

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: NEBRASKA

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.

Nebraska's Scenic Byways Program is headed by the Scenic Byways Committee, made up of representatives from various state agencies, including the Tourism Commission, Department of Roads, Game and Parks Commission, Historical Society, and the Department of Natural Resources. Nebraska boasts 9 scenic byways. The Heritage Highway contains a 238-mile stretch along the Missouri River all the way to Edison. The Gold Rush Byway runs from South Dakota all the way through Colorado.

KEY POINTS

- Nebraska is home to 9 scenic byways, including 2 national scenic byways and 7 state scenic byways.
- In 2019, total travel expenditures for Nebraska total \$3.5 billion, generating more than \$442 million in tax revenue.
- In 2020, 334,000 park visitors spent an estimated \$23.6 million in local gateway regions while visiting National Park Service lands; supporting 378 jobs, \$11.8 million in labor income, \$19.0 million in value added and \$33.8 million in economic output.

9

NEBRASKA IS HOME TO
9 SCENIC BYWAYS



NEBRASKA TRAVEL INDUSTRY FACTS

- > SUPPORTS 40,400 JOBS
AND \$770 MILLION IN
EARNINGS
- > GENERATES \$442.4
MILLION IN DIRECT TAX
RECEIPTS



SCENIC BYWAYS IN NEBRASKA

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

1. LINCOLN HIGHWAY SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY
2. SANDHILLS JOURNEY SCENIC BYWAY

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

3. 385 – GOLD RUSH BYWAY
4. BRIDGES TO BUTTES BYWAY
5. HERITAGE HIGHWAY
6. LEWIS & CLARK SCENIC BYWAY
7. LOUP RIVERS SCENIC BYWAY
8. OUTLAW TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
9. WESTERN TRAILS SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY



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

- > 5 STATE PARKS
- > 7 STATE HISTORICAL PARKS
- > 16 STATE RECREATIONAL AREAS
- > 2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS
- > 5 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES



Images: Heritage Highway credit: [Nebraska Tourism](#) (top), 365 – Gold Rush credit: [Nebraska Tourism](#) (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.