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 Mississippi Scenic Byways Program was established in 2002 through the passage of Senate Bill 2098. The Mississippi Scenic Byways Program aims to protect and enhance the state’s natural, cultural, historic, and archaeological resources. Mississippi’s two National Scenic Byways’ historic and scenic appeal provides significant economic impact to the state. The Great River Road runs alongside the Mississippi River, generating an annual revenue of $405 billion dollars annually. This attraction is the primary reason visitors embark on the 5 day to 2-week trip down the Great River Road.

Key points:

- According to the National Park Service, in 2018, 6.4 million park visitors spent an estimated $157 million in local gateway regions while visiting the Natchez Trace Parkway.
- The NPS estimates that visitor spending helped support a total of 1,910 jobs, $57.6 million in labor income, $93.4 million in value added, and $162 million in economic output in local gateway economies surrounding the Natchez Trace Parkway.

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**National Scenic Byways in Mississippi:**

- Great River Road (1)
- Natchez Trace Parkway (2)*

**State Scenic Byways in Mississippi:**

- Beach Boulevard Scenic Byway (3)
- Brice’s Cross Roads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway (4)
- Delta Bluffs Scenic Byway (5)
- Gateway to History (6)
- Grand Gulf-Raymond Scenic Byway (7)
- Gulf Coast Scenic Byway (8)
- Highway 67 Scenic Byway (9)
- Highway 605 Scenic Byway (10)
- Noxubee Hills Scenic Byway (11)
- Scenic Byway to Space (12)
- William Faulkner Scenic Byway (13)

Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.
Gulf Coast Scenic Byway offers stunning coastal views as it crosses through some of southern Mississippi’s quaint towns.

Brice’s Cross Roads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway provides visitors with access to a popular national historic site.