

National Cherry Blossom Festival

National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Cherry Trees in National Mall and Memorial Parks



Yoshino

(Prunus x yedoensis)
The most common cherry, comprising 70% of all trees.



Kwanzan

(Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan')
Blooms 10 to 14 days after the Yoshinos. Showy, pink flowers.



Takesimensis Cherry

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



Afterglow

(Prunus x yedoensis 'Afterglow')
An early-bloomer bearing clouds of showy pink flowers.



Autumn Flowering

(Prunus Subhirtella 'Autumnalis')
Blooms throughout the year on Washington Monument grounds.



Weeping

(Prunus Subhirtella 'Pendula')
Drooping growth pattern.



Akebono

(Prunus x yedoensis 'Akebono')
A hybrid of the Yoshino, found near the John Ericsson Memorial.



Sargent

(Prunus sargentii)
Planted individually on East Potomac Park. Deep pink flowers.



Usuzumi

(Prunus spachiana 'Ascendens')
Branches reach upward in a 'V' with a flat top.



Fugenzo

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



Shirofugen

(Prunus serulata 'Shirofugen')
One of the last cherries to bloom. Flowers are large and white.



Okame

(Prunus x 'Okame')
A small, round headed cherry which blooms with bright pink flowers.

Visitor Services

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Parking | First Aid |
| Accessible Parking | Food |
| Water Taxi | Picnic Tables |
| Restrooms | Capital Bikeshare |
| Circulator Bus | Bike Parking |
| Cherry Blossom Festival Shuttle Stop | Ranger-Lead Blossom Talk |
| Information | Performance Stage |
| Gift Shop | Junior Ranger Activities |
| Book Store | |
| Point of Interest | |

Metrorail System

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| METRO CENTER | Red line | Green line |
| Entrance/exit to Metro station | Orange line | Yellow line |
| | Blue line | Silver line |

0 0.25 Kilometer 0.25 Mile



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Enjoy a Beautiful Tradition

Inspired by a visit to Japan in 1885, Eliza Scidmore – writer, editor, and lecturer for the National Geographic Society – worked to get cherry trees planted along the Potomac River. First Lady Helen Taft embraced the idea which led to the gift of over 3,000 trees from Japan to the United States. Japanese Viscountess Iwa Chinda joined First Lady Taft to plant the first cherry trees along the shore of the Tidal Basin in a simple ceremony in 1912.

Explore the Festival with a Park Ranger

Daily Programs March 15 through April 9



Cherry Blossom Talks

Daily: 10 am, 12 pm, 2 pm, 4 pm, 6 pm

Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Plaza

Daily: 11 am, 1 pm, 3 pm, 5 pm

Meet in front of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Bookstore



Junior Bloomin' Ranger

Daily: 10 am to 6 pm (March 15 to April 2)

Complete an activity booklet to earn a Cherry Blossom Festival junior ranger badge. Booklets are available at NPS kiosks throughout the park.

Special Programs



Lantern Walk

Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays

March 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8 (no walk April 9)

8 to 10 pm

Meet at National Park Service Information Tent in the Tidal Basin

Welcome Area. Bring your flashlight for an evening stroll.



Run with a Ranger

Saturdays, March 18, 25, April 1, and 8

9 to 10 am

Meet at the Washington Monument Lodge on 15th Street, NW

Join a ranger on a ~3.5 mile, 1 hr. run to learn about the cherry trees.



Pups 'n' Petals Dog Walk

Saturdays and Sundays

March 18, 19, 25, 26, April 1, 2, and 8 (no walk April 9)

2 to 4 pm

Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial near East Basin Drive

Take your pet for a walk among the cherry trees. Dogs must be leashed.



Cherry Bike Tours

Saturdays March 18, 25, April 1, and 8

1 to 4 pm

Meet at the Lincoln Memorial Plaza

Bring your own bike, helmet and water for a leisurely ride

with Rangers exploring the history of the Cherry Blossoms.



Birds and Blooms

Saturdays March 18, 25, April 1, and 8

7:30 to 9 am

Meet at the World War II Memorial Contact Station

Bring your binoculars to discover the birds of the National Mall.

For a full list of park events see:

nps.gov/nama/planyourvisit/calendar

For more information on the Festival see:

www.nps.gov/cherry

Follow us at @NationalMallNPS



The trees are a living symbol of the friendship between Japan and the United States. Beginning in 1982 and as recently as 2011, cuttings of original trees have been sent to Japan to retain the genetic lineage. Crowds gather to see the majesty of the cherry trees in bloom, enjoying a magical springtime moment when a walk near the trees feels like a walk in the clouds.



NATIONAL Cherry Blossom FESTIVAL EVENTS

OPENING CEREMONY

March 25, 2017, 5 to 6:30 pm

Warner Theatre, 513 13th Street, NW

BLOSSOM KITE FESTIVAL

April 1, 2017, 10 am – 4:30 pm

Washington Monument Grounds near 17th Street, NW and Constitution Avenue

NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL PARADE

April 8, 2017, 10 am to Noon

Constitution Avenue – From 7th to 17th streets, NW

SAKURA MATSURI JAPANESE STREET FESTIVAL

April 8, 2017, 10:30 am to 6 pm

Pennsylvania Ave, NW (between 9th and 14th Streets)

ANACOSTIA RIVER FESTIVAL

April 9th, 2017, 1 to 5 pm

Anacostia Park, Anacostia Drive & Good Hope Road, SE

SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT FIREWORKS FESTIVAL

April 15, 2017

2 – 9:30 pm, District Wharf – 600-650 Water Street, SW

6 – 9 pm, Titanic Memorial, Southwest Waterfront Park

Fireworks display 8:30 pm (weather permitting)

Meet Paddles

Beavers cut down trees to build their homes. 'Paddles' does too but he never cuts down trees or damages things in national parks. He knows that parks are special places. He respects the rules so that everyone can enjoy the beauty and history of parks for years to come.

At the Cherry Blossom Festival Paddles wants you to know that climbing on the trees, picking blossoms, and walking on the roots hurts trees. Please resist temptation like Paddles and keep our trees healthy!



'Paddles'

Stages of the Cherry Blossom

Florets Visible

Peduncle Elongation

Puffy White

Full Bloom