



SCENIC  
AMERICA

# National Scenic Byways Program: KENTUCKY

## 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.

**Kentucky** is home to 37 scenic byways, including seven that have received the national scenic byways designation. These roads are of the utmost importance to local economies as they attract visitors who look for unique ways to experience the naturally beautiful and historically significant attractions located nearby. The byways showcase brilliant foliage, breathtaking natural beauty, native wildlife, and national heritage. Their diversity in attraction and appeal and individual uniqueness attracts many to the state and contribute to the tourism and travel industry of Kentucky.

## Key Points

- There are 37 scenic byways in Kentucky, with seven national and 30 state byways.
- In 2018, the tourism and travel industry in Kentucky supported 94,583 jobs, and generate \$5.1 billion in state GDP, representing 4.4% of jobs and 2.2% of total GDP.
- The tourism sector generated about \$787 million in state and local taxes and \$669 million in federal taxes, saving each Kentucky household an average of \$456 a year in taxes.

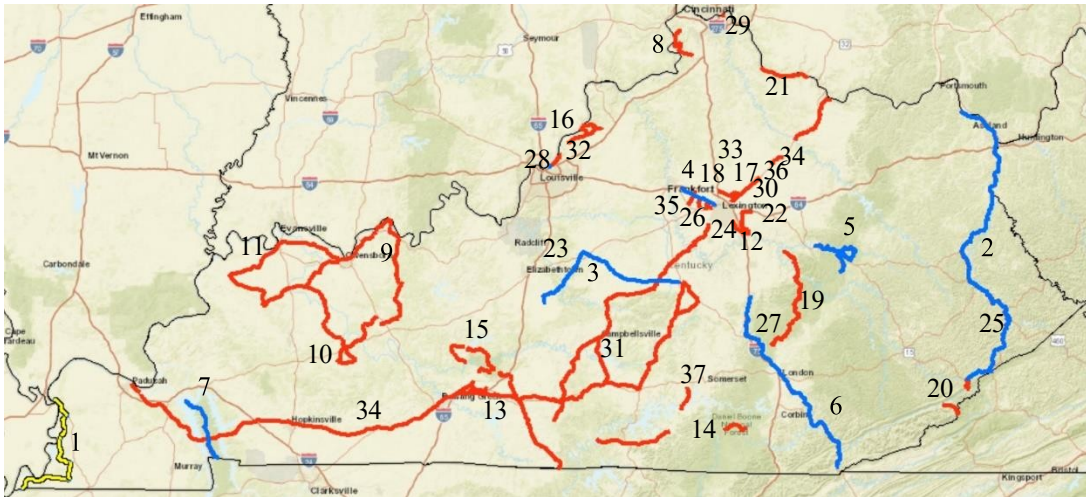
37

Kentucky is home to  
37 scenic byways.



## Kentucky Travel Industry Facts

- > In 2018 tourism & travel generated \$5.1 billion in state GDP and supported 94,583 jobs.
- > \$787 million in state and local tourism taxes saved households \$456 a year.



## Scenic Byways in Kentucky

### ALL-AMERICAN ROADS

1. GREAT RIVER ROAD

### NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

2. COUNTRY MUSIC HIGHWAY
3. LINCOLN HERITAGE
4. OLD FRANKFORT PIKE
5. RED RIVER GORGE
6. WILDERNESS ROAD HERITAGE
7. WOODLANDS TRACE

### STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. BIG BONE LICK/MIDDLE CREEK PARKWAY</li> <li>9. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/BILL MONROE BLUEGRASS TRAIL</li> <li>10. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/EVERLY BROTHERS ROCK-N-ROLL TRAIL</li> <li>11. BLUES TO BLUEGRASS/W.C. HANDY BLUES TRAIL</li> <li>12. BOONE CREEK SCENIC BYWAY</li> <li>13. CORDELL HULL HIGHWAY</li> <li>14. CUMBERLAND CULTURAL HERITAGE HIGHWAY</li> <li>15. DUNCAN HINES SCENIC TOUR</li> <li>16. HIGHWAY 524 LOOP</li> <li>17. HUGHES LANE</li> <li>18. IRONWORKS PIKE</li> <li>19. KY 89</li> <li>20. KY 160 – BLACK MOUNTAIN</li> <li>21. MARY INGLES HIGHWAY</li> <li>22. NORTH CLEVELAND ROAD</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23. OLD KENTUCKY TURNPIKE</li> <li>24. OLD RICHMOND ROAD (US 25)/GRIMES MILL ROAD</li> <li>25. PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD</li> <li>26. PISGAH PIKE</li> <li>27. RIDGETOP SCENIC BYWAY – KY 89</li> <li>28. RIVER ROAD</li> <li>29. RIVERBOAT ROW</li> <li>30. RUSSELL CAVE ROAD</li> <li>31. SHAKERTOWN ROAD</li> <li>32. US 42</li> <li>33. US 62 – MIDWAY-VERSAILLES ROAD</li> <li>34. US 68</li> <li>35. VAN METER, RICE AND ELKCHESTER ROADS</li> <li>36. WINCHESTER ROAD CORRIDOR</li> <li>37. THE ZOLLICOFFER-THOMAS SCENIC BYWAY/KY 235 MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD</li> </ol> |
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Kentucky byways provide access to spectacular sites including:

- > 1 National Park
- > 45 State Parks
- > 2 Historic Parks
- > 2 National Monuments
- > 1 Recreation Area
- > 1 National Battlefield
- > 2 Historic Trails



Images: Lincoln Heritage Scenic Highway credit: Shutterstock (top), Pine Mountain State Scenic Trail (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.