

army basic training graduation dates 2023 fort benning

Army Basic Training Graduation Dates 2023 Fort Benning are significant milestones for new soldiers and their families. Fort Benning, located in Georgia, is one of the United States Army's primary training locations. Known for its rigorous training programs and commitment to developing capable soldiers, Fort Benning hosts Basic Combat Training (BCT) for new recruits. Graduation from BCT marks the transition from civilian life to military service, and understanding the schedule and significance of these dates is essential for recruits and their families. This article explores the graduation schedule for 2023, the training process, and tips for families attending the ceremonies.

Overview of Army Basic Training at Fort Benning

Fort Benning is home to the U.S. Army Infantry School and the Maneuver Center of Excellence. Its basic training program is designed to prepare soldiers for combat and instill the core values of the Army. The training typically lasts about ten weeks and consists of various physical, tactical, and academic instruction.

Structure of Basic Combat Training

The Army Basic Training at Fort Benning consists of three distinct phases:

1. Red Phase (Weeks 1-3):
 - Focuses on basic soldiering skills.
 - Emphasizes physical fitness, military customs, and discipline.
 - Introduction to rifle marksmanship.
2. White Phase (Weeks 4-6):
 - Builds on the skills learned in the Red Phase.
 - Introduces team-building exercises and more advanced combat techniques.
 - Soldiers engage in field training exercises.
3. Blue Phase (Weeks 7-10):
 - Final phase focusing on advanced individual training.
 - Soldiers participate in a culminating exercise, often simulating real combat scenarios.
 - Emphasis on leadership and teamwork.

Graduation Dates for 2023

The graduation dates for Basic Combat Training at Fort Benning are scheduled throughout the year. It is important for recruits and their families to know these dates so they can plan accordingly. Below is a list of graduation dates for 2023:

- January 6, 2023
- January 13, 2023
- January 20, 2023
- January 27, 2023
- February 3, 2023
- February 10, 2023
- February 17, 2023
- February 24, 2023
- March 3, 2023
- March 10, 2023
- March 17, 2023
- March 24, 2023
- March 31, 2023
- April 7, 2023
- April 14, 2023
- April 21, 2023
- April 28, 2023
- May 5, 2023
- May 12, 2023
- May 19, 2023
- May 26, 2023
- June 2, 2023
- June 9, 2023
- June 16, 2023
- June 23, 2023
- June 30, 2023
- July 7, 2023
- July 14, 2023
- July 21, 2023
- July 28, 2023
- August 4, 2023
- August 11, 2023
- August 18, 2023
- August 25, 2023
- September 1, 2023
- September 8, 2023
- September 15, 2023
- September 22, 2023
- September 29, 2023
- October 6, 2023
- October 13, 2023
- October 20, 2023
- October 27, 2023
- November 3, 2023
- November 10, 2023
- November 17, 2023
- November 24, 2023
- December 1, 2023
- December 8, 2023
- December 15, 2023
- December 22, 2023

- December 29, 2023

These dates may vary slightly based on operational needs or other factors, so it is always a good idea for families to confirm with the recruit or the official Army website.

Significance of Graduation

Graduation from Basic Combat Training is a pivotal event in a soldier's life. Here are some key reasons why this day is important:

- **Transition to Military Life:** Graduation signifies the transition from civilian to military life. It marks the end of initial training and the beginning of a soldier's journey in the Army.
- **Recognition of Achievement:** Completing BCT is a significant accomplishment. It requires mental and physical resilience, discipline, and the ability to work as part of a team.
- **Family and Community Support:** Graduation ceremonies are an opportunity for families to witness their loved ones' hard work and dedication. It fosters a sense of community and support among those with military ties.

What to Expect at the Graduation Ceremony

Attending a graduation ceremony at Fort Benning can be an emotional experience for families. Here's what to expect:

1. **Schedule:** The ceremony typically takes place on Fridays, starting in the morning. Families should arrive early to allow time for parking and seating.
2. **Ceremony Activities:** The event usually includes:
 - A formal parade.
 - Speeches from commanding officers.
 - Presentation of awards and recognition for outstanding soldiers.
3. **Post-Ceremony Activities:** After the graduation, families will have the opportunity to spend time with their soldier. Often, this is the first time they can connect since the recruit started training.

Tips for Families Attending Graduation

To ensure a smooth experience during the graduation ceremony, consider the following tips:

- **Check Weather Conditions:** Fort Benning experiences various weather conditions throughout the year. Dress appropriately for the forecast and consider bringing umbrellas or ponchos if rain is expected.
- **Travel and Accommodation:** Plan travel arrangements well in advance. Hotels in the area can fill up

quickly, especially during graduation weekends.

- **Know the Rules:** Familiarize yourself with the base's rules and regulations regarding what is allowed in the ceremony (e.g., bags, cameras).
- **Bring Identification:** All visitors must present valid ID for entry onto the base. Ensure that you have the necessary identification documents.
- **Capture the Moment:** Consider bringing a camera to capture the ceremony, but be respectful of the rules regarding photography during the event.

Conclusion

Army Basic Training Graduation Dates 2023 Fort Benning mark a critical transition period for new Army recruits and their families. With a comprehensive understanding of the training phases, graduation schedules, and what to expect at the ceremonies, families can fully engage in this momentous occasion. Graduation symbolizes not just the end of a challenging journey, but the beginning of a soldier's commitment to serve their country. As families gather to celebrate this achievement, they contribute to the support system that encourages soldiers to excel in their military careers.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Army Basic Training graduation dates for Fort Benning in 2023?

Graduation dates for Army Basic Training at Fort Benning in 2023 vary by cycle, but typically occur every 10 weeks. You can check the official Fort Benning website or contact the reception center for the exact dates.

How can I find the specific graduation date for my recruit at Fort Benning?

You can find the specific graduation date for your recruit by visiting the Fort Benning Family Programs website or by contacting the battalion directly where your recruit is training.

Are there any events during the Army Basic Training graduation at Fort Benning?

Yes, the graduation ceremony typically includes a formal parade, speeches, and a presentation of awards. Families are encouraged to attend and celebrate their recruit's achievements.

What time do graduations usually start at Fort Benning?

Graduation ceremonies at Fort Benning generally start at 10:00 AM, but it's best to check the specific schedule provided by the training battalion.

Can family members attend the Army Basic Training graduation at Fort Benning?

Yes, family members are encouraged to attend the graduation ceremonies at Fort Benning. However, it's important to check for any restrictions or requirements due to health guidelines.

What should I bring to the Army Basic Training graduation at Fort Benning?

Family members should bring valid identification, comfortable clothing, and any items needed for a day out, such as water and snacks. Check for any specific guidelines issued by the base.

What happens after graduation from Army Basic Training at Fort Benning?

After graduation, soldiers will typically proceed to Advanced Individual Training (AIT) to learn their specific military occupational specialty (MOS).

How long is the basic training period at Fort Benning?

The basic training period at Fort Benning usually lasts approximately 10 weeks, followed by AIT for specialized training.

Are there any restrictions on bringing guests to the graduation at Fort Benning?

There may be restrictions on the number of guests due to space limitations or health guidelines, so it's best to confirm with the training battalion in advance.

Where can I find updates or changes to graduation schedules for Fort Benning?

Updates or changes to graduation schedules can be found on the official Fort Benning website or through the social media pages of the installation.

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