

## Oklahoma

### 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. Four of the 184 National Scenic Byways that have been designated are in Oklahoma, including Historic Route 66 and the Talimena Scenic Drive. Route 66, sometimes called “The Mother Road”, brings travelers from across the world to experience both America’s and Oklahoma’s history. Talimena Scenic Drive offers panoramic views of some of the most breathtaking areas Oklahoma has to offer, including the Ouachita National Forest.

Key points:

- Oklahoma has eight Scenic Byways, with four National and four State Scenic Byways.
- Smaller towns in Oklahoma have seen sales tax revenue [double](#) as a result of some of their more popular businesses along Route 66; about 16% of Oklahomans live within the Route 66 corridor.
- In 2018, the tourism industry in Oklahoma generated [\\$9.6 billion](#) in direct travel spending, supporting 103,600 jobs, and saving the average Oklahoma household \$710 in taxes annually.
- Over 90% of Oklahoma visitors used their own vehicle to travel, and visitors are [more likely](#) than the average traveler in America to visit state parks, monuments, or recreation areas, and more likely to participate in nature activities and camping while in the state.



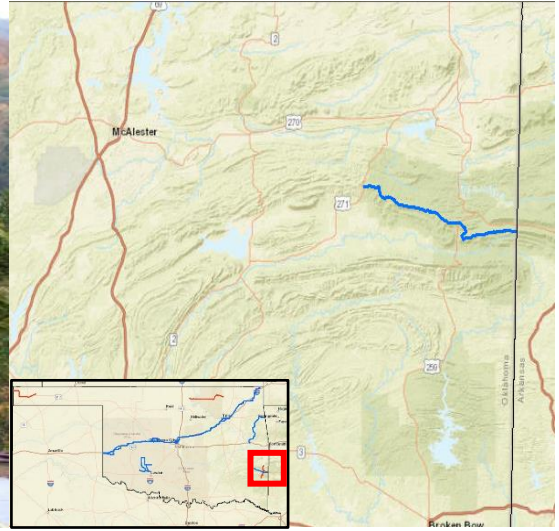
### *Scenic Byways in Oklahoma*

#### **National Scenic Byways in Oklahoma:**

- [Cherokee Hills Byways](#) (1)
- [Historic Route 66](#) (2)
- [Talimena Scenic Drive](#) (3)
- [Wichita Mountains Byway](#) (4)

#### **State Scenic Byways in Oklahoma:**

- [Kenton to Keyes](#) (5)
- [Mountain Gateway Scenic Byway](#) (6)
- [Mountain Pass Scenic Byway](#) (7)
- [Osage Nation Heritage Trail Byway](#) (8)



*Talimena Scenic Drive offers breathtaking views of the Ouachita National Forest and showcases the beauty of the Winding Star and Ribbon Mountains.*



*Enjoy the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, one of the oldest managed nature preserves in the country, while traveling the Wichita Mountains Byway.*