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TOUR THE HISTORIC BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL FROM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

Pearl Harbor (October 15, 2012) — Guest can now explore America’s last battleship from the comfort of their home as the Battleship Missouri Memorial is merging history and modern technology with the introduction of its new Virtual Tour. Available free online at USSMissouri.org the Virtual Tour gives guests 360-degree above and below deck access to the nearly 900-foot ship, from bow to fantail.

“The Memorial is a proud tribute to the U.S. Navy, veterans and the historic role the USS *Missouri* (BB-63) played in World War II. As part of the visitor experience, guests can walk the decks, stand on the spot where the surrender took place ending WWII, tour the wardroom and officer’s quarters, see how the crew lived, ate and slept, and gain an understanding of how the Navy operated on the high seas. This, of course, was fully dependent on the visitors being at the ship, but not anymore,” said Michael A. Carr, the memorial’s president and chief operating officer. “With the new Virtual Tour people from across the world can see this historic battleship, before and after their visit to Pearl Harbor. This combined with our recently launched Guide2Go app, available through the iTunes App Store, gives guests the next best thing to actually being here.”

The Virtual Tour and Guide2Go app work harmoniously to bring the Battleship Missouri Memorial to life even when you’re oceans away. For example, a visitor can view the Missouri’s massive 16-inch guns on the Virtual Tour then explore the armored depths of the turret through video footage on the Guide2Go app. Former USS *Missouri* executive officer (1991-1992) Capt. Ken Jordan describes their inner workings and the seamless teamwork required to operate such powerful weaponry with pinpoint accuracy.

Guide2Go also features other USS *Missouri* crew interviews including WWII crewmen Arthur Albert and William Obitz, Cold War crewmen Herb Fahr and Clarence “Skip” George, and Operation Desert Storm crewman Kevin Tobin. USS *Arizona* (BB-39) survivor Donald Stratton, USS *Oklahoma* (BB-37) survivor George Brown, and the National Park Services’ USS *Arizona* Memorial historian Daniel A. Martinez also tell recollections and stories of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

“As remarkable as our guided tours are for the superb talent and knowledge of our guides, the reality is people can’t just get up and come to Hawaii whenever they want to see the Missouri. The Virtual Tour and Guide2Go offers a solitary, reflective experience that can be quite moving no matter what your previous familiarity with this magnificent battleship,” Carr said.

The Virtual Tour is available free and online at USSMissouri.org. Guide2Go can be downloaded from the iTunes App Store for \$1.99 by searching for Battleship Missouri. Once installed users have unlimited access to the app.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8 am to 4 pm or from 8 am to 5 pm. during summer months (June, July and August). General admission, which includes choice of a guided tour, is \$22 per adult and \$11 per 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.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial, located a mere ship's length from the USS Arizona Memorial, completes a historical visitor experience that begins with the "day of infamy" that saw the sinking of USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor and ends with Imperial Japan's unconditional surrender aboard USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay. Following an astounding career that spans five decades and three wars, from World War II to the Korean conflict to the Liberation of Kuwait, the "Mighty Mo" was decommissioned and donated to the USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which operates the battleship as a historic attraction and memorial. The association oversees her care and preservation with the support of visitors, memberships, grants and the generosity of donors. The Battleship Missouri Memorial is one of Hawaii's top 10 attractions according to Pacific Business News and starred in Universal Studios' Battleship.

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Media Image



Image link: <http://i.imgur.com/nvr8q.jpg>

Media Contact:

Tyler Kruse
808-741-2791

Tyler.Kruse@AnthologyGroup.com

Jaclyn Hawse
(808) 455-1600 x246
JaclynH@ussmissouri.org