

Flight 93 National Memorial Visitor's Center: Watch Its 5-Year Construction in 2 Minutes

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The Flight 93 National Memorial Visitor's Center opens today, one day ahead of the 14th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. And thanks to [EarthCam's time-lapse video](#), you can watch the entire five-year construction of the building in less than two minutes.

The visitor's center overlooks the crash site of United Flight 93, which was hijacked by terrorists shortly after takeoff on 9/11. Its passengers charged the cockpit in an effort to regain control of the plane, but during the struggle, the aircraft went down near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, killing everyone on board. While the other three flights that were hijacked that day reached their targets (two crashing into the World Trade Center and one into the Pentagon), Flight 93, believed to be intended for either the White House or the Capitol Building, was the only one that was thwarted.

The site that opens today is both a museum and a memorial to the people and events of the day, and its exhibits include photos, video, artifacts, interactive displays, and stories from the plane and the ground. Visitors can listen to messages that doomed passengers left for their families, watch a video of the plane's movements, and step outside the 40-foot concrete walls — which are split to mark the plane's flight path — to view the crash site and pay their respects. There is no admission fee to visit the memorial, and it's open every day of the year, including holidays, except for Christmas and New Year's Day.

