

B-17G BOMBER FACT SHEET

“Flying Legends of Victory Tour”

- We’ve toured throughout the U.S. and Canada for more than 30 years and currently fly to over 40 towns and cities each year.
- We’re based out of the Arizona Airbase of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) and are the largest unit in the world of the Commemorative Air Force.
- We provide a one-of-a-kind experience where people can get an up-close and personal look into how these planes were made and hear the stories of how crews braved extraordinary odds.
- People can smell the exhaust; feel the vibrations and hear the sound of these muscular engines coming to life. Seeing our warbirds fly over their hometown is an inspiring, memorable sight.

About the B-17 Bomber “Sentimental Journey”

- B-17G Flying Fortress is named “*Sentimental Journey.*” Built in November 1944.
- She is exceptionally rare! She’s only **one of 10** B-17Gs in the world that is still flying out of almost 13,000 produced from 1936 to 1945. 8,000 of them were lost in combat.
- Known as a strategic weapon because it was a potent, high-flying, long-range bomber that could defend itself. It was nicknamed the “flying fortress” due to its ability to suffer extensive battle damage and still return home.
- Developed and produced by Boeing, Douglas, and Lockheed. Was used in every theater of war from 1941 to 1945.
- The “Sentimental Journey” was originally manufactured and delivered to the U.S. Army Air Forces for war service in 1944 where she flew missions in the Pacific Theater.
- After the war she flew for training, testing and at-sea rescue missions and was eventually sold for surplus and used as a fire bomber.
- In 1978, the aircraft was purchased by a Commemorative Air Force (CAF) member and donated to the newly formed Arizona unit of the world-famous CAF where she was meticulously restored, maintained in tip-top condition, and is operated by all-volunteer crews from the membership of the Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum.





SPECS:

- Heavy Strategic Bomber – 4 engines – flew in WWII on short- and long-range missions.
- B-17s dropped more bombs than any other U.S. aircraft in WWII – a total of 640,000 tons out of the total 1.5 million tons in the entire war.
- B-17s were also used as transport, anti-submarine warfare, drone controllers, and search-and-rescue missions.
- Range = 3,750 miles
- Wingspan = 103 ft, 9 in; Length = 74 ft, 4 in; Height = 19 ft, 3 in
- Empty weight = 36,134 lbs; Gross weight = 65,500 lbs
- Ceiling 36,400 ft; Cruising speed = 160 mph; Top speed = 302 mph
- Crew = 10
- Bomb Load = 8,000 lbs (short range missions); 4,500 lbs. (long range missions)
- Guns = 13 x .50 caliber M2 Browning machine guns in 8 positions



Nose Art - Betty Grable

Hollywood Films:

- *Twelve O'Clock High* - starring Gregory Peck
- *Air Force* – starring John Garfield
- *The War Lover*
- *Test Pilot* – starring Clark Gable and Spencer Tracy
- *Command Decision*– starring Clark Gable
- *Tora! Tora! Tora!*
- *Memphis Belle*

About Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum

- AZCAF was founded in 1977 and is the 10th chapter of the Commemorative Air Force.
- It's comprised of 500-member volunteers and seven flyable warbirds that offer Living History rides.
- The fully-restored and rare B-17 and B-25 Bombers and C-47/DC-3 Combat Legend conduct the Flying Legends of Victory Summer tour and visit approximately 40 cities throughout the United States and Canada.
- The AZCAF has 55,000 square feet of historical airplanes, artifacts, and educational exhibits, in addition to a working mechanics hangar. The public can tour through. Our



mechanics are true artisans who are passing down their knowledge of building and maintaining these muscular machines to the next generation.

- A Trip-Advisor Winner of Excellence, it's one of the top-rated adventure attractions in Phoenix and regularly conducts tours for schools, businesses, and youth groups.
- Our Mission: To educate, remember, preserve, and restore authentic military aviation history for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations. Our fleet of historic aircraft recreate, remind, and reinforce the lessons learned from the defining moments in American military aviation history.
- We're a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 organization
- We're one of the few organizations that offer "Living History Rides" in our Warbirds: B-17 and B-25 Bombers; C-47 Cargo Transport; SNJ/T-6 Texan; Beechcraft C-45; open-air cockpit PT-17 Stearman; and a L-16 Grasshopper. Prices range from \$95 to \$850 and entire planes can also be exclusively purchased for groups/families.
- For more information, visit www.azcaf.org

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