

Navy Executive Corridor

(4th floor, E-Ring, Corridor 4-6)

The mission of the Navy is to control waters in the area of naval operations. The Navy is also responsible for the transportation and support of ground forces through the use of carrier based aviation and naval gunfire. The Marine Corps serves as an amphibious assault force to seize, occupy, and defend advance naval bases. They are also responsible for maintaining a rapidly deployable force available for contingency missions around the world.

—Go down 1 floor—

Army Executive Corridor

(3rd floor, E-Ring, Corridor 4-6)

The Sergeant Major of the Army is the only enlisted member of the military to have his own colors (flag). Throughout the corridor, flags line the walls to represent each of the Army Corps.

Marshall Alcove

(3rd floor, Corridor 5, D Ring Elevators)

This is an alcove dedicated to George C. Marshall. Post WWII, General Marshall was instrumental in developing the Marshall plan, which some consider the blueprint for the reconstruction of Europe after WWII. Among his offices held are: Chief of Staff of the Army, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and President of the American Red Cross.

Secretary of the Army Corridor

(3rd floor, Corridor 5)

This corridor contains a display with the 174 Army battle streamers, more streamers than any other service. Also displayed is the Army flag. This flag was flown on the maiden voyage of the Space Shuttle Columbia in 1981. The portraits in this corridor are of the former Secretaries of the Army.

—Turn right into A-Ring—

MacArthur Corridor

(3rd floor, Corridor 5)

This corridor is dedicated to one of our nations Five-Star Generals, General Douglas MacArthur. He served under nine Presidents. He was awarded several highly distinguished decorations during WWI to include: the Distinguished Service Cross, two Distinguished Service Medals, and seven Silver Stars. General MacArthur and his father Lt General Arthur MacArthur were the first father and son to ever receive the Medal of Honor.

—Go down 1 floor—

Soldiers and Signers of the Constitution Corridor

(2nd floor, Corridor 4)

Of the 40 signers of the United States Constitution, 23 helped fight for our nations independence and are represented in this corridor. Among the paintings, is one that commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This painting displays some of the founding fathers of our nation including, Thomas Jefferson, in the black coat, and John Adams, in the brown jacket. The flags along the corridor represent the original thirteen states.

—Go down 1 floor—

9-11 Memorial

(1st floor, E-ring, Corridor 4, Room #1E438)

The memorial commemorates those killed in the terrorist attack on the morning of September 11, 2001. The panels on the left and right represent the medals awarded to the military and civilian casualties. The panels on the back wall display all the names of the victims. Attached to the memorial is the new Pentagon chapel.

Center Courtyard

The center courtyard of the Pentagon is 5.5 acres. It is one of the largest no cover, no salute areas in the military.

Facts and Figures

Construction began:	September 11, 1941
Construction complete:	January 15, 1943
Building cost:	\$49,600,000
Land area:	583 acres
Floor space:	6.5 million square feet
Length of corridors:	17.5 miles
Number of:	
• Stairways:	150
• Escalators:	19
• Rest rooms:	280
• Drinking fountains:	685
• Light fixtures:	85,000
• Clocks installed:	4,200

Pentagon Tour Program

Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday 9:00 am–3:00 pm

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Updated 18 February 2004

Welcome to the Pentagon Self-Guided Tour



Pentagon Tour

Welcome to the Pentagon – the world’s largest federal office building. More than 23,000 people, both civilian and military, work in the Pentagon. The Main Concourse is very much like a small shopping mall. It was developed so Pentagon personnel would not have to leave the building to take care of personal business during the workday. The Pentagon houses medical and dental facilities, a post office, bank, credit union, two travel centers, and card and floral shops.

The Hall of Heroes

(Concourse Level)

This hall is dedicated to the 3,440 recipients of the Medal of Honor, our nations highest military decoration. The Medal of Honor is presented to its recipients in the name of Congress of the United States. For this reason, it is often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor. There are three different versions of the Medal of Honor. They are the Army version, Sea Service (Marine, Navy and Coast Guard), and the Air Force version. An asterisk next to some of the names on the nameplates denotes service members who received two Medals of Honor for two separate acts of bravery. Dots next to other names denote Marines who were under the command of the Army during WWII and received both the Army and Sea Service versions of the Medal of Honor for a single act of bravery.

D-Day Ramp

(Concourse ramp to 3rd floor)

The paintings depict scenes from Operation Overlord during WWII. They include the Battle of Britain, the World at War, and the Bomber Offensive against Germany. The paintings were done by Sandra Lawrence and used as a basis for the panels of the Overlord Embroidery. The embroidery took five years to complete. It measures 272 feet long and three feet high, making it the largest of its kind in the world. These paintings were presented to Secretary of Defense William J. Perry on the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

Prayer Room

(3rd floor, A-Ring, Corridor 10)

The Pentagon Prayer Room remains open 24 hours a day and is staffed by a military chaplain who serves all faiths. The stained glass depicts the faith of our first president, the selflessness and devotion to duty of our chaplains during WWII, and the continuing importance of religious faith in our future.

—Turn left to corridor 10—

Commanders in Chief Corridor

(3rd floor, Corridor 10)

The Commanders in Chief corridor has depictions of all past Presidents in chronological order. Under each portrait there is a brief summary about each of our Presidents while in office.

—At end of presidents portraits, turn left—

Ramp to 4th floor

This ramp contains flags of the 50 states, 5 territories, and 1 district that make-up the United States. At the top of the ramp are models that illustrate the historical evolution of our nations flag.

Aircraft Display Cases

(4th floor, A-ring, Corridor 10)

The United States Air Force Aircraft Display Cases provide a dramatic illustration of the changes that have taken place over the years that Americans have fought in the skies. The display begins with the 1903 Wright Flyer and ends with space age technology.

—Walk between quilt and trophies to corridor 9—

Air Force Art Collection

(4th floor, Corridor 9)

The Air Force Art Collection depicts the missions and evolution of the Air Force. Not all the paintings in the collection are located here at the Pentagon; many are at various Air Force installations around the world. Notable among the paintings is a series that commemorates the Tuskegee Airmen – 992 African American combat pilots trained at Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama. They proved their abilities in 1,500 missions over Europe in WWII. They were also a key factor in the 1948 decision by President Truman to desegregate the military.

—Turn left into E-Ring—

Air Force Executive Corridor

(4th floor, E-ring, Corridor 8-9)

The Air Force Executive Corridor, also known as the Arnold Corridor, is named after one of the Air Forces' founding fathers – General Henry “Hap” Arnold. The paintings depict the missions and evolution of the Air Force.

POW Alcove

(4th floor, E-ring, Corridor 8)

The POW Alcove is dedicated to all prisoners of war from the Vietnam Conflict. Maxine McCaffrey was not a Prisoner of War but she donated over 60 paintings to the Air Force Art Collection including the painting “In His Country’s Service.” The painting depicts Col Robinson Risner, a Prisoner of War held at the “Hanoi Hilton” in North Vietnam. The names on the wall behind him are of other prisoners held at the prison camp.

—Turn left into corridor 8—

Coast Guard Corridor

(4th floor, Corridor 8)

The paintings illustrate the history of the U.S. Coast Guard. Former Secretary of Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, established the Coast Guard in 1790 as the primary agency for maritime law enforcement and safety. Among the paintings is one of Signalmen First Class Douglas Munroe. He holds the distinction of being the only member of the Coast Guard to receive the Medal of Honor.

—Go down stairs 2 floors and turn right—

Secretaries of Defense Corridor

(2nd floor, A-Ring, Corridor 8)

The corridor contains the portraits of the 20 former Secretaries of Defense. The current Secretary of Defense is the Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld. He holds the distinction of being the only American in our nations history to serve two terms as Secretary of Defense.

—Bear right to next corridor—

NATO Corridor

(2nd floor, A-ring, Corridor 10)

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was established in 1949 shortly after WWII. At that time, the alliance was committed to stopping the spread of communism from the former Soviet Union and Soviet controlled Eastern Bloc Nations. The newspaper headlines display some of the dramatic events that took place in Europe that involved NATO signatories. All nineteen NATO member nations are represented in this corridor.

—Bear right to next corridor—

ANZUS Corridor

(2nd floor, A-ring, Corridor 2)

This corridor commemorates the treaty enacted between Australia, New Zealand, and the United States in 1952. The displays contain items that illustrate different chapters in our common history, to include the visit of the U.S. Navy’s Great White Fleet to Australia in 1908.

—Go up 2 floors and turn left – walk to corridor 5—

Commandants of the Marine Corps

(4th floor, Corridor 5)

The portraits are of former Commandants of the Marine Corps. While the average term of a Commandant is three to four years, the fifth Commandant, General Archibald Henderson, served for over thirty-eight years. This earned him the nickname “Grand Old Man of the Marine Corps.” He is responsible for the appearance and strict discipline that the Marine Corps is known for today.

Navy Models

(4th floor, Corridor 5, D Ring Elevators)

This area contains some of the Navy’s new and old vessels. The USS Constitution is the oldest commissioned warship in the world. The USS Harry S. Truman (Nimitz class) carries a crew of approximately 6,400 and approximately 80 aircraft.