

## *National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial*

- Opened on September 11, 2008.
- “We claim this ground in remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001, to honor the 184 people whose lives were lost, their families, and all who sacrifice that we may live in freedom. We will never forget.”
- For each victim, there is a stainless steel inlaid with granite cantilevered memorial bench with the victim’s age and location at the time of the attack inscribed on it. The benches are arranged along stainless steel age lines, according to the year each victim was born.
- The benches honoring victims on board Flight 77 face the direction of the plane’s approach to the Pentagon, while those for the Pentagon victims face the plane’s point of impact on the Pentagon’s south facade.
- Age Wall, which runs along the west side of the Memorial, “grows” in height by one inch relative to the Age Lines. It begins at the 1998 Age Line and is 3” above the bench for the youngest victim that was three. It ends at the 1930 Age Line, which is the birth year of the oldest victim, and is 71” above the bench.
- Each day, the water beneath the Memorial Units is turned off at 9:37AM in a moment of silence to commemorate the exact time of the crash.

## *Air Force Memorial*

- Opened in 2006 but not without controversy. In 1997, Congressman Gerald Solomon (R-NY), a Marine veteran, introduced a bill to prohibit the construction of any monument, memorial or other structure "within view" of the Marine Corps War Memorial. Then the Friends of Iwo Jima and Solomon filed for a Temporary Restraining Order against the construction, which was dismissed in 1998. The U.S. Court of Appeals then dismissed the appeal of that decision in 1999. Faced with the cost of litigation and the opposition of prominent Marine veterans in Congress, the Foundation agreed to move the Memorial to its present site just south of Arlington National Cemetery.
- From 201 to 270 feet high, three stainless steel equilateral triangles or "jet streams".
- Three "jet streams" symbolize the three core values of Integrity first, Service before self, and Excellence in all we do and the missing man formation.
- At the entrance from the west stands the Honor Guard, symbolizing patriotism and power.
- Glass Contemplation Wall, a glazed independent panel with meditative inscriptions honoring all of those who are gone.

## *Arlington National Cemetery*

- Established in 1864 as a military cemetery, 612 acres in Virginia on the Potomac River. More than 400,000 service members and their dependents are buried here. 25 added each day.
- In 1921, an Unknown American Soldier of World War I was buried in the cemetery. The monument at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was opened to the public in 1932.
- Two additional Unknowns, one from World War II and one from the Korean War, were buried there on May 30, 1958.
- The Unknown Serviceman of Vietnam was buried on May 28, 1984 but the remains were later identified, and the crypt remains empty.
- HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD.
- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is guarded 24 hours a day by sentinels, the best of the elite 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard).
- The Tomb Guard marches 21 steps, turns, faces east for 21 seconds, turns and faces north for 21 seconds, then takes 21 steps. After the turn, the sentinel executes a sharp "shoulder-arms" movement to place the weapon on the shoulder closest to the visitors to signify that the sentinel stands between the Tomb and any possible threat. 21 symbolizes the 21-gun salute.
- While they can't talk, the guards will honor the veterans present by scuffing their heels.

## *Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima)*

- The memorial is dedicated to “the Marine dead of all wars and their comrades of other services who fell fighting beside them.”
- Based on the iconic photograph taken by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal, depicts the six soldiers who raised of the second American flag at Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945.
- The base of the memorial is engraved with every major battle involving the U.S. Marine Corps since 1775.

## *US Navy Memorial Plaza*

- Dedicated October 13,1987.
- Tribute to all the servicemen who have served and are serving in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.
- 100' diameter granite map of the world encircled by relief sculpture depictions of historic events in US Naval history.
- Lone Sailor Statue is a living tribute to the men and women of the Sea Services – past, present, and future.
- Homecoming Statue depicts the joyous reunion of a sailor, wife and child.

## *Capitol Building*

- Construction of the building started in 1792. Its design was modified several times until it was finished in 1865.
- Iconic 180-foot-high cast iron dome of the Great Rotunda.
- A monorail subway joins the House and Senate wings of the Capitol with the Congressional office buildings.

## *Washington Monument*

- Honors America's first president and Commander and Chief of the Continental Army.
- The world's tallest freestanding stone structure at just over 555 feet.
- Construction began in 1848, but a lack of funds, political squabbling and the Civil War interrupted the work from 1854 to 1877.
- A clear change in the color of the stones can be seen about one-third of the way up the monument; the slightly darker stones at the bottom were placed before construction paused, while the lighter stones above it were brought in from a different quarry following the Civil War.
- 193 commemorative stones line the interior walls, which were presented by individuals, societies, States, cities and nations from around the world.

## *Lincoln Memorial*

- Honors America's 16th president.
- 36 columns, each one representing one state in the U.S. at the date of President Lincoln's death.
- 190 feet long by 119 feet wide by almost 100 feet tall.
- A 19-foot statue of Abraham Lincoln sits overlooking the Reflecting Pool.
- Above the statue – "In this temple, as in the hearts of the people for whom he saved the Union, the memory of Abraham Lincoln is enshrined forever."
- To the left – the Gettysburg Address.
- To the right – his second inaugural address.

## *Jefferson Memorial*

- Honors America's third U.S. President and the writer of the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.
- He was a lawyer, politician, scientist, linguist, meteorologist, book collector, architect, farmer, and diplomat.
- Designed as a smaller version of the Roman Pantheon with marble steps and columns.
- 19' bronze statue of Jefferson. The walls are inlaid with excerpts from his letters, speeches and the Declaration of Independence.
- Sits on the Tidal Basin bordered by DC's famous cherry blossom trees.

## *World War II Memorial*

- Honors the spirit and sacrifice of the 16 million men and women who served overseas and the more than 400,000 that gave the ultimate sacrifice.
- Opened to the public in April 2004.
- 56 granite columns symbolize unity among the 48 states, seven federal territories and the District of Columbia. The columns form a semi-circle around the memorial's plaza. They are in chronological order with the odd numbers on one side and even numbers on the other. Michigan was the 26<sup>th</sup> State added to the Union.
- Two 43-foot tall arches on opposite sides. The northern arch represents victory in the Atlantic, while the southern arch symbolizes victory in the Pacific.
- Two bronze murals. Northern – scenes progress through the experience of war, from physical exams all the way to homecoming. Southern – pays tribute to the Atlantic, as the last scene depicts American and Russian armies shaking hands as the two sides met in Germany at the conclusion of the war.
- Freedom Wall – 4,048 gold stars pays tribute to American lives lost at war with each star representing 100 Americans.
- Two hard to find inscriptions – “Here we mark the price of freedom.” (below the stars) and “Kilroy was here.” (on the back side in the small alcove).

## *Vietnam Veterans Memorial*

- The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall – two identical walls that each stretch 246 feet and 9 inches, contain more than 58,000 names. The names are listed in chronological order based on the date of casualty, and within each day, names are shown in alphabetical order.
- You can look up names on the wall in the directory before the start of the wall, through one of the memorial volunteers, or online at <https://www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces/> or <http://thewall-usa.com/>.
- The Vietnam Women's Memorial – commemorates the 265,000 women that served in the Vietnam War, many of whom worked as nurses. The 2,000 pound bronze structure stands 15 feet tall and depicts three women attending to a wounded soldier.
- The Three Soldiers (also known as The Three Servicemen) bronze statue – each of the three soldiers stands seven feet tall. One is European American, one is African American and the other is Hispanic American, with the three soldiers gazing upon the names of lost comrades.

## *Korean War Veterans Memorial*

- Dedicated in 1995, on the 42nd anniversary of the armistice that ended the conflict.
- The Mural Wall measures 164 feet long and eight inches thick, and from a bird's eye view, the Wall appears as an isosceles triangle (two equal sides), with the tip intersecting a circle over the Pool of Remembrance.
- More than 2,400 images of troops moving by sea, land and air are sandblasted onto the surface of the wall.
- A squadron of 19 stainless steel figures each weighing 1,000 pounds, including members from each branch of the armed forces, are situated in the center of the memorial space.
- When the statues are reflected on the granite wall, there appears to be 38 soldiers, which represents the 38th parallel, the dividing line of North and South Korea during the conflict.
- United Nations Wall, which lists all 22 members of the U.N. that contributed to the war efforts, as well as a granite wall that states "Freedom Is Not Free."
- Pool of Remembrance – has inscriptions that list the number of soldiers killed, wounded, missing in action and held as prisoners during the Korean War.

## *Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial*

- Honors America's 32nd and longest serving president.
- The four "rooms" which represent each of President Roosevelt's four terms as commander in chief.
- Bronze sculptures of the President, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, his trusty canine and First Pet Fala, as well as scenes from the Great Depression of fireside chats and waiting in bread lines are surrounded by engravings of 21 famous quotes.
- There are four water features. One is comprised of one large fall, which depicts the crash of the economy that led to the Great Depression; multiple stair-like falls representing the Tennessee Valley Authority dam-building project; there are chaotic falls at varying angles signifying World War II; and a still pool for Roosevelt's death.

## *Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial*

- Honors Martin Luther King Jr. a prominent leader of the civil rights movement in the 1960s, becoming an icon through his incredible speeches and his use of nonviolent resistance.
- He led the famous March on Washington in 1963, where he gave his legendary “I Have a Dream” speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.
- 30-foot statue of Dr. King, featuring his likeness carved into the Stone of Hope and the Mountain of Despair – “Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope.”
- Surrounding the statue of Dr. King is a 450-foot long Inscription Wall, which features 14 quotes from King’s speeches, sermons and writings.