



JEFF ROBERSON / AP PHOTO

St. Louis, Mo., hosted a parade to honor Iraq War veterans on Jan. 8, 2012.

## Major Veterans Parades in U.S. History

Only parades occurring in the near aftermath of the war are listed.

### Nov. 25, 1783: **Evacuation Day.**

New York City. Led by Gen. George Washington, the Continental Army triumphantly parades in Lower Manhattan to celebrate the formal end of the war and departure of British troops from New York.

### Jan. 23, 1815: **Jackson's Victory Parade.**

New Orleans. 4,600 veterans of the Battle of New Orleans, led by Gen. Andrew Jackson, receive a hero's welcome.

### Sept. 12, 1815: **Defenders Day.**

Baltimore. Members of Maryland's 5th Regiment parade in the streets to commemorate the defense of their city the year before.

### July 1848: **Mexican War.**

New York City. 1st New York Regiment returns to a large and enthusiastic reception. July 22. Boston. Up to 250 members of the Massachusetts Regiment parade to Faneuil Hall as thousands look on.

### May 23-24, 1865: **Grand Review of the Armies.**

Washington, D.C. See accompanying article.

### Sept. 30, 1899: **Dewey Day Parade.**

New York City. A massive parade of 35,000 participants stretching 7 miles honors Adm. George Dewey and all veterans of the Spanish-American War. This launches the tradition of military parades in the "Canyon of Heroes."

### Sept. 10, 1919: **Victory Parade.**

New York City. 25,000 men of the 1st Infantry Division, representing the American Expeditionary Force, under Gen. John Pershing march on Fifth Avenue. Sept. 17. Washington, D.C. 24,000 Doughboys march down Pennsylvania Avenue.

### Jan. 12, 1946: **WWII Victory Parade.**

Some 13,000 men of the 82nd Airborne Division, representing the

entire U.S. Army, under Gen. James Gavin march up Fifth Avenue. The ticker-tape parade is 4 miles long.

### May 24, 1951: **Cold War.**

New York City. First U.S. troops—8th RCT, 4th Inf. Div.—sent to Europe in support of NATO parade. April 22, 1954: 4th Infantry Division returns from Germany to a rousing welcome in New York.

### Oct. 29, 1951: **Korean War.**

New York City. Wounded receive a ticker-tape parade. April 3, 1953: Veterans returning on a troop transport are honored in New York.

### Nov. 10, 1954: **Korean War.**

Seattle. 2,269 GIs of the 2nd Infantry Division receive a homecoming reception on Second Avenue.

### March 31, 1973: **Home With Honor Day.**

New York City. Led by 1,000 Vietnam servicemen from all services, participants march up Broadway as 150,000 spectators line the 2-mile-long parade route on the day the war ends. Organized by We Supported Our Men in Vietnam, VFW Post 3350 (East Rockaway) plays a prominent part in making it happen.

### June 10, 1991: **Persian Gulf War.**

New York City. 4.7 million spectators reportedly watch as 24,000 troops parade through the "Canyon of Heroes." June 8: Washington, D.C. 800,000 turn out to honor 8,800 troops parading down Pennsylvania Avenue. Gens. Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf serve as grand marshals.

### Jan. 28, 2012: **Iraq War.**

St. Louis. Organized through social media, this spontaneous effort draws 100,000 spectators to cheer on 600 marching veterans. It is the only major public honor to date for Iraq vets.