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. In 1977, the Vermont Scenic Roads Law (19VSA25) established the authority to designate state highways as scenic roads. The Vermont State Byways Program was established in 1996 to reflect the standards of the National Scenic Byways Program. The Vermont Scenery Preservation Council, created in 1966 and reactivated in 1993, oversees scenic conservation throughout the state and manages the byway designation process.

Key points:
- Vermont is home to one National Scenic Byway and nine State Scenic Byways.
- Scenic byways play a key role in promoting Vermont tourism, which in 2019 was a $3 billion industry that supported over 30,000 jobs in Vermont, generating $373 million in tax revenue.
- Visitors traveling the Connecticut River Byway can experience Vermont’s history while enjoying the many outdoor recreation amenities the route offers.

Map Key:
The numbers following each byway name above match with the respective byway’s numbered location on the map.

Scenic Byways in Vermont

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)
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, which are particularly stunning in autumn as the leaves turn.