Witness one of the few places left on Earth where nature has remained free and unspoiled.

New York State and the Federal Highway Administration have designated specific travel corridors Scenic Byways. These are roads that are representative of a region’s scenic, recreational, cultural, natural, historic and archaeological significance.

Discover a scenic journey along these secondary roads through charming towns, along pristine lakes and panoramic mountain vistas. See for yourself why 3000 lakes and ponds, 1500 miles of river, 2000 miles of hiking trails and 46 high peaks have lured visitors since the turn-of-the-century.

The Adirondacks. We’ve got room for you.
Our Heritage

The Lakes to Locks Passage traverses the route where French and Indian War and American Revolution conflicts played out. Ruins, reenactments and museums tell the story of the leaders, battles and hardships of common soldiers. The Saratoga Battlefield and Monument, the Schuyler House, Fort Ticonderoga, the forts at Crown Point and The Battle of Plattsburgh Interpretive Center offer visitors fascinating insight into the region’s rich history.

One of the nation’s first great highways was actually a waterway. Follow the Lakes to Locks Passage from Waterford to Rouses Point to understand how our nation was forged. Travel through the quaint villages along Lake Champlain and find incredible scenery, rich history, back-road cycling trails and unique opportunities for bird watching. Lakes to Locks Passage is the state’s only nationally designated All-American Road — “the best of the best” among Scenic Byways across the country.

LAKES TO LOCKS PASSAGE
LakestoLocks.com

Northern Harrier

Crown Point Bridge over Lake Champlain
The maritime culture of the 1000 Islands makes it the ultimate boater-friendly destination. Here, your boat ties you to the community. So much is accessible by boat: restaurants, resorts, parks, museums, golf courses, shops, and of course, the magnificent scenery. For a Seaway Trail Nautical Chartbook ($14.95) call 800 847.5263 or order online at www.SeawayTrail.com.

The Seaway Trail traverses a route along the mighty St. Lawrence River and two of the Great Lakes between farms and cities that have harnessed the power and pleasure of that water. Sportsmen will find plenty of trophy-fishing opportunities for largemouth bass, muskie and salmon. The trail’s natural history, heritage and culture is vividly displayed through interactive exhibits at the Seaway Trail Discovery Center.
From Great Sacandaga Lake to the Almanzo Wilder Homestead near Malone, the Adirondack Trail traverses Route 30 skirting mountain ponds, wild forest areas, and peak-rimmed lakes like the Saranacs, Tupper, Long, Indian and the St. Regis. Paddling possibilities seem endless, and there are just as many access points for hiking. Don’t miss the Wild Center in Tupper Lake, or the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, known as the “Smithsonian of the Adirondacks.” Johnstown’s 1772 courthouse is still in use, while Johnson Hall State Historic site brings the British colonial era to life.

**Bird Watching**

Bird watchers will delight in the diverse species of birds that inhabit the Adirondacks. You can spot common loons, hooded mergansers, bitterns and great blue herons on a quiet paddle along any Adirondack waterway. The protected spruce grouse is native to the Adirondacks, and many species of song birds nest in the vast forests, fields and wetlands throughout the region. Birds of prey, with the exception of owls, are active during the day. Watch for bald eagles, peregrine falcons and osprey near water sources.
The scenery is amazing and opportunities for outdoor recreation are virtually unlimited along the 111-mile Black River Trail which runs along the western edge of the Adirondack wilderness. The Black River is famous for white-water rafting, and anglers will find a challenge in waterways along the entire length of the trail. Visit the Frederic Remington Museum in Ogdensburg, historic Constable Hall in Constableville and stop by the farmers market in Lowville for some Amish baked goods and homegrown vegetables.

**Paddling Adirondack Waterways**

Paddling is a passion, particularly in the Adirondacks where there are more than 3000 lakes and ponds and 1500 miles of river and streams. For a copy of Adirondack Waterways, a guide to canoe and kayak routes in the Adirondacks, visit our website at www.VisitAdirondacks.com, then click on “Recreation.”
Nature’s Splendor

Nature lovers are lured by a spectacular show of colors in an Adirondack autumn — crimson, copper and gold splashed against a palette of rolling green hills and clear blue skies. We double the impact of fall foliage, since our many lakes and streams reflect the colors like a mirror.

Great package rates are available at cozy bed & breakfasts in hamlets and villages, as well as at nationally known chains in larger Adirondack communities.

Woods, mountains and water meet in perfect harmony along the Central Adirondack Trail which traces a semi-circle between Rome and Glens Falls. Old Forge, known as the Snowmobile Capital of the East, offers gentler pleasures during warmer weather including scenic cruises and shopping. The rustic Adirondack architecture of “Great Camp” Sagamore, a tour past historic camps on Raquette Lake, and a visit to The Adirondack Museum can be packaged together as a “Gilded Age Tour.” The Hyde Collection in Glens Falls exhibits exquisite art from the Renaissance to more contemporary and local works.
Queen of the American Lakes

Thomas Jefferson called Lake George the “Queen of the American Lakes.” The lake remains a beauty, and its communities offer opportunities for solitude or the giddy thrill of an amusement park. Lake George fishing is legendary, golf courses have fabulous views, and dining and shopping experiences are diverse and satisfying.

Beginning and ending in the bustling village of Lake George, the Dude Ranch Trail is a 40-mile loop through horse ranches, lakeside resort villages and theme parks. There’s a great selection of restaurants and superb accommodations. Wake up to a beautiful morning, eat a hearty breakfast and hit the trail. Also, gentle whitewater rafting trips on the Sacandaga River depart from Lake Luzerne.
LAKES TO LOCKS PASSAGE
An All-American Road. 225-mile route connects Waterford to Rouses Point. Parallels the Upper Hudson River, Champlain Canal, Lake George and Lake Champlain.

SEAWAY TRAIL
A National Scenic Byway. 454-mile route connects Ripley, NY on the PA border to Massena. Parallels Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, and extends through Pennsylvania for a total of 518 miles.

ADIRONDACK TRAIL

BLACK RIVER TRAIL
111-mile trail connects Rome to Ogdensburg, travelling through Lyon Falls, Lowville, Croghan, Harrisville, and Gouverneur.

CENTRAL ADIRONDACK TRAIL
140-mile trail connects Glens Falls to Rome, travelling through Lake George, North Creek, Indian Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, Raquette Lake, Inlet, Old Forge, Alder Creek, Remsen, Barneveld, and Holland Patent.

DUDE RANCH TRAIL
40-mile loop that starts and ends in Lake George, travelling through Warrensburg, Stony Creek and Lake Luzerne.

MILITARY BYWAY
84-mile byway connects Rouses Point to Massena, travelling through Malone, Chateaugay and Mooers.

OLYMPIC BYWAY
170-mile byway connects Lake Ontario to Keeseville, travelling through Harrisville, Natural Bridge, Star Lake, Cranberry Lake, Tupper Lake, Saranac Lake, Lake Placid and Wilmington.

ROOSEVELT-MARCY BYWAY
40-mile byway connects North Creek to Long Lake, travelling through Minerva and Newcomb.

HIGH PEAKS BYWAY
30-mile byway connects the Adirondack Northway (Interstate 87) Exit 30 to Lake Placid, travelling through Keene and Keene Valley.

BLUE RIDGE ROAD
17-mile road connects North Hudson to Newcomb.

SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK TRAIL
112-mile trail connects the Herkimer/Little Falls area to Speculator, looping around Piseco Lake.

REVOLUTIONARY BYWAY
158-mile byway connects Port Ontario to Albany, travelling through Rome, Utica, Herkimer, Fonda and Schenectady.

MOHAWK TOWPATH BYWAY
25-mile byway connects Waterford to Schenectady, travelling along the Erie Canal.

Birding Along the Adirondack Byways
Some of the best birding spots are located along Adirondack North Country Scenic Byways. The Adirondack region is a patchwork of lowland boreal bogs, high alpine habitats, and upland boreal forests mixed with an abundance of wetlands, hardwood forests, and open grasslands. Rare boreal species have found their special place here. Migrating species from the far north winter here, and hundreds more pass through the region on their way south. Birds sited on these byways include the Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk, Spruce Grouse, Cape May Warbler, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Bohemian Waxwing, Magnolia Warbler, Palm Warbler, American Bittern, Bicknell’s Thrush, Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, Great Blue Heron and the Common Loon.
Once the transit route for colonial troops and supplies, the Military Byway is now a rural corridor that connects the St. Lawrence Seaway to Great Lake Champlain passing Malone’s famously challenging golf courses and the Almanzo Wilder (Farmer Boy) Homestead. Between bites of history, stop by a roadside farm stand for some fresh local produce, marvel at the 120’ High Falls waterfalls in Chateaugay, or even try your luck at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino.

Fishing Stories

Fishing, whether with a lure or a fly, is a passion in the Adirondacks. Bass, trout, walleyes, land-locked salmon, northern pike and muskie are only part of the fishing roster here. There are plenty of streams, rivers and lakes, in addition to the legendary Ausable River, Lake Champlain and Lake George, where you can wet your line. Fishing licenses can be purchased at sporting goods stores and town clerks’ offices.
A Winter Wonderland

Don’t hibernate this winter! The Adirondacks are wide-awake with myriad activities from bobsledding and snowmobiling to snowshoeing and mulled cider sipping. The entire region is crossed by thousands of miles of groomed and back-country trails, and several Nordic and alpine ski centers provide rentals and lessons. When the lowlands are snow-less, the Adirondacks enjoy plenty of the white stuff.

Reaching from one great lake to the other, the Olympic Byway is 170 miles long. Starting near Sackets Harbor on Lake Ontario, the byway travels through Tupper Lake, Saranac Lake and Lake Placid — site of the 1932 and 1980 Olympic Winter Games, and ends in Keeseville on Lake Champlain.

Olympic venues, open to the public, are still used for international competitions. Saranac Lake is a vibrant artists’ community, and exhibits the only examples of cure cottage architecture today. Tupper Lake is home to the new Wild Center and offers myriad opportunities for paddling and hiking. Great camping sites are plentiful all along the byway, particularly on Cranberry Lake, with one of the largest shorelines of any lake in the region.

Olympic Byway  VisitAdirondacks.com
Great Camp Architecture

In the late 1800s, the Adirondack great camp set the tone for blending nature with the comforts of home for the rich and famous. These “camps” belonging to the likes of the Vanderbilts and Rockefellers, were built in a rustic style with bark-covered beams, native uncut stone, tree limbs and roots, and delicate twig furniture. Experience the grandeur of the Gilded Age with a visit to an Adirondack great camp. Many are open to the public.

Teddy Roosevelt loved the Adirondacks. Here he grounded himself in nature and formed convictions that made him a pioneering conservationist and protector of American natural resources. Follow the route of Teddy Roosevelt’s wild ride from Mount Marcy to the North Creek Train Station, where he was informed that he would be the 26th president of the United States. You can take a scenic train ride from the same station, tour the “Great Camp” Santanoni on Newcomb Lake with its main lodge that was constructed from 1,500 native spruce trees in 1893, or take the family for a hike on Goodnow Mountain.

ROOSEVELT-MARCY TRAIL VisitAdirondacks.com
The High Peaks Byway winds past the Adirondacks’ highest peaks and along some of its most picturesque waters including the Cascade Lakes and Roaring Brook Falls. Stop for a bite in the hamlets of Keene or Keene Valley, or pick a trailhead and start hiking. The Blue Ridge Road Byway passes through woodlands and by mountains and lakes, with few signs of civilization en route. You might spot a coyote in the shade or a whitetail deer grazing by the road. Oddly, buffalo are the only domesticated animals you are likely to see. In the Boreas River, trout wait for the passing of the sun.

A Natural High

Hiking is almost like breathing in the Adirondacks. With more than 2,000 miles of trails, the region boasts the largest hiking trail system in the nation. For a copy of Adirondack Great Walks and Day Hikes, visit our website at www.VisitAdirondacks.com, then click on “Recreation.”
he Southern Adirondack Trail is a gem where you’ll find diamonds as well as charming lakeside hamlets and Erie Canal history. Families can excavate diamond-like crystals at the Herkimer Diamond Mine. In Little Falls, learn about the Erie Canal locks, once considered an engineering wonder. The surrounding lakes — Piseco, Pleasant and Speculator — are a haven for campers and fishermen.

Camping on the Lake

Camping on or nearby an Adirondack lake has bonded generations of families and friends with indelible memories. More than 100 state and private campgrounds from primitive sites to leveled pads with electric and sewer hook-ups are scattered throughout the six million-acre Adirondack Park and surrounding North Country region. Start your own Adirondack camping tradition this summer.
Seek It Out

The Marinus Willet Visitor Center in Rome interprets the story of the Mohawk Valley and Fort Stanwix, with exhibits that focus on key historical events that took place during the American Revolution. The valley is long on history, but culture plays an important role in the region as well. Utica’s Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute houses an important collection by 20th century artists such as Picasso, Mondrian and Kandinsky.

The Revolutionary Byway from Albany to Port Ontario largely follows the Mohawk River — a critical east-west artery for trade, exploration, settlement and troop movement during the Revolutionary War. In the early 19th century, when leisure travel was a luxury, the Mohawk Valley was a favorite destination. Today, this natural passageway continues to carry tourists, as well as capital, commerce, industry, immigrants, ideas and dreams. Historic sites such as the Herkimer Home, the Oriskany Battlefield, and Fort Stanwix interpret the critical role this region played during the Revolutionary War.
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