Connecticut

The National Scenic Byways Program

The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991, recognizes historic, scenic and culturally important roads, all of which promote economic development and tourism in communities around the country. Connecticut is home to an astounding fifty-two Scenic Byways, two of which are part of the National Scenic Byways Program—the Merritt Parkway and Connecticut State Route 169. The Merritt Parkway is renowned for its brilliantly integrated Art Deco and Art Modern bridges, with stylistic influences reaching back to the 1920’s and 1930’s as well as its magnificent foliage in the fall. Conversely, Connecticut SR 169—on the opposite end of the state—winds through some of the last vestiges of untouched and unspoiled New England, from its historic buildings to glacial deposits to the small towns that dot the Route, it truly encapsulates some of Connecticut’s most beautiful sites. The National significance of these roads cannot be understated in the importance of Connecticut’s tourism sector, by framing some of the more significant characteristics of the state, the Byways make for an opportune experience for visitors to the state.

Key points:

- A 2017 study showed that tourism accounted for $9.3 billion in spending that year.
- Tourism sustains the jobs of 123,521 residents and paid them $5.4 billion.
- In state and local taxes, tourism generated $960 million in 2017 alone. That saves residents of the state over $700 a year.
- The state and local tax revenue in 2017 was enough to fund capital budgets for the entire state transportation and education and libraries programs.

Intricately designed, commuters can enjoy lush fall colors and green forested hills along the Merritt Parkway.
# Scenic Byways in Connecticut

## National Scenic Byways in Connecticut:

- Connecticut State Route 169
- Merritt Parkway

## State Scenic Byways in Connecticut:

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## Map Facts:

Connecticut is home to 53 scenic byways (2 National & 51 State) comprising of 314.39 miles of roads across the state.