

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM: SOUTH 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.

South Dakota is home to 2 national scenic byways, the Native American Scenic Byway and Peter Norbeck Scenic Byway, which offer breathtaking views of the most historically, culturally, and archaeologically important places in the state. Points of interest along each route include Mount Rushmore, Sylvan Lake, the site of Wounded Knee, and the resting place of Sioux Chief Sitting Bull – which are some of the most revered sites in our nation. Scenic byways play a vital role in delivering visitors to these sites and have become integral to the travel experience.

KEY POINTS

- South Dakota is home to 6 scenic byways, including 2 national scenic byways and 4 state scenic byways.
- In 2019, 14.5 million visitors traveled to South Dakota and spent \$4.1 billion.
- Travel and tourism activity in the state generated \$308 million in state and local taxes, saving each South Dakota household \$890.

6

**SOUTH DAKOTA IS
HOME TO
6 SCENIC BYWAYS**

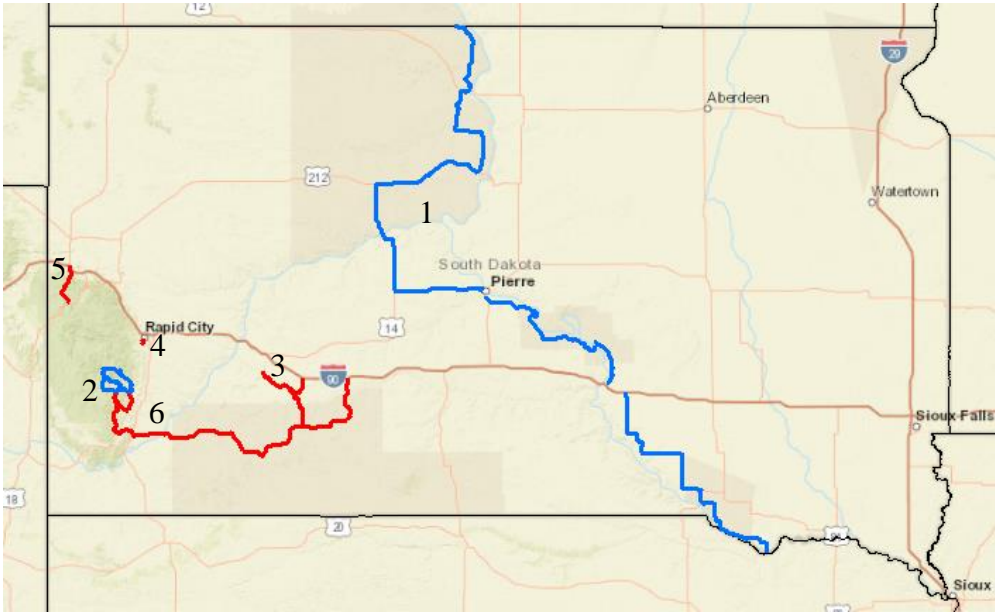


SOUTH DAKOTA TRAVEL INDUSTRY FACTS

> SUPPORTS 55,157 JOBS
(8.8% OF ALL SOUTH
DAKOTA JOBS)

> \$4.1 BILLION IN VISITOR
SPENDING

Images: Peter Norbeck Scenic Byway credit: [National Archives](#) (top), Native American Scenic Byway credit: [National Archives](#) (right column)



SCENIC BYWAYS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

1. NATIVE AMERICAN SCENIC BYWAY
2. PETER NORBECK SCENIC BYWAY

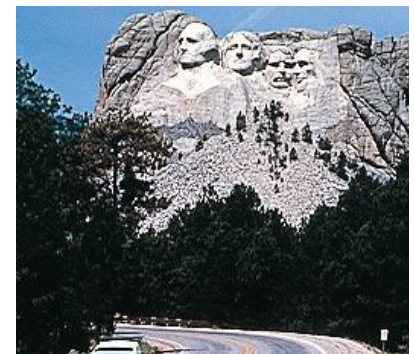
STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

3. BADLANDS LOOP SCENIC BYWAY
4. SKYLINE DRIVE SCENIC BYWAY
5. SPEARFISH CANYON SCENIC BYWAY
6. WILDLIFE LOOP ROAD SCENIC BYWAY



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

- > 6 NATIONAL PARKS
- > 63 STATE PARKS
- > 1 NATIONAL TRAIL
- > 1 WILD AND SCENIC RIVER
- > 2 NATIONAL GRASSLANDS
- > 1 NATIONAL FOREST



Images: Peter Norbeck Scenic Byway credit: [National Archives](#) (top), Mount Rushmore 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.