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Contact: Steve Schapiro
Judith Drucker
(609) 963-1975

New Jersey Scenic Byways receive National Designation Four Byways recognized for natural beauty and rich history

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced that four New Jersey Scenic Byways were designated as National Scenic Byways by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The recognition of the Western Highlands, Bayshore Heritage, Palisades, and Pine Barrens Scenic Byways means six of the eight New Jersey Scenic Byways now have a National designation.

“Gaining national recognition for four of New Jersey’s Scenic Byways will provide an opportunity for people from all across the country to know about the distinctive places and diverse communities in our state,” NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said. “These scenic Byways help share stories about New Jersey’s history, natural beauty, and recreational opportunities by highlighting roads less traveled in New Jersey.”

National Scenic Byway recognition is awarded when a regionally significant road possesses at least one of six intrinsic qualities, which are: archaeological, cultural, historical, natural, recreational, or scenic. As part of the designation, the byways are featured in a commemorative 2021 National Scenic Byways Program Designations Booklet and will be added to the [America's Byways website](#).

In addition to the four newly designated National Byways, the Delaware River and Millstone Valley Scenic Byways were named National Scenic Byways in 2009. New Jersey’s two other scenic byways are the Upper Freehold and Warren Heritage Scenic Byways. To learn about all eight of the state’s scenic byways, please visit the [New Jersey Scenic Byways](#) section of the New Jersey Department of Transportation’s website. Below is a brief description of the four byways that received a National designation:

Bayshore Heritage: 142 miles

This Byway winds along the shoreline of the Delaware Bay from Mannington Township in Salem County to Cape May Point State Park at the southern tip of New Jersey. It spans nautical and wildlife highlights, colonial and [Black Heritage Sites](#). The Byway travels through splendid shoreline habitats, river and tributary crossings, rolling farmland and historic villages in Salem, Cumberland, and Cape May counties.

Palisades: 13 miles

The Palisades Interstate Parkway provides a scenic 42-mile ride from the New Jersey side of the George Washington Bridge north to Bear Mountain State Park in New York. The 13-mile New Jersey section was designated as a New Jersey Scenic Byway in 2005. The Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive wind through the natural Hudson River shorefront, woodlands and cliffs that face New York City. It provides access to 2,500 acres of the Palisades Interstate Park—plus stellar skyline views from lookout points in Fort Lee, Englewood Cliffs, Tenafly, and Alpine.

Pine Barrens: 130 miles

Designated as a New Jersey Scenic Byway in 2005, this 130-mile route is located in the Pinelands National Reserve and extends from Batsto and Tuckerton in the north to Dennisville and Port Elizabeth in the south. The Byway passes through five counties and 16 municipalities, providing a pathway to explore the 1.1 million-acres of the New Jersey Pinelands. Comprising most of the Pine Barrens, it offers a unique ecosystem to explore. Discover pristine wilderness, picturesque waterfronts and surprisingly diverse habitats and species with sites in Hammonton, Tuckerton, Port Republic, Galloway, Mays Landing, Woodbine and Delmont.

Western Highlands: 23 miles

This Byway passes through thousands of acres of protected open space as it travels through captivating country and mountain escapes in the Western Highlands. The Byway follows Route 23 north through Sussex County to the New York border going through the quaint towns of Hamburg, Franklin, Stockholm, Sussex, Hewitt, Vernon and Highland Lakes. Along the way, view distinctive mountain ridges and perhaps venture onto the Appalachian Trail.

About National Scenic Byways Program

The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991 and administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), was created to preserve and protect the nation's scenic byways and, at the same time, promote tourism and economic development. A complete list of America's Byways can be found at the [National Scenic Byway Foundation website](#) or the [FHWA's America's Byways website](#).

Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NewJerseyDOT](#) and our [Facebook page](#).

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