

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.

Alabama boasts 4 national scenic byways and 7 state scenic byways, showcasing the state's diverse natural beauty and rich history. Initially, byways were implemented and utilized by the governor and state legislature. By 1998, an active citizenry developed a program to help citizens identify and designate additional byways.

Key Points

- Alabama is home to 11 scenic byways, including four national scenic byways and seven state scenic byways.
- Alabama's travel and tourism industry annually employs over 200,000 workers every year.
- In 2020, Alabama's national parks generated \$78.2 million in total economic output in gateway communities, supporting 940 jobs and \$24.8 million in labor outcome.

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Alabama is home to 11 scenic byways.



Alabama Travel Industry Facts

- > Supports over 200,000 jobs.
- > \$1 billion in travel-generated taxes saves each household \$537 annually.

Images: Appalachian Highlands Scenic Byway (top), Alabama's Coastal Connection (right column)



Scenic Byways in Alabama

ALL-AMERICAN ROADS -

- 1. NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
- SELMA TO MONTGOMERY MARCH BYWAY

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS —

- 3. ALABAMA'S COASTAL CONNECTION
- 4. TALLADEGA SCENIC DRIVE

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS =

- 5. APPALACHIAN HIGHLANDS SCENIC BYWAY
- 6. BARBOUR COUNTY GOVERNORS' TRAIL
- BLACK BELT NATURE AND HERITAGE TRAIL
- 8. BLACK WARRIOR RIVER SCENIC BYWAY
- 9. LEEDS STAGECOACH ROUTE
- 10. LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PARKWAY
- 11. TENSAW PARKWAY

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.



Alabama byways provide access to the state's most spectacular public lands, including:

- > 4 National Forests
- > 24 State Parks
- > 3 State Forests
- > 1 National Heritage Area
- > 2 National Historic Sites



Images: Talladega Scenic Drive (top right), Selma to Montgomery March Byway (bottom right)

