National Scenic Byways Program: MAINE

About the National Scenic Byways Program

SCENIC AMERICA

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.

Maine boasts one of the oldest scenic byway programs in the nation. Maine's 14 scenic byways provide Mainers and visitors with spectacular views of the state's natural landscape. As a means of encouraging tourism, Maine's scenic byways act as an important economic developmental tool for the state's more rural communities.

Key Points

- Maine is home to 14 scenic byways, including one All-American Road, six national scenic byways, and seven state scenic byways.
- The tourism industry supported over 116,000 jobs in 2019, making up around 17% of the state's employment.
- Acadia National Park, serviced by Acadia All-American Road, generated over \$500 million in economic output in 2017, supporting over 4,000 jobs in gateway communities.
- Maine's national parks generated \$560 million in total economic output in gateway communities in 2019.

14 Maine is home to 14 scenic byways



Maine Travel Industry Facts

- > Supports more than 116,000 jobs
- Travel contributes more than \$2.8 billion in earnings to Maine households.

Images: Schoodic Peninsula credit: NPS (top), Bold Coast Scenic Byway credit: Ron Cogswell (column)



Scenic Byways in Maine

ALL-AMERICAN ROADS 📥

- 1. ACADIA ALL-AMERICAN ROAD
- NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS
- 2. THE BOLD COAST SCENIC BYWAY
- 3. KATAHDIN WOODS AND WATER BYWAY
- 4. OLD CANADA ROAD
- 5. RANGELEY LAKES
- 6. SAINT JOHN VALLEY / FISH RIVER
- 7. SCHOODIC SCENIC BYWAY

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

- 8. BLACKWOODS (ROUTE 182)
- 9. FISH RIVER BYWAY (ROUTE 11)
- 10. GRAFTON NOTCH BYWAY
- 11. MILLION DOLLAR VIEW BYWAY (ROUTE 1)
- 12. MOOSEHEAD LAKE SCENIC BYWAY
- 13. PEQUAWKET TRAIL (ROUTE 113)
- 14. STATE ROUTE 27 BYWAY



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

- > Acadia National Park
- White Mountains
 National Park
- > 8 State Parks
- > 18 National Recreational Trails
- > 2 Wildlife Refuges



Images: Rangeley Lakes Scenic Byway credit: Thomas A. Pearl (top), Acadia National Park credit: Davis Brossard (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.



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