

## Visit Arlington County and the U.S. Air Force Memorial

The U.S. Air Force Memorial honors the service of the personnel of the United States Air Force and its predecessors. The Memorial is located in Arlington, on the grounds of Fort Myer near The Pentagon and Arlington National Cemetery, at the intersection of Columbia Pike and South Joyce Street.

It was the last project of American architect James Ingo Freed (known for the design of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum).

The three memorial spires range from 201 feet to 270 feet high and appear to be soaring; its array of stainless steel arcs against the sky evoke the image of "contrails of the Air Force Thunderbirds as they peel back in a precision 'bomb burst' maneuver."

Only three of the four contrails are depicted, at 120 degrees from each other, as the absent fourth suggests the missing man formation traditionally used at Air Force funeral flyovers.

The four bronze statues of the Memorial's Honor GuardThe spire structure consists of stainless steel plates with high-strength concrete filling the lower 2/3 of each spire. The upper third is hollow stainless steel.

In addition to hosting over 200,000 visitors throughout the year, the Air Force Memorial is the scene for more than 200 ceremonies, special events, wreath laying, tours, weddings, and U.S. Air Force Band Concerts throughout the year.

SOURCE: Wikipedia

