

Sauta Cave National Wildlife Refuge



Sauta Cave

Sauta Cave, set among 264 acres north of the Guntersville Reservoir in Jackson County, was purchased in 1978 to protect the habitat of resident populations of federally endangered gray and Indiana bats. The cave is a summer roosting site for more than 300,000 gray bats and a refuge (called a hibernaculum) for overwintering gray and Indiana bats. The land surrounding the cave also hosts a federally endangered plant, Price's potato bean. Sauta Cave has an interesting history, having been used at various times as a saltpeter mine during the [Civil War](#), a nightclub during prohibition in the 1920s, and a fallout shelter during the 1960s.