War

Two major battles with large numbers of casualties were fought in Kiev; one in 1941 and one in 1943. The German Army initially occupied the city in the wake of one of the Second World War's biggest encirclement battles in August and September 1941. The 6th Army encircled the main Soviet forces on the south-western front. The city fell on 19 September, although the encirclement battle still raged for another week in the east of Kiev, and 665,000 Soviet soldiers were taken prisoner. The German army now had access to the eastern Ukraine, the Sea of Azov and the Donbass. Kiev was occupied by the Germans until late 1943.

After the failed German summer offensive of 1943 – Operation Citadel in the Kursk salient – the Red Army advanced concertedly towards the Dnieper River. After some heavy fighting, it conquered the almost totally destroyed city of Kiev on 6 November. This was a prestigious victory as it showed that the tide on the Eastern Front was turning.

Visiting Hours War Cemetery
Permanently open to the public

Visiting Hours Exhibition
On request:
0038 0676401639 or
0038 0963455798

Address
GPS: 50°18'4.29"N 30°22'16.97"E

Contact
Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e. V.
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Donations
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123map

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The Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V. is a humanitarian organisation charged with caring for the graves of German war casualties abroad. It offers educational programmes and promotes an international culture of commemoration and peace.

www.volksbund.de

VOLKSBUND DEUTSCHE
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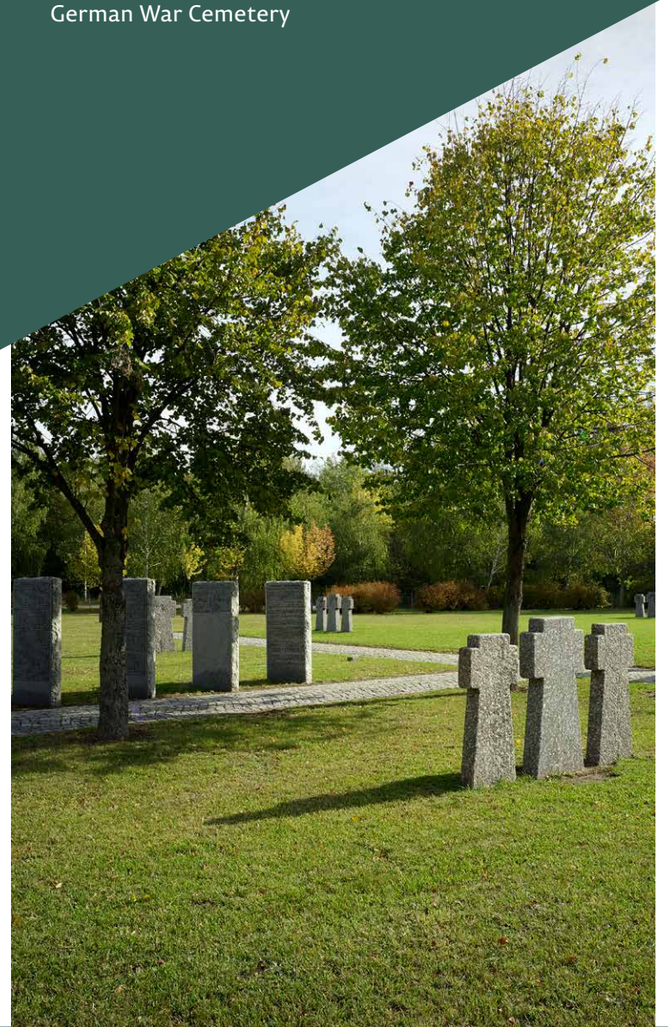
KIEV

German War Cemetery



Casualties from the Second World War are buried in this cemetery

On the 29th of May 1996, Germany and the Ukraine signed a war graves agreement. The regional administration of Kiev made an area of three hectares available for this war cemetery, 20 kilometres outside of the city.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl dedicated the site on the 3rd of September 1996. He said the visit was very moving. "My brother was also killed in the Second World War at the age of 19; a fate that many families in the Ukraine and Germany share."

About 400,000 German soldiers died in the Ukraine during the Second World War. Many of the soldiers, who are laid to rest here, were killed during the encirclement battle of Kiev in 1941, which ended with the German occupation of the city. Soviet troops recaptured Kiev in 1943. Also during this battle thousands of soldiers died and are laid to rest here.

Cemetery

Already in January 1996, the regional administration of Kiev made this area measuring three hectares available to the Volksbund for the cemetery. Since more and more German cemeteries came to light in the Ukraine, the Volksbund had to give up its plan to restore each one of them. Instead those buried there were moved to five large cemeteries, which the Volksbund created. This is one of them.

About 26,000 German soldiers who lost their lives in the north of central Ukraine found their final resting place here. More burials will take place. The fields of graves are marked with symbolic crosses. The names of the war casualties are written on granite steles that are allocated to the respective grave blocks. In September 1996, the German Chancellor Helmut Kohl dedicated the site. During a memorial event in October 2017, the President of the Volksbund, Wolfgang Schneiderhan, emphasised that "the fact that we can do our work here in Kiev cannot be taken for granted".

A **Information point**
B **Exhibition with Book of Names**
C **Reception board**
D **Exhibition board Cemetery**
E **High Cross** – Central site of commemoration
F **Name steles** with the names of the dead in the individual grave blocks
G **Grave blocks Block 1 to 10**

1 **German War Cemetery Kiev**

2 **German Prisoners-of-War Cemetery in Kiev-Syrez**

3 The first monument in the **monument park Babyn Yar** was unveiled in 1976.

4 **National Museum of the History of Ukraine during the Second World War**

5 **Monument to the Unknown Soldier**

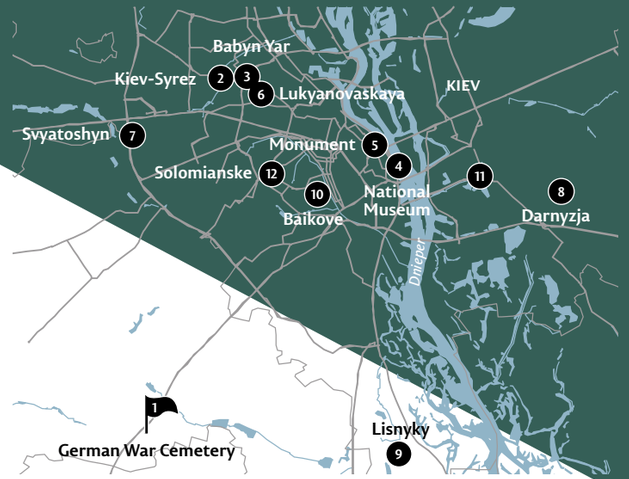
6 **Soviet War Cemetery Lukyanovaskaya** established in 1945. Here Soviet soldiers and officers who died during the battles of Kiev in 1941 and 1943 are laid to rest.

7 **Soviet War Cemetery Svyatoshyn** Here Soviet soldiers who died in action between 1941 and 1943 are laid to rest.

8 **Soviet War Cemetery in the region Darnyzja** Here 1500 soldiers lie in mass graves.

9 **Soviet War Cemetery Cemetery Lisnyky** Here 486 Soviet soldiers are buried in mass graves.

10 **Soviet War Cemetery Baikove** Here hundreds of soldiers and officers who died in action in the Second World War are laid to rest.

11 **Soviet and Polish war graves in the Darnyzja Cemetery**

12 In the **Solomianske Cemetery** 496 Soviet soldiers and officers who died in the battles of Kiev in 1941 and 1943 are laid to rest.