## **National Mall and Memorial Parks**

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.



**Hains Point** 

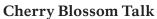


**6** Capital Bikeshare Stations

Bookstores

## **Explore** The Festival With A Ranger

March 19 - April 3



Daily 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial plaza.

### Memorials of the Reflecting Pool

Daily 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm Meet at the Lincoln Memorial plaza. Explore iconic memorials on the National Mall at the most beautiful time of year.

#### Memorials of the Tidal Basin

Daily 12:00 pm, 4:00 pm Meet at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. Explore memorials and cherry blossoms on a guided tour.

### Junior Ranger Program

Complete the activity booklet to earn a Cherry Blossom Festival junior ranger badge. Junior Ranger Booklets are available at the National Park Service Information Tent in the Tidal Basin Welcome Area and at NPS information kiosks throughout the park.

#### Lantern Walk

Fridays and Saturdays 3/19, 3/25, 3/26, 4/1, 4/2 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Meet at the National Park Service Information Tent in the Tidal Basin Welcome Area. Bring your flashlight for an evening stroll.

For updated information about programming during the Cherry Blossom Festival please check our website at www.nps.gov/cherry or Facebook and Twitter @NationalMallNPS.



### **Events**

hosted by our partners:



March 26, 2016 **Opening Ceremony** The Warner Theatre – 513 13th St. NW Free tickets required. 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

<u> April 2, 2016</u> Blossom Kite Festival **Washington Monument Grounds** 10:00 am - 4:30 pm

April 9, 2016 Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival

600-900 Water St., SW 1:00 pm -9:00 pm; Fireworks start at 8:30 pm

April 16, 2016 National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade® Constitution Ave. between 7th and 17th St. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

April 16, 2016 Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival M Street and New Jersey Avenue SE \$10 admission, Children 12 and under free. 10:30 am - 6:00 pm

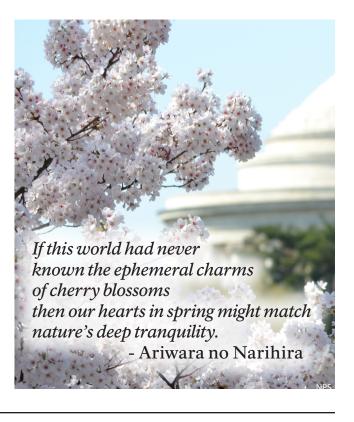
### **Enjoy A Beautiful Tradition**

For over two decades, writer Eliza Scidmore worked to get cherry trees planted on the muddy, reclaimed land that now is home to the Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson Memorials. Scidmore eventually gained support from First Lady Helen Taft, whose influence led to a gift of trees from the people of Tokyo, Japan to the people of Washington, D.C. Taft and Japanese Viscountess Iwa Chinda planted the first cherry trees along the Tidal Basin's north shore in a humble ceremony in 1912.

Since then, cherry trees have been propagated throughout the National Mall and Memorial Parks while trees and other reciprocal gifts have been exchanged between the United States and Japan.

The trees are a beautiful, living symbol of the friendship between our nations, and a gift that all can enjoy. Crowds gather annually to experience the majesty of these cherry trees in bloom, seeking that magical springtime moment when a walk on the park's paths is like a walk in the clouds.

Much of the blossoms' beauty is in our recognition that they must inevitably fall. As much as the blossoms evoke feelings of life, hope, and renewal, their falling on the breeze can remind us of the certainty that all things must end. As other cultures have done for centuries, we can recognize the same feelings of awe, exhilaration, and lament at the cherry blossoms' ephemeral existence.



## We Need Your Help



## Today!

Please help keep the park clean during the Cherry Blossom Festival and visit our volunteer station to pick up your trash and recycling bags. We also need your help to protect the cherry blossom trees, please do not pick blossoms or climb trees.

www.volunteer.gov

# **Step Into Spring!**

### Discover diverse and fascinating trees as you explore the Tidal Basin and beyond!

**Yoshino** (Prunus x yedoensis) The most common cherry tree variety in the park comprises 70% of the total ~3,800 cherry

**Kwanzan** (Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan') Blooms 10-14 days after the Yoshinos. Distinguished by their reddish trunks and showy, pink, double flowers.



Yoshino cherry trees ring the Tidal Basin.

Weeping (Prunus subhirtella var. pendula) Drooping growth pattern.

**Autumn flowering** (Prunus subhirtella 'autumnalis') Can bloom any time of year.

**Akebono** (Prunus x yedoensis 'Akebono') Found near the John Ericsson Memorial and near the Cuban American Friendship Urn.

**Takesimensis** (Prunus takesimensis) Found near Hains Point. More flood tolerant than other cherry varieties.

Sargent (Prunus sargentii) Planted individually throughout East Potomac Park. Distinguished by their deep pink flowers.

Usuzumi (Prunus spachiana f. ascendens) "Ascending" growth type; branches reach upward in a "V" with a flat top.

Fugenzo (Prunus serrulata 'Fugenzo') Distinguished by their double pink flowers.

The Shirofugen, Okame, and First Lady varieties are each represented by a single tree.