

1. Why are there war graves and a memorial in Ambon?

The town of Ambon was severely damaged during the Second World War, first by the Japanese who bombed it heavily in January 1942 and later by the Allied forces who attacked it in 1943 and 1944.

After the fall of Ambon in February 1942, a former Dutch army camp on the island was used to hold Australian, American and Dutch prisoners of war, captured during the invasion. The War Cemetery was constructed on the site of this camp (known as Tan Touy) after the war. The cemetery contains Australian soldiers who died during the Japanese invasion of Ambon and Timor, plus those who died in captivity in one of the many camps constructed by the Japanese on the Moluccas Islands, including many British prisoners who were transferred from Java to the islands in April 1943. Soon after the war, the remains of prisoners of war from other camps on the island were removed to Ambon and in 1961, at the request of the Indonesian Government, the remains of 503 graves in Makassar War Cemetery on the island of Celebes were added to the cemetery. Today, there are 1,959 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-1945 war here, 357 of these are unidentified. There are 186 Dutch burials here, 15 being unidentified, and one American Airman. The Ambon Memorial was constructed on the site of a former prisoner of war camp and commemorates 442 officers and men of the Australian forces who have no known grave.

2. Are there other war graves in Indonesia?

There are CWGC war graves and memorials at five locations across Indonesia. Study the map below to see where they are.

3. Discover where these people came from

Use the modern flags to discover where some of those who are buried and remembered in Indonesia came from.

Jakarta War Cemetery

1181 graves

From: Australia,, Canada, India, Ireland, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom, USA



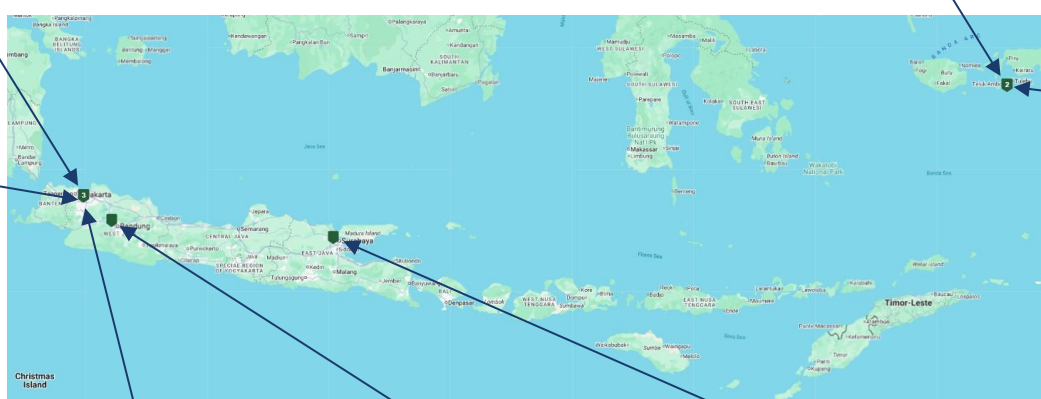
Ambon War Cemetery

2147 graves

From: Australia,, Canada, India, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, United Kingdom, USA



Jakarta (Ancol) Netherlands Field of Honour
131 CWGC graves
From: Australia, United Kingdom



Ambon Memorial
442 names
From: Australia, United Kingdom



Jakarta (Menteng Pulo) Netherlands Field of Honour

1 CWGC grave
From: Netherlands



Pandu Netherlands Field of Honour

1 CWGC grave
From: Netherlands



Kembang Kuning Netherlands Field of Honour

1 CWGC grave
From: Netherlands



4. Discover more about the service of those buried at Ambon War Cemetery

4.1 Each grave marker in the cemetery tells a different story.

As you explore the cemetery see what you can learn from the grave markers. See if you can find the following;

- 1. Who is the **youngest** person you can find?
- 2. Who is the **oldest** person you can find?
- 3. How many **different countries** did they come from?



4.2 There is just one marker which has this badge on. One of more than 30,000 from New Zealand who died in the world wars. (**Plot 29**)

4.3 As you explore the cemetery, look at the different badges on the grave markers. These will give you a clue as to the role the person had, and maybe where they came from. As you find each badge, write down the name of the person who served with that unit, or service in the box next to the badge.



More than 2.5 millions served in the British Indian Army during the Second World War. Can you find those from the Jat Regiment in **Plot 34**?



More than a million Australian troops fought across the globe in the world wars. More than 103,000 died.



The youngest person buried here served in the Royal Air Force. Can you find him in **Plot 6, Row C**?



More than 1.1 million people served in the Canadian Forces in the Second World War. More than 42,000 died fighting across the globe. Can you find one in **Plot 8**?



South African naval forces served all over the globe during the Second World War. Can you find a sailor in **Plot 31**?



There are more than 170 troops from Dutch forces buried here. Can you find one in **Plot 5**?

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