



SCENIC  
AMERICA

# National Scenic Byways Program: MONTANA

## 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.

Montana is home to nine scenic byways, one of which – Beartooth Highway – has been designated as an All-American Road, which is the gold standard of scenic byways. Montana’s Beartooth Highway provides dramatic views of the Beartooth Mountain Range and provides access to Yellowstone through its northeast entrance. Montana’s natural beauty attracts visitors from around the globe, which only increases the significance to Montana’s scenic byways to local economics and their development.

## Key Points

- Montana is home to nine scenic byways, including one All-American Road and eight state or federal agency scenic byways.
- In 2019, visitors to Montana spent about \$3.76 billion, directly, and indirectly supporting more than \$5.28 billion in state economic activity.
- National parks generated \$892 million in total economic output in gateway communities in 2019, supporting 9,620 jobs and \$306 million in labor income.

9

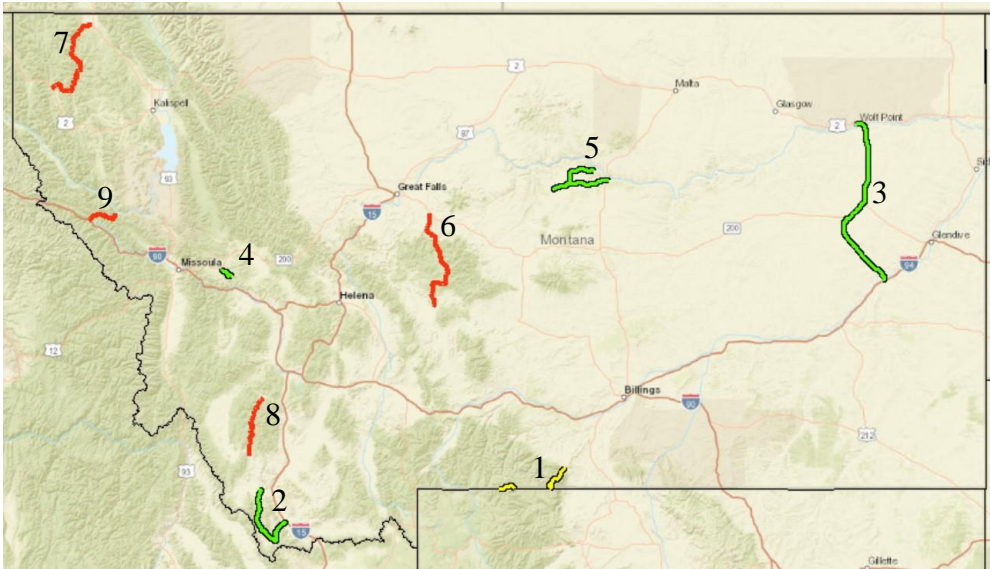
Montana is home to  
9 scenic byways



## Montana Travel Industry Facts

- > Supports 53,120 jobs and \$11.6 billion in associated income
- > Generates more than \$5.28 billion in state economic activity

Images: Beartooth Highway credit: Maciej Cjupa (top), Big Sky Backcountry Byway credit: BLM (column)



## Scenic Byways in Montana

### ALL-AMERICAN ROADS



1. BEARTOOTH HIGHWAY

### FEDERAL AGENCY BYWAYS



2. BIG SHEEP CREEK BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY
3. BIG SKY BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY
4. GARNET BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY
5. MISSOURI BREAKS BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY

### STATE SCENIC BYWAYS



6. KINGS HILL SCENIC BYWAY
7. LAKE KOOCANUSA SCENIC BYWAY
8. PIONEER MOUNTAINS SCENIC BYWAY
9. ST. REGIS - PARADISE SCENIC BYWAY (CLARK FORK SCENIC DRIVE)

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.



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

- > 9 National Forests
- > 7 State Parks
- > 2 National Parks
- > 2 National Wildlife Refuges
- > 2 National Historic Sites



Images: Missouri Break Backcountry Byway credit: BLM (top), Pioneer Mountains Scenic Byway credit: Nicolas Henderson (bottom)