



**SCENIC
AMERICA**

National Scenic Byways Program: RHODE ISLAND

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.

Rhode Island is home to one national scenic byway and eight state scenic byways and began their own program designating byways in 1991. Each of the nine byways offers incredible ways to experience the natural beauty of Rhode Island. Millions of people visit the state each year, and their travel contributes significantly to many towns and locales across the state.

Key Points:

- Rhode Island is home to nine scenic byways, including one national scenic byway and eight state scenic byways.
- In 2019, 26.2 million people visited Rhode Island and contributed to \$7 billion in economic activity throughout the state.
- The travel industry supports over 13% of jobs in Rhode Island, or about 87,852 total jobs.
- Travel and tourism generated \$843 million in state and local taxes in 2017, saving each household in Rhode Island \$2,050.
- In 2017, travel industry tax revenues were enough to pay for the public education of 49,914 students for a year.

Images: Colt State Park credit: Wikimedia commons (top), Colonial House in Newport credit: Wikimedia Commons (right column)

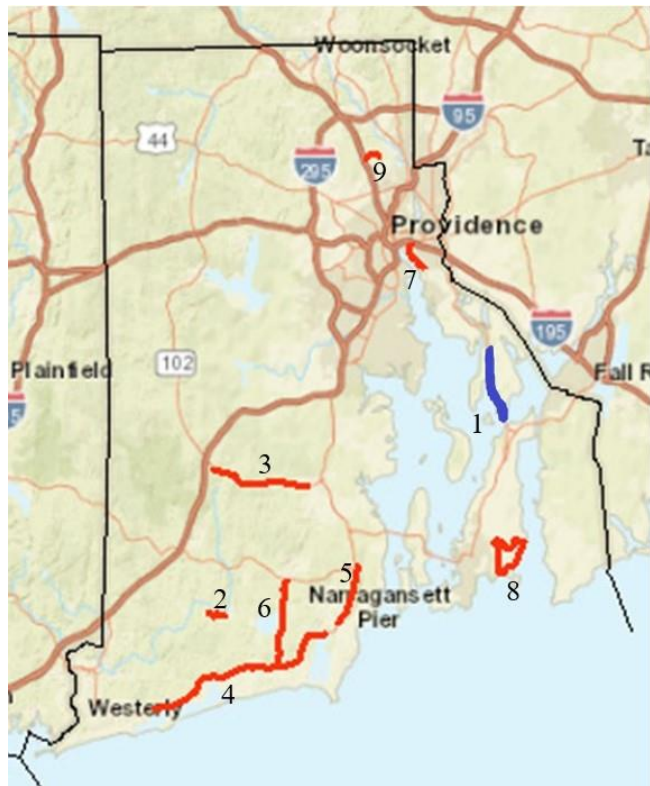
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Rhode Island is home to
9 scenic byways



Rhode Island Travel Industry Facts

- > Contributed \$7 billion in economic activity
- > Supported over 13% of the jobs in Rhode Island



Scenic Byways in Rhode Island

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS —

1. REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE BYWAY

STATE SCENIC BYWAYS —

2. SHANNOCK ROAD
3. ROUTE 102 SCENIC BYWAY
4. ROUTE 1, CHARLESTOWN SCENIC BYWAY
5. ROUTE 1, SOUTH KINGSTOWN SCENIC BYWAY
6. MINISTERIAL ROAD
7. VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY
8. PARADISE AVENUE AND ASSOCIATED ROADS
9. GREAT ROAD/BREAKNECK HILL ROAD

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.



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

- > 1 National Historical Park
- > 22 State Parks
- > 1 Wild And Scenic River
- > 45 National Historic Landmarks
- > 7 State Beaches



Images: Shannock Village credit: National Archives (top), Pomham Rocks Lighthouse credit: flickr (bottom)



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