

YOKOHAMA CREMATION MEMORIAL, Japan

Location:

Yokohama Cremation Memorial stands in Yokohama War Cemetery, which is 9 kilometres west of the city on Yuenchi-Dori, Hodogaya Ward, which branches left on the old Tokaido highway. The nearest railway station is Hodogaya 5 kilometres to the north on the JNR line, but the cemetery is easily reached by bus from Yokohama station. The Memorial takes the form of a beautifully designed shrine which houses an urn containing the ashes of 335 soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Commonwealth, the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands who died as prisoners of war in Japan. Their names (save for 51 who were not identified) are inscribed on the walls of the shrine.

Visiting Information:

Yokohama War Cemetery is open 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., including Saturdays, Sundays and all public holidays, all year round.

YOKOHAMA WAR CEMETERY, Japan

Location:

Yokohama War Cemetery is 9 kilometres west of the city on Yuenchi-Dori, Hodogaya Ward, which branches left off the old Tokaido highway. The nearest railway station is Hodogaya, 5 kilometres to the north on the JNR line, but the cemetery is easily reached by bus from Yokohama station. Within the cemetery will be found the Yokohama Memorial and the Yokohama Cremation Memorial. The Yokohama Memorial commemorates 20 members of the Undivided Indian Army and the Royal Indian Air Force who died while serving with the occupation forces in Japan, for whom no burial or cremation information exists. The Yokohama Cremation Memorial commemorates 335 soldiers, sailors and airmen of the British Commonwealth, the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands who died as prisoners of war in Japan. Also within the Cemetery is a Post War Plot, which is reached by going up through the British Section, up the steps to the Indian Section and then following a sloping path to the Post War Plot.

Visiting Information:

The opening times of the cemetery are 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., including

Saturdays, Sundays and all public holidays, all the year round.

Historical Information:

The cemetery was constructed by the Australian War Graves Group. It comprises of four main parts; the United Kingdom section, the Australian section, the Canadian and New Zealand section and the Indian Forces 1939-1945 section. A Cross of Sacrifice stands in each of the first three sections. Instead of a cross, a specially designed monument in the form of a pylon with four faces dominates the plots in the fourth section. This is inscribed on two faces "Indian Forces 1939-1945", with "India" on one side face and "Pakistan" on the other. In a niche on the north wall of this section are commemorated men who died while serving with the occupation forces in Japan, for whom no burial or cremation information exists. Their names are included in the Yokohama Memorial register. In this cemetery stands the Yokohama Cremation Memorial. This is a beautifully designed shrine which houses an urn containing the ashes of 335 soldiers, sailors and airmen of the British Commonwealth, the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands who died as prisoners of war in Japan. Their names (save for 51 who were not identified) are inscribed on the walls of the shrine, and the names of the Commonwealth dead are given in the Yokohama Cremation Memorial register. There are now 1,555 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-1945 war commemorated in this site. 53 of these burials are unidentified. In addition there is 1 Commonwealth burial of the 1914-1918 War. Special memorials are erected to a small number of casualties known to be buried in the cemetery, whose graves could not be precisely located. Each consists of a bronze plaque memorial bearing the name and service particulars of the casualty, with the superscription "Buried near this spot". There are also 171 non-world or post war casualties commemorated within the site. They are to be found in the POST WAR PLOT.

(Information: Courtesy of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)