

Allied Landings at Anzio January 22, 1944

KEY: † Military Cemetery 🪂 Parachute Drop



Photo: The National Archives

Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial

The Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial is one of two permanent American World War II military cemeteries in Italy, and is dedicated to the fallen from the campaign of Sicily to the Liberation of Rome. The government of Italy granted use of this land in perpetuity as a permanent burial ground without charge.

American Battle Monuments Commission

This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 25 American cemeteries and 26 memorials, monuments and markers in 16 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that "time will not dim the glory of their deeds."



Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial

American Battle Monuments Commission



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For more information on this site and other
ABMC commemorative sites, please visit
www.abmc.gov



Baltic Stone Monument

This monument, at the edge of woods very close to the sea, marks where the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division made an amphibious assault landing and established the Anzio beachhead.



Isola Bella

A humble marble slab memorializes fierce fighting at Isola Bella and Cisterna between the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Ranger Battalions and superior German forces, January 30, 1944. Bullet holes pockmark the stone columns.

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SICILY TO ROME 1943-44

At the Casablanca Conference in January 1943, Allied leaders decided to follow successes in North Africa by invading Sicily in July, and then cross into Italy. Their main objectives: clear the Mediterranean Sea, force Italy out of the war, divert German forces threatening Russia, and prepare for the 1944 Cross Channel invasion. Major milestones in the campaigns:

- JULY 10, 1943** – Allied forces landed on Sicily’s southeastern corner.
- AUGUST 17** – Sicily was liberated, German and Italian forces driven out.
- SEPTEMBER 3** – Italian government signed armistice.
- SEPTEMBER 9** – Allied forces landed at Salerno; stiff German resistance ensued.
- SEPTEMBER 13-14** – American airborne units reinforced the Salerno beachhead.
- OCTOBER 1** – American Fifth Army entered Naples; British Eighth Army captured vital airfields near Foggia.
- OCTOBER-DECEMBER** – Allied forces fought slowly northward up the Italian peninsula.

JANUARY 22, 1944 – Allied forces landed at Anzio, surprising the Germans. The Germans reinforced, hurling three major counterattacks against the beachhead. Magnificent ground defense supported by artillery, airplanes, and naval gunfire saved and expanded the beachhead. Severe combat continued as Allied forces inland slogged northward against well-entrenched German forces.

The final penetration of the Germans’ fortified Gustav Line began on May 11, ultimately resulting in breakout from the beachhead and the Allies entering Rome on June 4. The Germans were now in full retreat.

The South Garden

Seasonal flowers aligned with crepe myrtle trees appear on both sides. At the far end is a bronze statue of the Greek God of Music, Orpheus.



The Memorial

The Memorial consists of a chapel, map room, and connecting peristyle constructed of Roman travertine. On a travertine pedestal in the peristyle is the “Brothers in Arms” sculpture.



The Chapel

The names of 3,095 Missing are memorialized on the interior walls of the Chapel.



The North Garden

Four stars are centered with seasonal flowers around them. The outer side is a rectangular strip with blooming roses. Italian umbrella pines flank a granite fountain.



Stone Cenotaph

On a small island in the center of a pool near the cemetery entrance is a stone cenotaph of Roman travertine honoring the war dead.



The Burial Area

A center mall flanked by paths from the pool area to the Memorial divides the 10 burial plots. The headstones are of Lasa marble.



Layout

On your journey from the Visitor Center west to the ornamental pool and up the mall paths through the burial area, you will reach the Memorial, the Chapel, Brothers in Arms statue, and the north and south gardens.



Photo: The National Archives

Visitor Center

Here you can meet our staff and get your questions answered, sign the guest register, and rest and refresh yourself.



Photo: The National Archives

Headstone Location

PLOT:

ROW:

GRAVE:

Useful Information

- DIMENSIONS: 77 acres
- STARS OF DAVID: 122
- MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS: 2
- DEDICATED: July 7, 1956
- HEADSTONES: 7,860
- MISSING IN ACTION: 3,095
- LATIN CROSSES: 7,738
- SETS OF BROTHERS: 23