



ScenicAmerica

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: KANSAS

ABOUT 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. There are more than 1,200 byways in all 50 states.

The **Kansas** Byway Program was developed in 1994 as a grassroots effort to protect, enhance, and promote the scenic drives of Kansas. The program is directed by the Kansas Department of Transportation with the Division of Travel and Tourism, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, and the Kansas State Historical Society. Kansas' scenic roadways serve as natural, social, cultural, and economic resources for the traveling public. The state program includes 10 designated byways totaling 679 miles of roads. Kansas is home to 2 federally designated byways, the Flint Hills Scenic Byway and the Wetlands & Wildlife Scenic Byway, which promote the natural beauty and heritage of Kansas while generating economic tourism for local communities.

KEY POINTS

- Kansas is home to 12 scenic byways, including 2 national scenic byways and 10 state scenic byways.
- In 2019 the travel and tourism industry in Kansas sustained 66,000 jobs and generated \$11.8 billion in revenue.
- Tax revenue from travel and tourism saves each Kansan \$600 annually.

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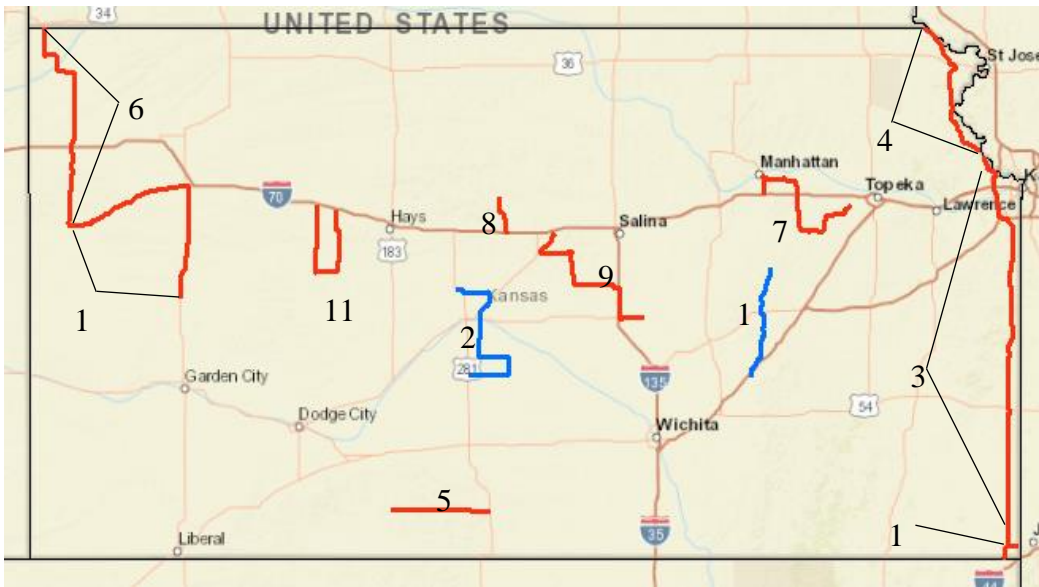
KANSAS IS HOME TO
12 SCENIC BYWAYS



KANSAS TRAVEL INDUSTRY FACTS

- > TOURISM SUSTAINS 66,000 JOBS IN KANSAS
- > TOURISM GENERATES \$11.8 BILLION IN REVENUE AND SAVES EACH KANSAN \$600 IN TAXES

Images: Prairie Trail Scenic Byway (top), Native Stone Scenic Byway credit: kansassampler.org (column)



SCENIC BYWAYS IN KANSAS

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

1. FLINT HILLS SCENIC BYWAY
2. WETLANDS & WILDLIFE SCENIC BYWAYS

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

3. FRONTIER MILITARY HISTORIC BYWAY
4. GLACIAL HILLS SCENIC BYWAY
5. GYPSUM HILLS SCENIC BYWAY
6. LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY
7. NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY
8. POST ROCK SCENIC BYWAY
9. PRAIRIE TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
10. ROUTE 66 HISTORIC BYWAY
11. SMOKEY VALLEY SCENIC BYWAY
12. WESTERN VISTAS HISTORIC BYWAY

All scenic byways exhibit one or more of six core intrinsic qualities — scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, archaeological, or natural. For a road to be named a **national scenic byway**, it must first be designated a **state, tribal, or federal agency scenic byway**. Once achieving that, a road may apply for **national scenic byway** designation, but its intrinsic quality must be of regional significance. **All-American Roads** are the very best of the national scenic byways, demonstrating at least two intrinsic qualities of national significance.



KANSAS BYWAYS PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE STATE'S MOST SPECTACULAR PUBLIC LANDS INCLUDING:

- > 4 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES
- > 5 NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS
- > 28 STATE PARKS
- > 1 NATIONAL PRESERVE



Images: Land and Sky Scenic Byway (top), Post Rock Scenic Byway credit: travelks.com (bottom)