



Scenic America

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: PENNSYLVANIA

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.

Pennsylvania created its own byways program in 2001 with the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). The program was created and is managed by the Program Management Committee within PennDOT. Pennsylvania boasts 22 scenic byways, 4 of which are FHWA national scenic byways. The program's goal is to support local governments and economic development. However, the program also focuses on the protection and preservation of scenic land and education for tourists and residents in the communities along scenic byways.

KEY POINTS

- Pennsylvania is home to 4 national scenic byways and 18 state and federal agency scenic byways.
- Byways play a key role in the state travel and tourism industry, which in 2019 welcomed 211 million visitors who spent a combined \$46 billion, supporting the employment of 333,100 people.
- The Historic National Road Scenic Byway, built in 1811, is the first major highway in the United States.
- The national program continues to grow, and in February of 2021 the Brandywine Valley Route was designated Pennsylvania's newest national scenic byway.

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PENNSYLVANIA IS
HOME TO
22 SCENIC BYWAYS



PENNSYLVANIA TRAVEL INDUSTRY FACTS

- > VISITORS SPENT OVER \$46 BILLION IN 2019
- > SUPPORTED OVER 333,000 JOBS

Images: US Route 202 Parkway credit: [Thomas](#) (top), Grand View Loop credit: [Ryan](#) (right column)



SCENIC BYWAYS IN PENNSYLVANIA

ALL-AMERICAN ROADS

1. HISTORIC NATIONAL ROAD

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

2. GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
3. JOURNEY THROUGH HALLOWED GROUND
4. BRANDYWINE VALLEY

FEDERAL AGENCY BYWAYS

5. LONGHOUSE NATIONAL FOREST

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

6. BLUE ROUTE
7. BUCKTAIL TRAIL
8. CONESTOGA RIDGE ROAD
9. CRAWFORD LAKELANDS
10. DELAWARE RIVER VALLEY
11. EXTON BYPASS
12. GATEWAY TO THE ENDLESS MOUNTAINS
13. GOVERNOR CASEY BYWAY
14. GRAND VIEW BYWAY
15. HIGH PLATEAU - PA 144
16. KINZUA SCENIC BYWAY
17. LAKE WILHELM BYWAY
18. LAUREL HIGHLANDS
19. LEBANON CORNWALL
20. U.S. ROUTE 202 PARKWAY
21. VIADUCT VALLEY WAY
22. WEST BRANCH SUSQUEHANNA RIVER SCENIC BYWAY



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

- > 19 NATIONAL PARKS
- > 121 STATE PARKS
- > 4 WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
- > 169 NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS
- > 2 WORLD HERITAGE SITES
- > 20 STATE FORESTS



Images: Gateway to the Endless Mountains credit: [Sathish J](#) (top), Laurel Highlands credit: [Jon Dawson](#) (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.