

The logo for Scenic America, featuring the words "Scenic America" in a white, elegant script font against a background of a blue sky with white clouds.

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: NORTH DAKOTA

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.

North Dakota is home to two national scenic byways: the Native American Scenic Byway and Sheyenne River Byway. Both byways explore the lore and history of North Dakota and the Native American tribes that still call the state home. North Dakota's scenic byways offer a unique and charming journey that contributes to local economies through tourism spending and calls attention to historic sites, wildlife, and starry nights that make up the character of the state. With 2 national and 11 state scenic byways located across the state, there are a myriad of ways for travelers to experience the unique beauty of North Dakota.

KEY POINTS

- North Dakota is home to two national scenic byways and 11 state scenic byways.
- A 2019 study shows that 22.6 million travelers spent \$3 billion, and contributed \$300.5 million in taxes to the state.
- Without state and local taxes paid by visitors to the state, each North Dakota household could potentially see a tax increase of \$1,092 to fill the gap.

13

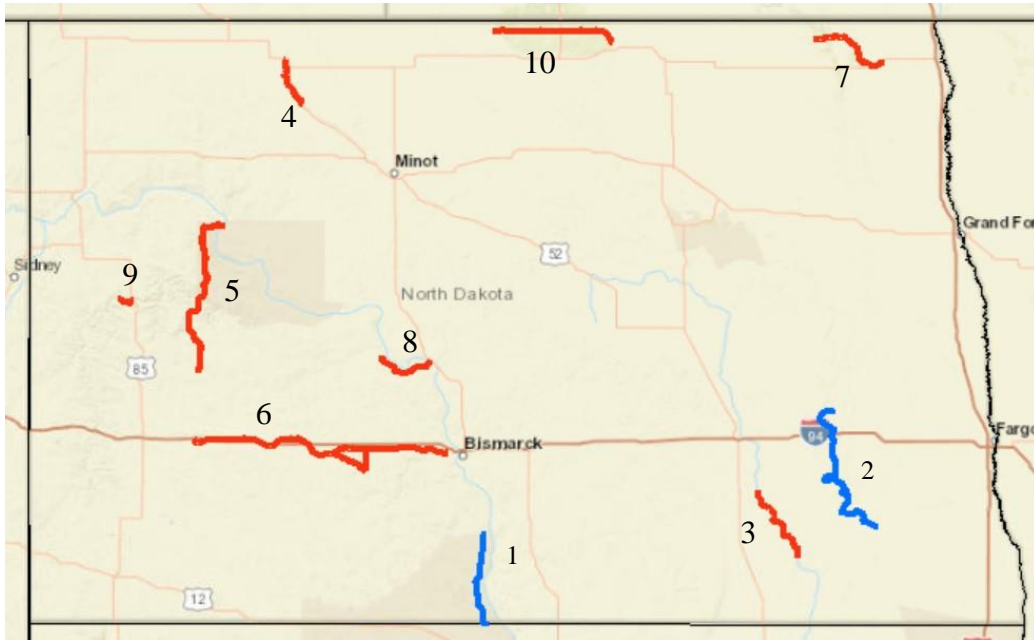
NORTH DAKOTA IS HOME
TO 13 SCENIC BYWAYS



NORTH DAKOTA TRAVEL
INDUSTRY FACTS

- > SUPPORTS 45,640 JOBS
- > GENERATES \$300.5 MILLION IN STATE AND LOCAL TAXES

Images: Sheyenne River Valley credit: [National Archives](#) (top), Native American Scenic Byway credit: [National Archives](#) (column)



SCENIC BYWAYS IN NORTH DAKOTA

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS —

1. NATIVE AMERICAN SCENIC BYWAY
2. SHEYENNE RIVER VALLEY SCENIC BYWAY

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS —

3. CHAN SANSAN SCENIC BACKWAY
4. DES LACS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SCENIC BYWAY
5. KILLDEER MOUNTAIN FOUR BEARS SCENIC BYWAY
6. OLD RED TEN SCENIC BYWAY
7. RENDEZVOUS REGION SCENIC BACKWAY
8. SAKAKAWEA SCENIC BYWAY
9. THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK NORTH UNIT SCENIC BYWAY
10. TURTLE MOUNTAIN SCENIC BYWAY
11. STANDING ROCK NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN SCENIC BYWAY
12. THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK SOUTH UNIT LOOP
13. ENCHANTED HIGHWAY



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

- > 1 NATIONAL PARK
- > 13 STATE PARKS
- > 2 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES
- > 5 STATES FORESTS
- > 263,000 ACRES OF WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS



Images: Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge Scenic Byway (top), Theodore Roosevelt NP credit: [National Archives](#) (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.