Pennsylvania

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. Pennsylvania created its own Byways Program in 2001 with the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). The program was created and is managed by the Program Management Committee within the Department of Transportation. Pennsylvania boasts 22 scenic byways, four of which are FHWA National Scenic Byways. The program’s goal is to support local governments and economic development. However, the program also focuses on the protection and preservation of scenic land, and education for tourists and residents in the communities along scenic byways.

Key points:

- Pennsylvania is home to four national scenic byways and eighteen state and other scenic byways.
- Byways play a key role in the state travel and tourism industry, which in 2019 featured 211 million visitors who spent a combined $46 billion, and supported employment of 333,100 people.
- The Historic National Road National Scenic Byway, built in 1811, is the first major highway in the United States.
- The national program continues to grow, and in February 2021 the Brandywine Valley route was designated Pennsylvania’s newest national scenic byway.

The High Plateau Scenic Byway offers travelers fantastic panoramic views of central Pennsylvania.
National Scenic Byways in Pennsylvania:

- Great Lakes Seaway Trail (1)
- Historic National Road (2)*
- Journey Through Hallowed Ground (3)
- Brandywine Valley (4)

State and Federal Land Management Agency Byways in Pennsylvania:

- Blue Route (5)
- Bucktail Trail (6)
- Conestoga Ridge Road (7)
- Crawford Lakelands (8)
- Delaware River Valley (9)

* Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.

Exton Bypass (10)
Gateway to the Endless Mountains (11)
Governor Casey Byway (12)
Grand View Byway (13)
High Plateau – PA 144 (14)
Kinzua Scenic Byway (15)
Lake Wilhelm Byway (16)
Laurel Highlands (17)
Lebanon Cornwall (18)
U.S. Route 202 Parkway (19)
Viaduct Valley Way (20)
West Branch Susquehanna River (21)
Longhouse National Forest Byway (22)