Massachusetts

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. Massachusetts is home to fourteen Scenic Byways, four of which are designated as National Scenic Byways. The Connecticut River Byway winds along the longest river in New England, offering incredibly picturesque views of the natural landscapes. All of Massachusetts’s byways play an integral role in the economic development of many smaller communities in the state by funneling visitors to colonial-era seaports and village centers with a wealth of culturally significant architectural and historical landmarks. Overall, the Bay State’s Scenic Byways offer visitors from around the country and the world a unique and exciting experience while simultaneously benefitting local economies.

Key points:

- Massachusetts is home to 14 Scenic Byways, including four National Scenic Byways and ten State Scenic Byways.
- In 2016, 24.2 million visitors spent $20.7 billion in the state, supporting 139,000 jobs and paying $4.8 billion in wages.
- Visitor expenditures generated $1.4 billion in state and local tax revenue, saving residents nearly $600 a year.
- An overwhelming majority of visitors (72.3%) travel by personal car, making Scenic Byways an accessible and integral part of many visits.

Nickerson State Park, located along Old King’s Highway, is a popular destination among locals and tourists alike.
**Scenic Byways in Massachusetts**

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**National Scenic Byways in Massachusetts:**

- Connecticut River Byway (1)
- Battle Road Scenic Byway (2)
- Mohawk Trail Scenic Byway (3)
- Old Kings Highway (Route 6A) (4)

**State Scenic Byways in Massachusetts:**

- Blackstone Canal Heritage Byway (5)
- Chappaquiddick Road (6)
- Essex Coastal Scenic Byway (7)
- Jacob’s Ladder Trail Scenic Byway (8)
- Minuteman Highway (9)
- Mount Greylock Scenic Byway (10)
- Route 112 Scenic Byway (11)
- Route 116 Scenic Byway (12)
- Route 122 / Lost Villages Scenic Byway (13)
- Taconic Trail (14)

**Map Key:** The numbers following each Byway name below match the Byway’s numbered location on the map.