

TO HONOR OUR DEAD: The USS *Arizona* Memorial



Shattered by a direct hit, USS *Arizona* burns and sinks to the bottom of Pearl Harbor.

USS *Arizona* is the final resting place for many of the ship's 1,177 crewmen who lost their lives on December 7, 1941. The 184-foot-long memorial structure spanning the mid-portion of the sunken battleship consists of three main sections: the entry and assembly rooms; a central area designed for ceremonies and general observation; and the shrine room, where the names of those killed on *Arizona* are engraved on the marble wall.

The USS *Arizona* Memorial grew out of a wartime desire to establish some sort of memorial at Pearl Harbor to honor those who died in the attack. Suggestions for such a memorial began in 1943, but it wasn't until the Pacific War Memorial Commission was established in 1949 that the first real steps were taken to bring it about.

Initial recognition came in 1950 when Adm. Arthur Radford, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific (CINCPAC), ordered that a flagpole be erected over the sunken battleship. On the ninth anniversary of the attack, a commemorative plaque was placed at the base of the flagpole.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who helped achieve Allied victory in Europe during World War II, approved the creation of the memorial in 1958. Its construction was completed in 1961 with public funds appropriated by Congress and private donations. The memorial was dedicated in 1962.

According to its architect, Alfred Preis, the design of the memorial, "wherein the structure sags in the center but stands strong and vigorous at the ends, expresses initial defeat and ultimate victory. . . . The overall effect is one of serenity.

December 7, 1941 losses*		
	United States	Japan
Personnel Killed		
Navy	1,999	64
Marine Corps	109	
Army	233	
Civilian	49	
Personnel Wounded		
Navy	710	unknown
Marine Corps	69	
Army	364	
Civilian	35	
Ships		
Sunk or beached **	12	5
Damaged **	9	
Aircraft		
Destroyed	164	29
Damaged	159	74

* Figures are subject to further review.
** All U.S. ships except *Arizona*, *Utah*, and *Oklahoma* were salvaged and later saw action.

FORD ISLAND



Overtones of sadness have been omitted to permit the individual to contemplate his own personal responses . . . his innermost feelings."

Contrary to popular belief, USS *Arizona* is no longer in commission. As a special tribute to the ship and its lost crew, the United States flag flies from the flagpole, which is attached to the severed mainmast of the sunken battleship. The USS *Arizona* Memorial commemorates all of those whose lives were lost on O'ahu, December 7, 1941.

VISITOR CENTER
The visitor center and the USS *Arizona* Memorial are located on the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. In 1979 an agreement was established between the U.S. Navy and the Department of the Interior for the National Park Service to assume control of the memorial. The visitor center is the central orientation point for the tour of the memorial. It is located on the eastern shoreline of Pearl Harbor just off State Highway 99 (Kamehameha Highway) about a 45-minute drive west of Waikiki. The visitor center complex was completed in 1980, using a combination of government funds and private contributions raised by the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 46. Parking for more than 260 visitor vehicles is provided.

The interpretive program, for which visitors are given free tickets at the visitor center, consists of a brief talk by a National Park Service ranger, followed by a 23-minute documentary film on the Pearl Harbor attack. Immediately after the film, visitors board a Navy shuttle boat to the memorial. All visitors disembark on the memorial and return with their shuttle boat.

Visitors are free to explore the museum and browse through the bookstore operated by the *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association. Other facilities in the center include a small snack area, central courtyard, restrooms, and administrative areas.

The 16-foot by 50-foot oil mural of USS *Arizona* in the visitor center lobby is by John Charles Roach. The lawn behind the visitor center provides an excellent view of Ford Island and Battleship Row.

TRANSPORTATION TO THE MEMORIAL
For those without cars, several alternatives by bus are available: Honolulu public transit buses stop regularly near the visitor center and can be boarded in Waikiki. The #20 and #42 buses are the most direct lines. A commercial transportation company in Waikiki runs round-trip bus trips to the visitor center, and various commercial tour bus operators include the USS *Arizona* Memorial on their sightseeing itineraries.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The visitor center is open daily from 7:30 am to 5 pm. The last program begins at 3 pm. The visitor center and memorial are closed Thanksgiving Day, December 25, and January 1.
- No reservations are taken; all tours are free of charge and on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Smoking, eating, and drinking are not permitted in the visitor center's twin theaters, on the boat, or on the memorial structure.
- Due to increased security measures, bags or articles that allow concealment are prohibited in the visitor center and at the memorial. A storage facility is available to visitors for a nominal fee.
- For further recorded information, please call 808-422-0561 or 808-422-2771, or contact USS *Arizona* Memorial, 1 Arizona Memorial Place, Honolulu, HI 96818-3145; www.nps.gov/usar.



World War II Valor in the Pacific
Commemorating the War at Sea

After the attack at Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the Second World War, the Pacific Ocean was the scene of the greatest sustained naval struggle in history. In remembrance of those who took part in that conflict, both in the Pacific Theater and at home, President George W. Bush proclaimed a new national monument in 2008.

World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument encompasses nine sites that commemorate the Pacific war, including the USS *Arizona* Memorial. Nearby memorials to the battleships USS *Oklahoma* and USS *Utah*, the latter refitted as a gunnery training ship in 1941, remember the 487 crewmen who died when the ships sank during the attack. The mooring quays on Pearl Harbor's Battleship Row and six Chief Petty Officer bungalows on Ford Island are also being preserved.

The Pacific war ranged north to the Aleutians, where three sites will become part of the national monument: the crash site of a B-24 bomber on Atka Island; the remains of a large Japanese base and allied defensive structures on Kiska Island; and Attu Island, the site of the only land battle fought in North America during the war.

The national monument also reminds us of the burdens borne by some on the wartime home front, when Japanese-Americans were relocated to internment camps. The U.S. Government confined over 17,000 people at Tule Lake Segregation Center and nearby Camp Tule Lake in northern California for the duration of the war.

