Abraham Lincoln Statue - Washington, USA



The Abraham Lincoln Statue is located inside the Lincoln Memorial, situated at the western end of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States. The memorial stands at coordinates 38°53′21″ north latitude and 77°3′0″ west longitude, near the banks of the Potomac River. The structure housing the statue lies to the west of the Washington Monument, along the vast green expanse stretching toward the Capitol Building. Visitors can approach this impressive landmark by walking along the long Reflecting Pool that stretches in front of the memorial.

Who Created the Abraham Lincoln Statue?

The statue was designed by American sculptor Daniel Chester French. Born in 1850, French produced numerous significant public works throughout his career. Once the design was finalized, the statue was carved in stone by the Piccirilli Brothers, one of the most distinguished marble-carving families of the era, known for their contributions to many major public projects. The material chosen for the statue is Murphy Marble, sourced from the state of Georgia, selected for both its durability and aesthetic appeal.

When Was the Abraham Lincoln Statue Built?

The statue was completed in 1920 and unveiled to the public on May 30, 1922, in a grand ceremony. More than 50,000 people attended the dedication; President Warren G. Harding and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Howard Taft both delivered addresses. Robert Todd Lincoln, the president's only surviving son, was also present at this historic occasion. Construction of the memorial had begun in 1914, taking over eight years to complete. The chosen site had previously been marshland, which required extensive engineering work to make it suitable for construction.

What Does the Abraham Lincoln Statue Look Like?

The statue depicts Abraham Lincoln in a seated position. A monumental work commanding attention by sheer scale, it stands approximately 580 cm (19 feet) tall and rests on a pedestal of Tennessee marble. The statue was assembled on-site from 28 individual pieces. Lincoln's facial expression and posture convey the portrait of a leader who could not fully conceal his weariness, yet never wavered in his resolve. His arms rest along the sides of the chair, and his gaze is directed eastward toward the Reflecting Pool in front of the memorial — a posture historians associate with gravity and inner strength.

The Architecture and Features of the Lincoln Memorial

The Lincoln Memorial, which houses the statue, was designed in the style of the Greek Parthenon. Conceived by architect Henry Bacon, the structure measures 190 feet in length, 119 feet in width, and rises to nearly 100 feet in height. The 36 Colorado marble columns encircling the exterior represent the 36 states that were part of the Union at the time of Lincoln's death. Each column stands 44 feet (approximately 13 meters) tall. Along the frieze above the colonnade, the names of 48 states and their dates of admission to the Union are inscribed in Roman numerals. The names of Alaska and Hawaii, which achieved statehood decades after the memorial was completed, are noted separately on a plaque placed on the front steps.

The Meaning and Significance of the Abraham Lincoln Statue

Abraham Lincoln is widely regarded as one of the most respected leaders in the history of the United States. Born in 1809 and assassinated in 1865, Lincoln served as the 16th President of the United States. He is remembered in history as the "Great Emancipator" for his leading role in abolishing slavery. He guided the nation through the Civil War from 1861 to 1865, and in 1863 issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring enslaved people in the rebellious southern states to be free. That same year, he delivered the Gettysburg Address, a speech widely considered one of the most important documents in American literature and political discourse. Lincoln's assassination at Ford's Theatre in April 1865 cemented his place as one of the most tragic and enduring figures in American history.

How to Visit the Lincoln Memorial Today

The Lincoln Memorial is located on 23rd Street NW and is managed by the National Park Service. The memorial is open to visitors 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and admission is free. Evening visits are particularly popular, as nighttime lighting gives the memorial a strikingly dramatic appearance. The nearest metro station is Foggy Bottom. The best way to approach the memorial

is from the east, starting near the Washington Monument and walking along the Reflecting Pool. Millions of visitors come to this historic site each year, and the memorial consistently ranks among the most visited national park sites in the United States.

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