

The amphitheater and pavilion project is located on an island in a 14 acre lake surrounded by retail, dining, entertainment, sports fields, hotels, a conference center, and an amusement park. The client recognized early on that the overall development would be very urbanized and wanted to ensure that they provided a cool, relaxing space for their patrons to take a pause and truly enjoy the lake and its accompanying fountain show. The amphitheater and pavilion provide sanctuary within the heart of the development while also serving as a small event venue.



The Alabama destination is designed in four distinct districts with each district reminiscent of a part of a typical small Southern town. The retail, dining and entertainment area is divided between an industrial warehouse district and a downtown main street. The amusement park is intended to feel like a fairground, and the island is representative of a natural park. The design of the pavilion itself is evocative of covered bridges or barns that could have been found in this type of small-town, pastoral setting.

The 520-acre project caters to a variety of demographics, from the family in town for sports tournaments, to retirees needing a break from their beach vacation, to a night out for the twenty-something crowd. The amphitheater is a pivotal piece of the development with the opportunity to bring together the different user groups for concerts, plays, and films. The pavilion’s height and distinctive heavy timber structure make it a focal point for views across the lake from other parts of the development.

Built to serve an audience of up to 440 people, the gentle arcs and sloping lawn of the seating area are designed to keep the informal feel of an intimate community venue. Trees with well-developed canopies were specified to maximize the impact of this green space retreat on opening day forward. A design palette of wood, vegetation, and stone is used to ensure that the island fulfills its role as an oasis in the urban environment of the surrounding development. While the amphitheater and pavilion were designed as a central point of the commercial development, this area will be open to the surrounding communities to serve the general public.

Project Total Square Footage: 5,580 SF	Date of Substantial Completion: 09/2017
Cost per Square Foot: Cost withheld by owner	Location of Project: Southern Alabama
Construction Cost: Cost withheld by owner	Type: New Work