# Memorial Day Trivia Questions

### **General Trivia Questions**

- 1 What was the original name for Memorial Day?
- 2 Who is credited with starting the holiday?
- 3 The American Civil War resulted in the creation of the country's first what?
- 4 Where is the official birthplace of Memorial Day?
- 5 Why was May 30th chosen as the original day to celebrate Memorial Day?
- 6 In what year did Memorial Day become a legal federal holiday?
- 7 Who started the tradition of wearing red poppies on Memorial Day?
- 8 Which of the following is commonly used to decorate graves on Memorial Day?
- 9 Which state was the first to designate Decoration Day as an official holiday?
- <sup>10</sup> What item is placed on each grave at Arlington Cemetery every year during the National Memorial Day celebration?
- 11 How many soldiers are buried in Arlington National Cemetery?
- 12 What is the most popular activity people participate in on Memorial Day?
- 13 What percentage of people travel by car on Memorial Day weekend?
- 14 What is the top Memorial Day weekend destination?
- 15 Approximately how many Americans barbecue on Memorial Day weekend?

### **True or False Questions**

- 1 Memorial Day is celebrated in ten countries.
- 2 A national moment of remembrance is observed every year on memorial day.
- <sup>3</sup> The first Decoration Day united the country in remembering their dead.
- 4 Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer for Americans.
- 5 Today many Southern states still celebrate those who died in the Civil War on a different day than Memorial Day.
- <sup>6</sup> The first Decoration Day celebrations remembered all soldiers who had lost their lives.



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- 7 Approximately 10,000 people decorated graves at the first Arlington Cemetery ceremony for Decoration Day.
- 8 After World War I, Memorial Day celebrations started to include remembrance of soldiers who died in any war.
- 9 Approximately 10 million U.S. service men and women have lost their lives in combat.
- 10 Nearly 40 million Americans travel at least 50 miles from home on Memorial Day weekend.
- 11 More people barbecue on Memorial Day weekend than any other holiday.
- 12 Over 1,000 active duty service members march in the National Memorial Day parade every year.
- 13 More than 400 people die every year in Memorial Day weekend traffic accidents.
- 14 Most people say Memorial Day weekend is the best holiday for summer travel.
- 15 More than 50 U.S. cities say Memorial Day began in their town.

## Memorial Day Trivia Answer Key 🔇



## **General Trivia Answers**

- 1 Decoration Day
- 2 John Logan
- <sup>3</sup> National Cemeteries
- 4 New York
- 5 No significant battles had taken place on that day
- 6 1971
- 7 Moina Michael
- 8 Wreaths
- 9 New York
- 10 A small American flag
- 11 400,000
- 12 Visiting friends and family
- 13 88%
- 14 Orlando, FL
- 15 75%

## **True or False Answers**

- 1 False, Memorial Day is an American holiday
- 2 True
- 3 False, Northern states adopted Decoration Day before many Southern states
- 4 True
- 5 True
- 6 False, Decoration Day was first intended to commemorate soldiers who died in the Civil War
- 7 False, About 5,000 people attended
- 8 True

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- 9 False, Just over 1.1 million have lost their lives
- 10 True
- 11 False, the Fourth of July is the most popular cookout holiday
- 12 True
- 13 True
- 14 False, Over half of Americans would rather travel on a weekend with no holiday
- 15 False, About 25 cities claim to be the holiday's birthplace