

# Marie, let's eat!

We live in Georgia, eat well and tell the world about it.

ABOUT ALABAMA FLORIDA GEORGIA NORTH CAROLINA SOUTH CAROLINA TENNESSEE BARBECUE

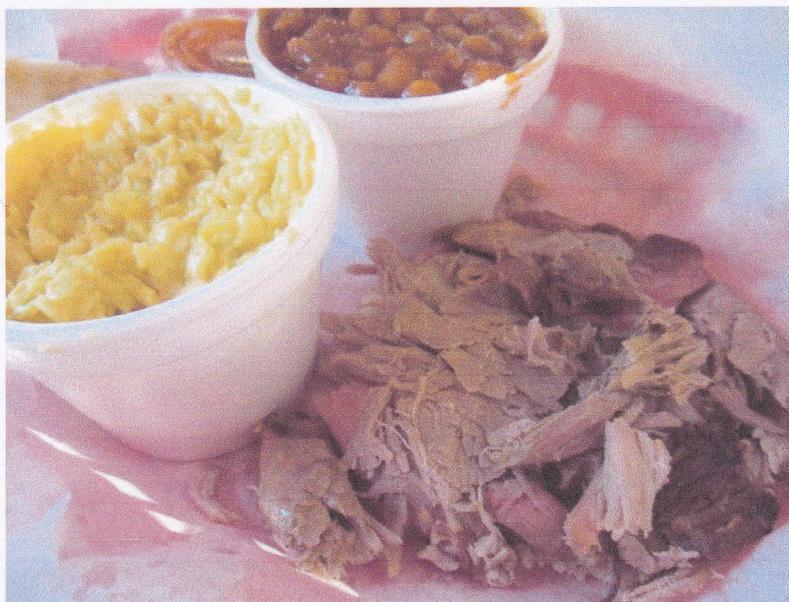
## Circumnavigating the Tennessee River Valley – part five

This entry was posted on July 2, 2013, in [alabama](#), [barbecue](#), [dessert](#), [regional chains](#) and tagged [alabama - north alabama](#), [alabama - outside major metros](#), [barbecue](#), [barbecue - our favorites](#), [chains - regional](#), [mustard slaw](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#). 3 Comments

Coming into Alabama on US-72, there are four large towns which are referred to as either the Quad Cities or The Shoals: Florence, Tuscumbia, Sheffield, and Muscle Shoals. As I entered Tuscumbia, I noticed that the Alabama Music Hall of Fame – it's still open to the public, unlike Georgia's – counts [Buffalo Rock](#) among its sponsors. I reminded myself to find a grocery store and bring home a twelve-pack, and promptly forgot. I remembered when I got home and recounted the trip to my family, slapped myself in the head, stood up and said "I'll be back in three and a half hours..."

In fact, something happened just a few minutes after telling my story that very nearly did have me returning to Alabama in a fit of pique. But more about that in a minute.

After I checked in to my motel, I hurried to my final destination of the evening, Brooks Barbecue in Muscle Shoals, which would close for the evening at eight. Holy anna, was it ever amazing. I had two very good meals waiting for me on day two, and a couple of other memorable ones, and some good experiences already that day as well, but Brooks was the runaway winner of the trip. Last week, I mentioned how Southern Smoq in Flowery Branch, Georgia, had knocked me on my rear end in surprise. This was even more amazing, and, again, from a business that I'd never heard of before I started looking for something to eat in the Shoals.



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