & up

\$5 per person - Ages 5-12 (Ages 4 & under are free with a paying adult)

Tools available for rent - \$25 per day, plus deposit. Waiver of liability form must be signed.

Hours: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Open 7 days a week (April, May, September, October)

9:00 am – 6:00 pm (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend)

www.emeraldvillage.com • Email: info@emeraldvillage.com • Phone: 828-765-6463

331 McKinney Mine Road, Spruce Pine, NC 28777

LUCKY STRIKE GOLD AND GEM MINE (Marion, North Carolina)



Lucky Strike, a gold and gem mine that also boasts a campground, where they strive to provide their visitors with a memorable and enjoyable outing. Step back in time to the days of old-

fashioned gold mining by taking a pan or sluice box into the stream. Popular methods of prospecting in the river include gold panning, sluicing, and crevicing. Spend the day outdoors with your family and friends, sharing in the excitement of recreational gold mining. When you need a break from mining, head over to the Miners Diner, located next to the covered panning area.

Panning, Sluicing, or Crevicing in the River: \$5.00 per day

High-Banking: \$40 for one front loader of material (using your own equipment), \$40 for each extra load of material, \$60 for High-Banker rental and material

Dredging: *Daily rates using your own equipment*

2" Dredge: \$10 • 3" Dredge: \$15 • 4" Dredge: \$20 • 5" Dredge: \$25

Gold Panning Buckets: 4 Gallon - \$20

Gold Nugget Bags: \$25, \$50, \$100, and \$500

Gold Picker Bags: \$30 and \$60

Gem Buckets: 4 Gallon - \$20

Specialty Gem Buckets: \$25, \$50, and \$100

Wash Plant Rental: \$1200 per day (*for club or group*)

Back-In RV Sites: \$40 per night, **Pull-Through RV Sites:** \$50 per night, **Primitive Tent Sites:** \$25 per night, **River Rest Cabin:** \$95 per night, **Cedar Creek Camper:** \$95 per night

Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Open 7 days a week (May - September)

CLOSED: Christmas Day

www.luckystrikegoldandgem.com • Email: liz@luckystrikegoldandgem.com • Phone: 828-738-4893

251 Lucky Strike Drive, Marion, NC 28752

THERMAL CITY GOLD & GEM MINE (Union Mills, North Carolina)



Thermal City Gold Mine is the perfect find for great family fun, gem mining, gold panning, camping, mining and much more. Thermal City Gold Mine offers a unique experience hosted by people who are real prospectors. They are dedicated to keeping the tradition and history of Gold Mining in North Carolina alive. Anyone who wants to pan or prospect for gold is welcome. Prospecting supplies are available for purchase.

Trommel or Highbanker: \$75 per half day, includes one yard of material

Dredging - up to 3": \$20 per day for 1 person + \$5 for each helper

Dredging - 4": \$25 per day for 1 person + \$5 for each helper

Regular Load of Material - \$65

Panning for Gold: \$15 per person per day.

(No charge for children under 10 but must purchase a panning kit.)

Primitive Camping: \$25 per night, \$150 per week (1 week max)

Full Hook-Up: \$40 per night, \$240 per week

Cabin Rentals: Prices available upon request

Hours: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Open 7 days a week (March - October)

www.thermalcitygoldmine.com • Email: info@thermalcitygoldmine.com • Phone: 828-286-3016

5240 US Hwy 221 N, Union Mills, NC 28167

NC TREASURE HUNTERS CAMPGROUND (Hollister, North Carolina)



Visit our gold mine located in Nash County NC! Camp, prospect for gold, hunt for fossils, and check out our very own buried 1906 Robinson Gold Dredge. They were featured on the History Channel's *Beyond Oak Island*: Season 3, Episode 7 "North Carolina Gold."

www.nctreasurehunters.com • Email: nctreasurehunterscampground@gmail.com • Phone: 252-907-3210

15561-A Taylors Store Road, Hollister, NC 27844

MUSEUM OF NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS (Spruce Pine, North Carolina)



The mountains near Spruce Pine, North Carolina are among the richest in minerals and gems in the United States. More than 300 varieties are showcased in the Museum of North Carolina Minerals, located on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Museum of North Carolina Minerals features interactive displays about the minerals and gems found in the region as well as the historical importance of the mining industry to the local economy. A gift shop is located in the museum.

General Admission: Free

www.blueridgeheritage.com/destinations/museum-of-north-carolina-minerals • Phone: 828-765-2761

214 Parkway Maintenance Road, Spruce Pine, NC 28777

(at milepost 331 on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the junction with NC Hwy. 226)

PORTIS GOLD MINE (Hollister, North Carolina)



Portis Gold Mine offers a "prospectors" experience where you can dig anywhere you wish on their 20 acres. Loaner pans and panning lessons are always free of charge. Special pricing for groups. Educational tours for groups also available. As seen on *Gold Rush: Mine Rescue with Freddy and Juan*.

Dig & Pan Only: \$10 per day (12 and younger are free)

Bucket of Paydirt: \$10 per bucket

Metal Detecting: \$15 per day per person.

Bring your own equipment (highbanker or other): \$20 per person per day. (*Rental highbanker available by reservation for \$35 per day*)

Tent Camping: \$15 per night.

Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday. (Monday - Friday: By appointment only)

Search for “Portis Gold Mine” group on Facebook • 517-388-7840

8729 NC-561, Hollister, NC 27844

ALABAMA GOLD CAMP (Lineville, Alabama)



Located in the heart of Alabama’s gold belt, with miles of creek to pan, sluice, dredge, high-bank, and metal detect. They also offer camping, hot showers, a covered meeting area, and a fully stocked general store. Not looking for gold? Come enjoy a day of picnicking and hiking one of their many trails.

Primitive Camping: \$5 per night (*including bathhouses*), Ages 17 and under are free

Full Hook-Up Camping: \$25 per night, 30 AMP site • \$30 per night, 50 AMP site

Prospecting Shack Rental: \$75 per night

Visitor Passes: \$5 a day; Ages 11 & under free with adults

Includes admission, panning, sluicing, and metal detecting.

Additional Prospecting Rates When Using Your Own Equipment:

Dredging:

2" Dredge: \$15 per day • 3" Dredge: \$20 per day

4" Dredge: \$25 per day • 5" Dredge: \$40 per day (*max size*)

High-Banking:

Up to 1.5": \$15 per day • 2" - 2.5": \$20 per day • 3": \$25 per day (*max size*)

Dredge and High-Banker rentals available

www.alabamagoldcamp.com • Email: gold@alabamagoldcamp.com • Phone: 256-396-0389

1398 Co. Rd. 5, Lineville, AL 36266 (Do not use with GPS, See map on website)

—END—

Learn more about the Gold Prospectors Association of America:

www.goldprospectors.org and www.gpaastore.com

Learn more about the Lost Dutchman’s Mining Association:

www.myldma.com