



2024

AL/MS/TN Rural Tourism Conference

Wine Pull & Silent Auction Form

Greetings Tourism Partners:

The 2024 AL/MS/TN Rural Tourism Conference is scheduled for October 21-23, in Union City, Tennessee. Recognizing that tourism is a vital part of a community's economic development, this conference is a collaborative effort focused on assisting smaller communities in bolstering tourism. Dynamic speakers will present innovative ideas and relevant information that attendees will find useful in facing the unique challenges of promoting rural tourism with limited budgets.

The purpose of the silent auction is to raise funds for the Rural Tourism Conference scholarships, which enables two persons from each state to attend the annual Alabama-Mississippi-Tennessee Rural Tourism Conference that due to budgetary constraints would normally not be able to attend. Each scholarship will cover the conference registration, travel to and from the conference and two nights' lodging. We feel this is a very worthy cause and encourage you to help us make this auction a success.

The Silent Auction portion will focus on major auction items, such as media packages, beach/B&B/hotel stays, pottery, and footballs from major universities signed by coaches. Several years ago we added the Spirits Pull to this segment of the RTC.

For the Spirits Pull, all attendees will be asked to bring two bottles of wine (or other spirits) worth \$15.00 or more each. We will sell tickets for \$10.00 each. Each ticketholder will get a wine or other spirits worth more than the ticket he/she will buy. Spirits will be numbered with matching the tickets. When a number is pulled, you get the spirit that corresponds to your ticket.

In the hopes of creating the most bid interest, each donated item with a retail value of \$50 or more will be featured on the conference Facebook page with links back to your organization (www.facebook.com/almsruraltourism) as well as on our website: www.almstnruraltourism.com, provided you send in a description of the item and a picture that can be uploaded to our sites by September 1.

Individuals donating items with total value over \$40 will be entered to win a free registration for the 2025 Rural Tourism Conference. The drawing will be held at the end of the 2024 conference.

If you have any questions, contact Hope Oakes at (662) 328-3286 or hope.oakes@tenntom.org.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

My Website / facebook link: _____

Item description: _____

Retail Value: _____

Email picture and description of auction item to: Candace.C.Johnson@ua.edu for digital media promotion.

I will: _____ **Mail my item to Tenn Tom Waterway Development Authority, PO
Drawer 671, Columbus, MS 39703 (put to Attn: Hope Oakes)**

_____ **Bring my item to AL/MS/TN Rural Tourism Conference on October 23
in Cleveland, MS.**

Email this form to Hope Oakes at hope.oakes@tenntom.org

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(662) 328-3286

P.O. Drawer 671

Columbus, MS 39703