



**SCENIC
AMERICA**

National Scenic Byways Program: MISSISSIPPI

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.

Mississippi scenic byways are important for the state's local economies as they attract visitors who look for unique ways to experience the state's naturally beautiful and historically significant attractions. The Mississippi Scenic Byways Program is a grassroots program aimed at focusing attention on the state's history and intrinsic resources. Identifying and designating highways, roads, and street corridors preserves, enhances, and protects Mississippi's natural and economic resources for visitors and residents.

Key Points

- Mississippi is home to 13 scenic byways, including one All-American Road, one national scenic byway and 11 state scenic byways.
- In 2018, 6.4 million park visitors spent an estimated \$157 million in local gateway regions while visiting the Natchez Trace Parkway.
- The NPS estimates that visitor spending helped support a total of 1,910 jobs, \$57.6 million in labor income, \$93.4 million in value added, and \$162 million in economic output in local gateway economies surrounding the Natchez Trace Parkway.

13

Mississippi is home to
13 scenic byways



Mississippi Travel Industry Facts

- > Supports more than 122,850 jobs annually
- > Visitor expenditures save residents \$613 in taxes annually

Images: Natchez Trace Parkway credit: NPS (top), Great River Road credit: National Archive (column)



Scenic Byways in Mississippi

ALL-AMERICAN ROADS

1. NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

2. GREAT RIVER ROAD

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS

3. BEACH BOULEVARD SCENIC BYWAY
4. BRICE'S CROSSROADS BATTLEFIELD – CHIEF TISHOMINGO SCENIC BYWAY
5. BYWAYS TO SPACE SCENIC BYWAY
6. DELTA BLUFFS SCENIC BYWAY
7. GATEWAY TO HISTORY
8. GRAND GULF – RAYMOND SCENIC BYWAY
9. GULF COAST SCENIC BYWAY
10. HIGHWAY 67 SCENIC BYWAY
11. HIGHWAY 605 SCENIC BYWAY
12. NOXUBEE HILLS SCENIC BYWAY
13. WILLIAM FAULKNER SCENIC BYWAY



Mississippi byways provide access to spectacular public lands including:

- > 5 National Wildlife Refuges
- > 4 National Forests
- > 3 State Parks
- > Tupelo National Battlefield
- > Brices Crossroads National Battlefield



Images: Beach Boulevard Scenic Byway credit: Gulf coast SB (top), Brice's Crossroads Battlefield credit: John Padgett (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.