

Shoals Economic Development Authority

20 Hightower Place, Suite 1

Florence, AL 35630

(256) 764-0351

(800) 239-6087

(256) 764-3850 (FAX)

shoalseda@seda-shoals.com

www.seda-shoals.com



Transportation

[Highways](#)

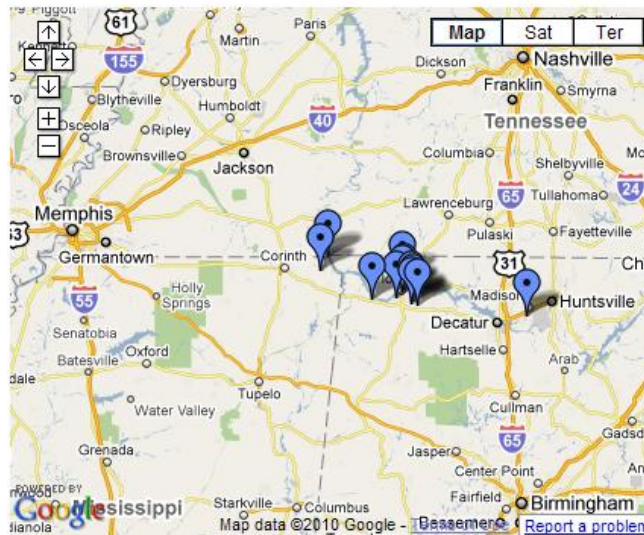
[Air](#)

[Rail](#)

[Water](#)

[Port of Entry/Foreign Trade Zone](#)

[Additional Transportation Links](#)



View [The Shoals Transportation Infrastructure](#) in a larger map

Highways



[Map of Shoals' Highways](#)

The Shoals area enjoys excellent highway infrastructure without heavy traffic congestion. The Shoals is located on US Highway 72, a major east-west corridor leading from the Southeast US to Memphis, TN, and beyond. Four-lane US Highway 72 connects directly with I-65 to the east

and I-40 and I-55 to the west. Alabama Highways 157 and 20 also provide direct connections from The Shoals to I-65. US Highway 43 connects The Shoals to US Highway 78 (Corridor X or I-22) near Hamilton, AL, and I-65 at Columbia, TN.

Within The Shoals, a number of highway construction projects have recently been completed or are nearing completion.

Shoal Creek Bridge—a new six-lane bridge on US Highway 72
Patton Island Bridge—a six-lane bridge over the Tennessee River
New Bridge on US Highway 72 in Rogersville
Alabama Highway 157—completion of four-laning to I-65
U.S. Highway 43—four-laning of southern portion in construction stages
Alabama 133—widened to seven lanes north from Avalon Ave.
Highway and overpass from Patton Island Bridge to AL Highway 17

[Back to Top](#)

Air



[Map of Airport Locations](#)

Passenger Service

The [Northwest Alabama Regional Airport](#) (MSL) provides The Shoals with direct commuter service to [Memphis International Airport](#) (MEM) via Northwest Airlink. Additionally, [Huntsville International Airport](#) (HSV), [Nashville International Airport](#) (BNA), and [Birmingham International Airport](#) (BHM) provide the air traveler with many choices for convenient air travel to anywhere in the world.

Air Cargo

Companies needing to ship or receive cargo by air will appreciate the close proximity of The Shoals to the International Intermodal Center at the Huntsville International Airport and to the Memphis International Airport, which is the world's busiest airport for air cargo.

[Back to Top](#)

Rail



[Map of Rail Lines](#)

Rail service is readily available to business and industry in the Shoals. [Norfolk Southern Railroad](#) serves Colbert County, and [Tennessee Southern Railroad](#), a short line that connects directly to [CSX Railroad](#), serves Lauderdale County.

[Norfolk Southern Rail System Map](#)
[Rail Service in Alabama \(includes a rail map\)](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Water

Located on the navigable Tennessee River, the Shoals area has direct access to the Gulf of Mexico via the [Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway](#) and the Mississippi River. Several private companies operate their own barge terminals and contract these services on a company-by-company basis. The [Port of Florence](#), on Pickwick Lake, is located at Tennessee River Mile 256.5. It is owned and operated by the Florence-Lauderdale County Port Authority, a public, non-profit corporation serving businesses and industry in Northwest Alabama. The Port of Florence can provide bulk materials handling by clam shell to rail or truck...by dump chute from truck to barge...or by transloader from rail or truck to barge. An overhead bridge crane has the ability to unload steel coils and other materials. A lighted public dock area is available for short-term use on a contract basis.

[Tennessee River Map](#)
[Tenn-Tom Waterway Maps](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Port of Entry and Foreign Trade Zone

The Shoals area is included in the Port of Entry and Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) areas served by the Huntsville-Madison County Jetplex. An International Intermodal Center at Huntsville is capable of receiving, transferring, storing, and distributing containerized cargo by all modes of transportation.

[Foreign Trade Zone 83](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Additional Transportation Links

[Bureau of Transportation Statistics](#)

[Alabama Department of Transportation \(ALDOT\)](#)

[Traffic Counts for Roadways in The Shoals](#)

(Zoom in on Colbert and Lauderdale Counties in the northwest corner of the state)

[Back to Top](#)