



Guidance for Groups Visiting Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington National Cemetery is open daily from 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and receives 2-3 million visitors per year, including many large groups. To ensure the safety and security of all visitors and employees, and to comply with Army directive, the cemetery requires all visitors to go through physical security screening, including identification checks and other security measures. Tour groups should review the following information prior to visiting.

Arrival Times

ANC experiences a surge in large tour groups visiting the cemetery from 8 to 10 a.m. on weekdays. We strongly encourage tour groups to consider **arriving later if not scheduled to take part in a [Public Wreath Ceremony](#)**. Arriving later *may* result in more expedient access onto the grounds.

Security Screening

- Depending on the security posture, all visitors 18 years of age and older, including individual members of tour groups, may be asked to provide [REAL ID Act-compliant photo identification](#) upon entering the cemetery.
- School group leaders and tour guides should also be prepared to provide identification.
- Visitors 16 and 17 years old who do not have a U.S. state or federal government-issued photo identification may present an official school-issued photo identification or have an adult/chaperone cleared for entry.
- Persons who are not U.S. citizens may present a valid passport or U.S. State Department-issued photo identification for entry if requested.
- Changes in force protection conditions may require increased levels of security; Arlington National Cemetery is a military installation as well as a national cemetery.
- **Please allow time to go through [security screening](#) when visiting the cemetery, especially if you are bringing a large tour group.**
- To expedite the screening process, we recommend that visitors bring **minimal to no bags or bulky items**. Group members will be directed to remove phones, hats and pocket items to place above their heads when walking through screening.
- For complete information on security procedures, including prohibited items and access for visitors with disabilities, please see <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Security>.

Resources for School Groups

We encourage educators bringing school groups to explore our Education Program to enhance their visit. All materials are available at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>.

Medical Incidents

Arlington National Cemetery does not have in-house emergency medical services. If a medical emergency occurs on ANC property, tour group guides or chaperones should call 911. For medical incidents that are *not* emergencies, please contact Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Directorate of Emergency Services at 703-588-2800.