

# PACIFIC HISTORIC PARKS

★ Remember ★ Honor ★ Understand ★

**Media Contact**

**Carlton Kramer**

**Phone: 808-781-3302**

**Email: [ckramer@pacifichistoricparks.org](mailto:ckramer@pacifichistoricparks.org)**

**May 3, 2013**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Memorial Day Weekend – Historic Pearl Harbor Boat Tours Announced**

HONOLULU, HI – In honor of Memorial Day weekend, the US Navy, National Park Service and Pacific Historic Parks are happy to announce its exclusive Historic Pearl Harbor Boat Tours occurring May 24<sup>th</sup> through May 27<sup>th</sup>. These boat tours are being organized as a fundraiser for the restoration of the USS *Arizona* Memorial.

The USS *Arizona* Memorial is the final resting place for 1,177 sailors and Marines. Majority of these servicemen were entombed in the ship when an armor piercing bomb cut through its decks and hit the *Arizona*'s armory causing a horrific explosion. More than thirty men, who survived the initial blast, have chosen to be interred alongside their shipmates aboard the USS *Arizona* upon their passing.

These Historic Pearl Harbor Boat Tours are open to the public and will be available twice a day between May 24<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 pm and 2:30 pm. These 150 passenger cruises will offer a fully narrated tour around Ford Island, with a stop at the USS *Arizona* Memorial. Each tour will include a National Park Service Ranger as your official tour guide. Individuals are being asked to donate \$30 to the USS *Arizona* Memorial restoration fund. This \$30 donation is tax deductible and a receipt will be given out upon check-in.

“Time, exposure to the elements, and the high demand to visit this site has left the USS *Arizona* Memorial in need of repairs”, says Paul DePrey, Superintendent of WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument at Pearl Harbor. “This coming Memorial Day of 2013, marks the 51<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USS *Arizona* Memorial. The USS *Arizona* Memorial is one of the most dramatic and identifiable pieces of midcentury modernist architecture in the Pacific. We must act as good stewards of this site to ensure that the sacred destination is available for future generations. ”

Locals and visitors interested in this once in a lifetime Pearl Harbor narrated cruise can make reservations by visiting [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) or by calling 1-877-444-6777. Donations for the USS *Arizona* Memorial restoration can also be made by visiting [www.pacifichistoricparks.org](http://www.pacifichistoricparks.org).

### **About Pacific Historic Parks**

Formed in 1979, Pacific Historic Parks (PHP) is a non-profit cooperating association with the National Park Service whose mission is to support and fund educational and interpretive programs for the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument at Pearl Harbor; American Memorial Park on Saipan; War in the Pacific National Historical Park on Guam; and Kalaupapa National Historical Park on the island of Molokai. For more information, visit [www.pacifichistoricparks.org](http://www.pacifichistoricparks.org) or call (808) 954-8778.