

North Carolina

The National Scenic Byways Program

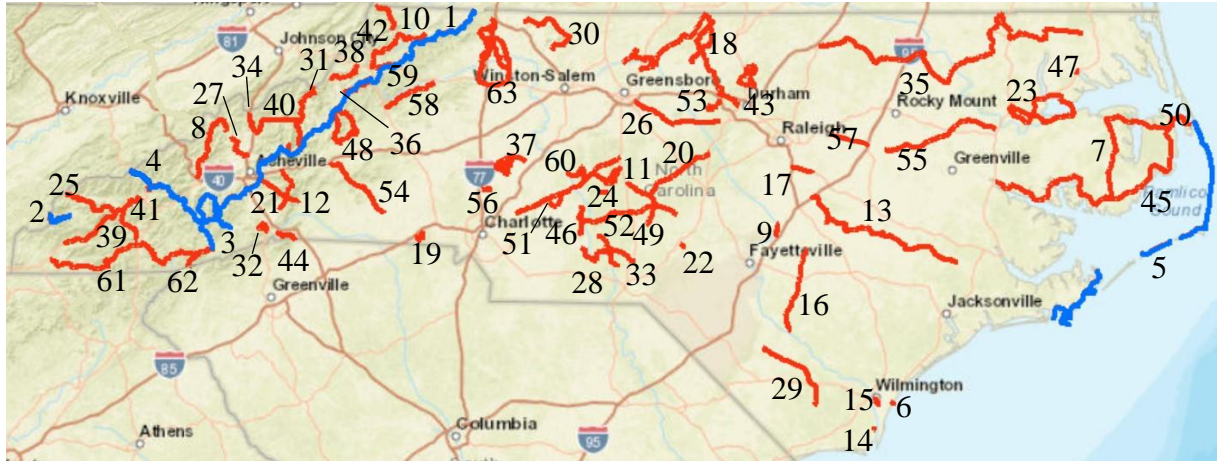
The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991, recognizes historic, scenic, and culturally important roads and promotes tourism and economic development in nearby communities. North Carolina is home to 63 scenic byways, five of which have earned the designation of National Scenic Byways. Two of those, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Newfound Gap Road Byway, have earned the distinction of being named All-American Roads, the gold-standard of scenic byways. North Carolina is home to some of the most beautiful national parks in the country, and the byways play an integral role in visitors' experience with the parks. From the Blue Ridge Mountains to the historically and culturally significant sites of Cherokee cultural heritage to cascading waterfalls, scenic byways offer a unique way to experience the state of North Carolina. Each byway also offers visitors access to local communities, which promotes economic development.

Key points:

- North Carolina boasts 63 scenic byways, including five national scenic byways and 58 state and other agency byways.
- A study of the Blue Ridge Parkway concluded that visitor spending effected local economies to the tune of [\\$1.3 billion](#) and supported nearly 16,000 jobs.
- The tourism sector as a whole generated [\\$22.9 billion](#) in 2016 and supported over 218,000 jobs.
- Visitors contributed nearly [\\$5.1 million](#) per day in state and local tax revenues (\$1.8 billion per year) which saves the average household about \$500 annually.



Travelers can enjoy fantastic scenic vistas and beautiful fall foliage when traveling the Cherohala Skyway.



National Scenic Byways in North Carolina:

- [Blue Ridge Parkway](#) (1)*
- [Cherochala Skyway](#) (2)
- [Forest Heritage Scenic Byway](#) (3)
- [Newfound Gap Road Byway](#) (4)*
- [Outer Banks Scenic Byway](#) (5)

State and Other Agency Byways in North Carolina:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Airlie Road (6) | Fontana Byway (25) | Pacolet River Byway (44) |
| Alligator River Route (7) | Football Road (26) | Pamlico Scenic Byway (45) |
| Appalachian Medley (8) | French Broad Overview (27) | Pee Dee Valley Drive (46) |
| Averasboro Battlefield Scenic Byway (9) | Grassy Island Crossing (28) | Perquiman's Crossing (47) |
| Big Horse Creek (10) | Green Swamp Byway (29) | Pisgah Loop Scenic Byway (48) |
| Birkhead Wilderness Route (11) | Hanging Rock Scenic Byway (30) | Pottery Road (49) |
| Black Mountain Rag (12) | Highlands of the Roan (31) | Roanoke Voyages Corridor (50) |
| Blue-Gray Scenic Byway (13) | Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway (32) | Rolling Kansas Byway (51) |
| Brunswick Town Road (14) | Indian Heritage Trail (33) | Sandhills Scenic Drive (52) |
| Cape Fear Historic Byway (15) | Interstate 26 Scenic Highway (34) | Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway (53) |
| Carolina Bay Lakes Byway (16) | Lafayette's Tour (35) | South Mountain Scenery (54) |
| Clayton Bypass Scenic Byway (17) | Little Parkway (36) | Tar Heel Trace (55) |
| Colonial Heritage Byway (18) | Mill Bridge Scenic Byway (37) | The College Town Ride (56) |
| Crowders Mountain Drive (19) | Mission Crossing (38) | Turkey Creek Byway (57) |
| Devil's Tramping Ground Road (20) | Mountain Waters Forest Byway (39) | Upper Yadkin Way (58) |
| Drovers Road (21) | Mt. Mitchell Scenic Drive (40) | U.S. 421 Scenic Byway (59) |
| East Connecticut Avenue (22) | Nantahala Byway (41) | Uwharrie Scenic Road (60) |
| Edenton-Windsor Loop (23) | New River Valley Byway (42) | Waterfall Byway (61) |
| Flint Hill Ramble (24) | North Durham Country Byway (43) | Whitewater Way (62) |
| | | Yadkin Valley Scenic Byway (63) |

*Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.