



# PEARL HARBOR HISTORIC SITES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Pearl Harbor Historic Sites Honor Military Birthdays with ‘Free Pass’ Days for Active-Duty Armed Forces Members, Retirees and Dependents**

**Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (June 3, 2013)** – In tribute to the service and sacrifice made by America’s Armed Forces, the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites announced that active-duty service members, retirees, and dependents will enjoy ‘Free Pass’ days to celebrate the birthday of their respective U.S. military branch.

Paid admission is being waived for tours of the Battleship Missouri Memorial, Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, and USS *Bowfin* Submarine Museum and Park to respective branches for the weekends listed below. The only requirement is presentation of a valid military I.D. at the Ticket and Information Booth located at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument or onsite at each Pearl Harbor Historic Site.

<u>Service Branch</u>	<u>Free Pass Days</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
U.S. Army	June 15 and 16	June 14
U.S. Coast Guard	August 3 and 4	August 4
U.S. Air Force	September 21 and 22	September 18
U.S. Navy	October 12 and 13	October 13
U.S. Marine Corps	November 9 and 10	November 10
U.S. National Guard	December 14 and 15	December 13

“The historical artifacts and displays showcased by the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites represents the unwavering service and commitment to America’s freedom by the men and women of our U.S. military,” commented Michael A. Carr, President and COO of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. “As we honor the birthdays of our Armed Forces throughout this year, we invite our service members and their families to come experience the legacy of Pearl Harbor and all that it means to our nation’s history.”

Admission to the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, which includes boat tours to the USS *Arizona* Memorial, is free and open to the public daily.

### **About the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites**

Welcoming approximately 1.7 million visitors each year, the Pearl Harbor attractions include several independent historic sites – some under the purview of the U.S. National Park Service and others operated by private, nonprofit organizations. Together, and in partnership with Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, they carry forth the legacies of some of our nation’s most treasured icons. Although Pearl Harbor is one historic destination, there are four distinct sites to visit, each with its own story to tell. Each attraction is as compelling as the next and none that the visitor would want to miss. For more information, visit [www.PearlHarborHistoricSites.org](http://www.PearlHarborHistoricSites.org).

### **Battleship Missouri Memorial**

The battleship USS *Missouri* (BB-63) completed an astounding career spanning five decades and three wars – World War II, Korea and Operation Desert Storm – and is best known as the site of Japan’s WWII surrender, which brought history’s most devastating war to a close. The 887-foot, 45,000-ton “Mighty Mo” is open for visitors as the Battleship Missouri Memorial, operated as a private, non-profit organization on historic Ford Island in Pearl Harbor. The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8 am to 4 pm or from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during summer months (June, July and August). General admission, which includes choice of a guided tour, is \$22 per adult and \$11 per

(more)

child 4-12. Military, kamaaina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information or to reserve a tour, call (toll-free) 1-877-644-4896 or visit [USSMissouri.org](http://USSMissouri.org).

### **Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor**

Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, a private, non-profit organization, occupies the WWII hangars and control tower on Ford Island that still bear the scars as our nation's first aviation battlefield. Giving visitors a front-row seat to the Pacific Theater and presenting 43 aircraft and their stories, the museum was named "one of the Top Ten Aviation Attractions" by TripAdvisor®. Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child 4-12. Military, kamaaina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information, call (808) 441-1000 or visit [PacificAviationMuseum.org](http://PacificAviationMuseum.org). Tickets and a free flight simulator coupon are available online.

### **USS *Bowfin* Submarine Museum and Park**

Adjacent to the Pearl Harbor Visitors Center, the USS *Bowfin* Submarine Museum and Park, operated as a private, non-profit organization, is dedicated to the sacrifice of more than 3,500 submarine personnel lost in World War II. This gallant band of brothers, comprising less than 2 percent of the U.S. Navy, sank more than 5.5 million tons of enemy ships, while sustaining losses of 52 submarines that remain on Eternal Patrol. The USS *Bowfin* Submarine Museum and Park is open daily from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Combined general admission to the submarine and museum is \$10 per adult and \$4 per child 4-12. Military, kamaaina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information, call (808) 423-1341 or visit [Bowfin.org](http://Bowfin.org).

### **WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument**

The USS *Arizona*, USS *Oklahoma* and USS *Utah* Memorials are operated and maintained by the National Park Service as part of the recently designed WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The three ships' memorials honor and commemorate all members of the U.S. Armed Forces and civilians who gave their lives to their country during the attack on the island of Oahu and Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Visitors to the USS *Arizona* Memorial take a Navy launch to the memorial between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. The USS *Oklahoma* Memorial is located on Ford Island next to the Battleship Missouri and can be accessed via the Battleship Missouri Memorial shuttle bus. Access to the USS *Utah* Memorial is limited to those with military IDs. The Pearl Harbor Visitor Center is open daily from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission and parking is free. For more information visit [nps.gov/valr](http://nps.gov/valr), [PacificHistoricParks.org](http://PacificHistoricParks.org) or call 808-954-8778.

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### **Media Contacts:**

Patrick Dugan  
(808) 539-3411  
[Patrick.Dugan@AnthologyGroup.com](mailto:Patrick.Dugan@AnthologyGroup.com)

Jaclyn Hawse  
(808) 455-1600 x246  
[JaclynH@ussmissouri.org](mailto:JaclynH@ussmissouri.org)