Vermont

The National Scenic Byways Program

In 1977, the Scenic Roads Law (19VSA25) established the authority to designate state highways as scenic roads. 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 U.S. The Vermont byway program was established in 1996 with partial influence by the National Scenic Byways Program. A delegated Vermont Scenic Preservation Council, which was also established in 1996 alongside the program, heads the oversight in responsibility of such laws.

Key points:
- Vermont’s scenic byway program was revamped in 1993 by Governor Howard Dean- he ultimately led the launch of the Vermont Scenic Byways Program in 1996.
- Vermont has 10 designated byways, these byways stretch from as little as 14 miles to over 400 miles in length.
- Lake Champlain, alongside the Lake Champlain Byway, is home to a 450 million year old coral reef.
- In addition to the coral reef, Lake Champlain is also the first spot where Native Americans and Europeans met.

National Scenic Byways in Vermont:
- Connecticut River Byway (1)

State Scenic Byways in Vermont:
- Crossroads of Vermont (2)
- Green Mountain Byway (3)
- Lake Champlain Byway (4)
- Mad River Byway (5)
- Molly Stark Scenic Byway (6)
- Northeast Kingdom Byway (7)
- Scenic Route 100 Byway (8)
- The Shires of Vermont (9)
- Stone Valley Byway (10)

Map Key:
The numbers following each byway name above match with the respective byway’s numbered location on the map.
In addition to the area being ranked the #1 geotourism destination in the United States, the Northeastern Kingdom’s communities are known for their classic architecture and impressive diversity of restaurants and shops.

Green Mountain Scenic Byway offers breathtaking views of Vermont’s pristine woodlands.