Ohio

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. The Ohio Scenic Byways Program is considered a “Grassroots” effort to heighten the awareness of the intrinsic resources that the state has to offer. The state's own scenic byways program was approved by the Scenic Byway Advisory Board Committee in May of 2012. Ohio boasts 27 byways, 5 being designated National scenic byways and 22 being State scenic byways. As of 2013, Ohio’s scenic byways program states that in order for the program to work efficiently to its’ maximized potential, byways need to complete an annual survey that tracks the accomplishments of the byway as well as helps create goals for the future. One of Ohio’s National scenic byways, the Amish Country National scenic byway, runs for over 160 miles according to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).

Key points:

- Most of the alignment with the Historic National Road was incorporated into the US 40-a system that was enhanced by the National Route System founded in 1926.
- Before Europeans settled in Ohio in the 1800’s, the state was known for thousands of miles of prairies – the highest concentration of prairies to this day can be found in the Darby Plains along the Big Darby Plains State Scenic Byway.
- Drover’s Trail State Scenic Byway supports not only travelers looking for markets but thousands of farmers looking to sell their products along the byway.
- 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.

Travelers along the Amish Country Byway can enjoy the pastoral beauty of the Amish countryside, where winding, country roads exemplify the charming history of the Amish lifestyle.
Map Key:
The numbers following each byway name below match with the respective byway’s numbered location on the map.
Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.

Scenic Byways in Ohio

National Scenic Byways in Ohio:
- Amish Country (1)
- Historic National Road (2)*
- Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail (3)
- Ohio & Erie Canalway (4)
- Ohio River Scenic Byway (5)

State Scenic Byways in Ohio:
- Big Darby Plains Scenic Byway (6)
- Drovers’ Trail Scenic Byway (7)
- Gateway to Amish Country (8)
- Granville Scenic Byway (9)
- Heritage Corridors of Bath (10)
- Hocking Hills Scenic Byway (11)
- Johnny Appleseed Historic Byway (12)
- Jefferson Township Scenic Byway (13)
- Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches (14)
- Lincoln Highway Historic Byway (15)
- Lower Valley Pike Scenic Byway (16)
- Maumee Valley Scenic Byway (17)
- Miami & Erie Canal Scenic Byway (18)
- Morgan County Scenic Byway (19)
- North Ridge Scenic Byway (20)
- Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway (21)
- Presidential Pathways Scenic Byway (22)
- Scenic Olentangy Heritage Corridor (23)
- Scenic Scioto Heritage Trail (24)
- Tappan-Moravian Trail Scenic Byway (25)
- Wally Road Scenic Byway (26)
- Welsh Scenic Byway (27)