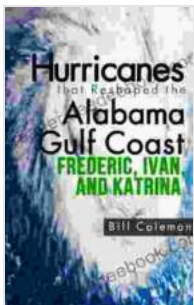


# Hurricanes That Reshaped the Alabama Gulf Coast: Frederic, Ivan, and Katrina

The Alabama Gulf Coast has been battered by numerous hurricanes over the centuries, but three of the most destructive in recent history are Hurricane Frederic (1979), Hurricane Ivan (2004), and Hurricane Katrina (2005). These storms caused widespread damage throughout the region, reshaping the coastline and leaving a lasting impact on the local communities.



## Hurricanes that Reshaped the Alabama Gulf Coast - Frederic, Ivan and Katrina by Carl Abbott

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 23 pages  
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Screen Reader : Supported



## Hurricane Frederic

Hurricane Frederic made landfall on Dauphin Island, Alabama, on September 13, 1979, as a Category 4 storm with winds of 145 mph. The storm surge reached 12 feet in some areas, causing severe flooding and erosion. Frederic caused an estimated \$2 billion in damage (equivalent to \$9.5 billion today) and killed at least six people in Alabama.



Dauphin Island was particularly hard-hit by Frederic. The storm surge washed away entire sections of the island, including the historic Fort Gaines. The island's population was reduced by half in the aftermath of the storm, and it took years for the community to recover.

### **Hurricane Ivan**

Hurricane Ivan made landfall on the Alabama Gulf Coast on September 16, 2004, as a Category 3 storm with winds of 115 mph. The storm surge reached 10 feet in some areas, causing widespread flooding and damage. Ivan caused an estimated \$10 billion in damage (equivalent to \$14 billion today) and killed at least 12 people in Alabama.



Hurricane Ivan approaching the Alabama Gulf Coast on September 16, 2004 (Photo: NASA)

Ivan's impact was felt throughout the Alabama Gulf Coast, but the hardest-hit areas were Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. The storm surge destroyed numerous beachfront homes and businesses, and the flooding left many roads and bridges impassable.

## **Hurricane Katrina**

Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Louisiana on August 29, 2005, as a Category 3 storm with winds of 125 mph. The storm surge reached 28 feet in some areas of Louisiana and Mississippi, causing catastrophic flooding and damage. Katrina caused an estimated \$160 billion in damage

(equivalent to \$216 billion today) and killed at least 1,833 people in the United States.



Although Katrina's eye made landfall in Louisiana, the storm's impact was also felt along the Alabama Gulf Coast. The storm surge caused significant flooding in Baldwin County, Alabama, and wind damage was reported throughout the region. Katrina caused an estimated \$5 billion in damage (equivalent to \$6.7 billion today) in Alabama and killed at least 12 people.

### **The Impact of Hurricanes on the Alabama Gulf Coast**

Hurricanes Frederic, Ivan, and Katrina have had a profound impact on the Alabama Gulf Coast. The storms have caused billions of dollars in damage, destroyed homes and businesses, and killed hundreds of people. The coastline has been reshaped by the storm surge, and the local communities have been left to pick up the pieces.

Despite the devastation caused by these hurricanes, the Alabama Gulf Coast has shown remarkable resilience. The communities have come together to rebuild and recover, and the region has emerged stronger than ever before. The Alabama Gulf Coast is a beautiful and vibrant place, and it is a testament to the spirit of the people who live there that they have been able to overcome the challenges posed by these powerful storms.

## **Preparing for the Next Hurricane**

Hurricanes are a part of life on the Alabama Gulf Coast. It is important to be prepared for the next storm by taking the following steps:

- Create a hurricane preparedness plan
- Assemble an emergency kit
- Evacuate if ordered to do so
- Stay informed about the storm
- Follow the instructions of local officials

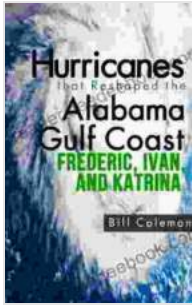
By taking these steps, you can help to ensure your safety and the safety of your loved ones during the next hurricane.

## **Additional Resources**

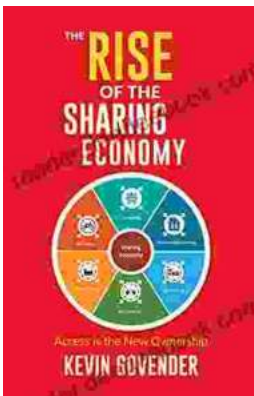
\* [National Hurricane Center](<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>) \* [Alabama Emergency Management Agency](<https://ema.alabama.gov/>) \* [Federal Emergency Management Agency](<https://www.fema.gov/>)

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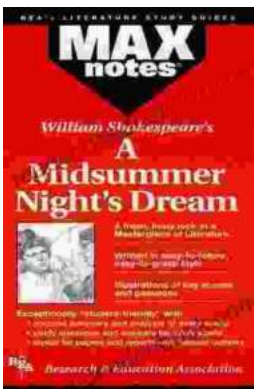


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