Louisiana

The National Scenic Byways Program

The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991, recognizes historic, scenic and culturally important roads and promotes tourism and economic development in nearby communities. The Louisiana Trails and Byways Network focuses on the relationship between landscapes, cultures, and industries. Louisiana is considered one of the top cultural destinations in the country, as evidenced by the state’s iconic culinary and musical traditions rooted in historical contributions from American Indians, Europeans and Africans. Louisiana roads play an integral role in the state’s economy, emphasizing the state’s appeal to residents and visitors. Louisiana is home to two federally designated byways, including the Creole Nature Trail which is considered an All-American Road.

Key points:
- In a report for the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, researchers found that there was a $1.56 return for every $1 spent on scenic byways.
- A study of the Appalachian Blue Ridge Parkway concluded that visitors spent $1.8bn in counties adjacent to the parkway, generating $147m in tax revenues and over 74,000 jobs. Similarly, research found that Route 66 generated $132m in economic activity in 2011.
- A recent National Scenic Byway Foundation survey showed that 44 state scenic byways in 24 states are prepared to seek designation as a National Scenic Byway, including the Boom or Bust Byway and the Wetlands Cultural Byway.

Caddo Lake, located along Boom or Bust Byway, attracts locals and tourists alike with its natural beauty and vibrant history.
National Scenic Byways in Louisiana:

- Creole Nature Trail (All-American Road) (1)
- Louisiana Great River Road (2)

State Scenic Byways in Louisiana:

- Bayou Teche Byway (3)
- Boom or Bust Byway (4)
- Cajun Corridor (5)
- Cane River National Heritage Trail (6)
- Flyway Byway (7)
- Historic US 80 / Dixie Overland (8)
- Longleaf Trail Byway (9)

- Louisiana Colonial Trails (10)
- Myths and Legends Byway (11)
- Northup Trail (12)
- San Bernardo Byway (13)
- Southern Swamps Byway (14)
- Toledo Bend Forest Scenic Byway (15)
- Tunica Trace Byway (16)
- Wetlands Cultural Byway (17)
- Zachary Taylor Parkway (18)
- Zydeco Cajun Prairie Byway (19)

Map Key:

The numbers following each byway name above match with the respective byway’s numbered location on the map.