Hawaii

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 U.S. Hawaii joined the National Scenic Byways Program in 2008 through the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT). In Hawaii, local government agencies or 501(c)(3) nonprofits are eligible to sponsor a scenic byway. The program is a volunteer-based grassroots program that identifies and supports roads throughout the Hawaiian Islands. HDOT supports the byway sponsors as well as guides them through the formation process. There are five state scenic byways in Hawaii, with many potential candidate roads for future designation.

Key points:

- Hawaii is home to five state scenic byways.
- The Ka’u Scenic Byway – The Slopes of Mauna Loa runs along the diverse geological and ecological features of Mauna Loa, an active volcano rising 13,680 feet high.
- Travel and tourism activity at Hawaiian Volcanoes National Parks contributed $166 million to surrounding communities in 2017.
- The Royal Footsteps Along the Coast State Scenic Byway runs through the Historic Kailua Village where King Kamehameha died in 1819.

State Scenic Byways in Hawaii

Holo Holo Koloa Scenic Byway (1)

Kau Scenic Byway – The Slopes of Mauna Loa (2)

Mamalahoa Kona Heritage Corridor (3)

Royal Footsteps Along the Coast (4)

Maunalua – Makapu’u Scenic Byway (5)
The Holo Holo Koloa Scenic Byway, extremely popular among tourists, traverses through a variety of picturesque landscapes.

Kau Scenic Byway-The Slopes of Mauna Loa offers breathtaking views of the coast and access to some of Hawaii’s historic landmarks.