

*Scenic*America

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: KENTUCKY

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.

Kentucky is home to 37 scenic byways, including 7 that have received the national scenic byways designation. These roads are of the utmost importance to local economies as they attract visitors who look for unique ways to experience the naturally beautiful and historically significant attractions located nearby. The byways showcase brilliant foliage, breathtaking natural beauty, native wildlife, and national heritage. Their diversity in attraction and appeal and individual uniqueness attracts many to the state and contribute to the tourism and travel industry of Kentucky.

KEY POINTS

- There are 37 scenic byways in Kentucky, with 7 national and 30 state byways.
- In 2018, the tourism and travel industry in Kentucky supported 94,583 jobs and generate \$5.1 billion in state GDP, representing 4.4% of jobs and 2.2% of total GDP.
- The tourism sector generated about \$787 million in state and local taxes and \$669 million in federal taxes, saving each Kentucky household an average of \$456 a year in taxes.

37

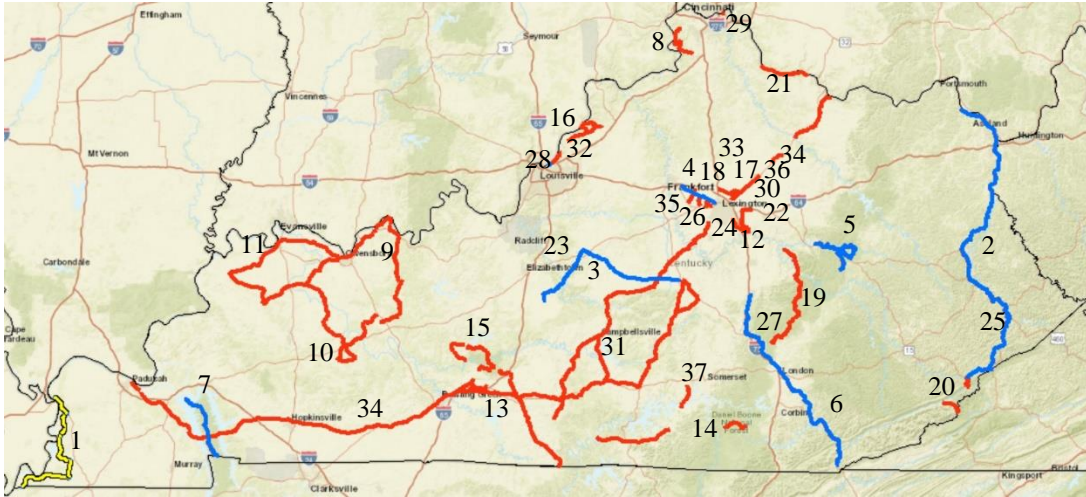
KENTUCKY IS HOME TO
37 SCENIC BYWAYS



KENTUCKY TRAVEL INDUSTRY FACTS

- > IN 2018 TOURISM & TRAVEL GENERATED \$5.1 BILLION IN STATE GDP AND SUPPORTED 94,583 JOBS
- > \$787 MILLION IN STATE AND LOCAL TOURISM TAXES SAVED HOUSEHOLDS \$456 A YEAR

Images: Red River Gorge National Scenic Byway (top), Country Music Highway credit: Kentucky tourism (column)



SCENIC BYWAYS IN KENTUCKY

ALL-AMERICAN ROADS

1. GREAT RIVER ROAD

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

2. COUNTRY MUSIC HIGHWAY
3. LINCOLN HERITAGE
4. OLD FRANKFORT PIKE
5. RED RIVER GORGE
6. WILDERNESS ROAD HERITAGE
7. WOODLANDS TRACE

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. BIG BONE LICK/MIDDLE CREEK PARKWAY 9. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/BILL MONROE BLUEGRASS TRAIL 10. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/EVERLY BROTHERS ROCK-N-ROLL TRAIL 11. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/W.C. HANDY BLUES TRAIL 12. BOONE CREEK SCENIC BYWAY 13. CORDELL HILL HIGHWAY 14. CUMBERLAND CULTURAL HERITAGE HIGHWAY 15. DUNCAN HINES SCENIC TOUR 16. HIGHWAY 524 LOOP 17. HUGHES LANE 18. IRONWORKS PIKE 19. KY 89 20. KY 160 – BLACK MOUNTAIN 21. MARY INGLES HIGHWAY 22. NORTH CLEVELAND ROAD | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. OLD KENTUCKY TURNPIKE 24. OLD RICHMOND ROAD (US 25)/GRIMES MILL ROAD 25. PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD 26. PISGAH PIKE 27. RIDGETOP SCENIC BYWAY – KY 89 28. RIVER ROAD 29. RIVERBOAT ROW 30. RUSSELL CAVE ROAD 31. SHAKERTOWN ROAD 32. US 42 33. US 62 – MIDWAY-VERSAILLES ROAD 34. US 68 35. VAN METER, RICE AND ELKCHESTER ROADS 36. WINCHESTER ROAD CORRIDOR 37. THE ZOLICOFFER-THOMAS SCENIC BYWAY/KY 235 MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD |
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**KENTUCKY BYWAYS
PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE
STATE'S MOST
SPECTACULAR PUBLIC
LANDS INCLUDING:**

- > 1 NATIONAL PARK
- > 45 STATE PARKS
- > 2 HISTORIC PARKS
- > 2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS
- > 1 RECREATION AREA
- > 1 NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD



Images: Lincoln Heritage Scenic Highway credit: Shutterstock (top), Pine Mountain State Scenic Trail (bottom)

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.