

Tennessee

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. The Tennessee Scenic Byways Program is administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation. All state byways have committees of local leaders and volunteers that plan promotional events and activities for their communities. The byways provide an alternative to other travel routes, with unique historic, scenic, and natural qualities, and offer visitors an enjoyable journey where they can experience the natural beauty of Tennessee.

Key points:

- Tennessee is home to twelve Scenic Byways, with nine national scenic byways and three State Scenic Byways.
- The National Parks Service describes Natchez Trace Parkway as "<u>a drive through</u> <u>10,000 years of history</u>." It has been used by American Indians, settlers, slave traders, soldiers, and future presidents.
- Tennessee saw <u>119 million domestic visitors</u> in 2018 and attracted a record high \$22 billion in domestic and international traveler spending; the tourism industry generated over \$50 million in state and local tax revenue saving the average Tennessee household \$712 annually and supporting 189,757 jobs.
- The Great River Road has been described as <u>America's greatest drive</u>, traversing the Mississippi River through ten states from northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico.



The Natchez Trace Parkway epitomizes the scenic and historic appeal of Tennessee's rock-studded hills, where travelers can experience spectacular foliage and the architectural beauty of the Double Arch Bridge south of Nashville.



Scenic Byways in Tennessee

National Scenic Byways in Tennessee:

Cherohala Skyway (1)

Cumberland Historic Byway (2)

East Tennessee Crossing (3)

Great River Road (4)*

Woodlands Trace (5)

Natchez Trace Parkway (6)*

Newfound Gap Road (7)*

Norris Freeway (8)

Sequatchie Valley Scenic Byway (9)

Map Key:

The numbers following each byway name above match with the respective byway's numbered location on the map.

Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.

State Scenic Byways in Tennessee:

Great Smoky Mountains Byway (10)

Tennessee River Trail Scenic Byway (11)

Walton Road Scenic Byway (12)