CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Randall's Island Park Alliance

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Cherry Blossom Map
Fun Facts

🌟 Picnicking beneath cherry blossom trees is a Japanese tradition.

🌟 Neither D.C. nor Japan hold the title of “Cherry Blossom Capital of the World.” Rather, it’s Macon, Georgia, which is home to 300,000-plus Yoshino cherry blossom trees. While these trees obviously are not native to the South, William A. Fickling Sr., a local realtor, discovered one in his own backyard in 1949. On a business trip to Washington, D.C., he learned more about cherry blossoms and sought to bring more to his hometown.

🌟 There are 200 different varieties of cherry blossom. In Japan, the most popular variety is “Somei Yoshino.” In the U.S., mainly Yoshino hybrids line the Tidal Basin, National Mall, and Potomac waterfront.

🌟 Cherry blossom is known as “sakura” in Japanese, and it’s the country’s national flower.

🌟 The Jindaizakura (“divine generations cherry tree”), can be seen at Jisso temple in Yamagashi prefecture, and is over 2,000 years old! It’s the oldest cherry tree in Japan. They say it was planted by the legendary prince Yamato Takeru (72-114) of the Yamato dynasty. It has two cousins: the Miharu Takizaku, over 1,000 years old (in Fukushima Prefecture) and the Usuzumizakura 1,500 years old (in Gifu Prefecture). Miharu Cherry can find near field 62 at Randall’s Island Park.

🌟 All sakura otaku (fans of cherry blossoms) will tell you that there is a specific number of stages of flowering cherry trees. There are 11 steps, in this order: budding, swelling bud, blooming, flowering 10%, 30%, 50% and 70%, full bloom, decline, petal fall, and late flowering.

🌟 Zero! The number of fruits that ornamental Japanese cherry trees produce. Some hybrids or wild varieties produce fruit, but they are not consumed.

🌟 Each tree may only bloom for up to a week.

🌟 The flower petals are edible, making pickles for tea or adding an ice cream flavor.

🌟 3,020 cherry trees arrived to US from Japan as a gift of friendship. They were planted in Washington DC.

🌟 Cherry blossoms are said to be native to the himalayas.

🌟 Cherry blossoms aren’t always pink. Sometimes they are white, yellow, or even green.

🌟 The very first cherry trees to blossom usually do so at the same time that the daffodils bloom. Look for Prunus x incamp ‘Okame’ Okame Cherry near the field 60, Hell Gate Circle at Randall’s Island Park.
Cherry Blossom Guide

Early Season

Okame Cherry
*Prunus x incamp* ‘Okame’

Location at Randall’s Island
Hell Gate Circle, Field 60

Higan Cherry
*Prunus subhirtella*

Location at Randall’s Island
Harlem River Event Area (south)
Water’s Edge Garden (north)

Mid

Cherry Plum
*Prunus cerasifera*

Location at Randall’s Island
Hell Gate Circle (south)
Central Road, Field 16 & 20

Yoshino Cherry
*Prunus x yedoensis*

Location at Randall’s Island
Sunken Meadow Loop
Bornx Field Shore
Cherry Blossom Guide

Season

Sargent’s Cherry  
Prunus sargentii

Location at Randall’s Island
Ward’s Meadow Loop (east)  
Bronx Shore Road

Weeping Higan Cherry  
Prunus pendula

Location at Randall’s Island
Ferry Dock
Wards Meadow, Fields 70, 74 & 75

Late Season

Kanzan Cherry  
Prunus ‘Kanzan’

Location at Randall’s Island
Ward’s Meadow Loop (east)
Central Road (north)  
Urban Farm
East River Lane

Miharu Cherry  
Prunus p. ‘Pendula Rosea’

Location at Randall’s Island
Field 62
DIRECTIONS: There are 12 words hidden in the word search. See if you can find all the words in the list below.

**Word List:**
- BEE
- BLOOM
- CHERRY BLOSSOM
- FLOWER
- HAIKU
- JAPAN
- KIMONO
- PETAL
- PINK
- SAKURA
- SPRING
- TEA

**FUN FACTS**
3 words on the list are in Japanese

- Haiku: A short form of Japanese poetry
- Kimono: A traditional Japanese garment
- Sakura: Cherry blossom
**Matching Game**

**DIRECTIONS:** There are hundreds of ways to say “Cherry blossom” around the world. Match the language on the left to its word for Cherry blossom on the right.

| 1. English | □□ (Yīnghuā) |
| 2. Spanish | ❱❱ ❱❱ (Cērī khilanā) |
| 3. Italian | 볽꽃 (beojkkoch) |
| 4. French | اروکاس |
| 5. Chinese | 웅보다� 토호.retry |
| 6. Japanese | Caకъypa |
| 7. Korean | サクラ (Sakura) |
| 8. Russian | Fleur de cerisier |
| 9. German | Kirschblüte |
| 10. Hebrew | Flor de cerezo |
| 11. Hindi | Fiore di ciliegio |
| 12. Arabic | Cherry maua |
| 13. Swahili | Cherry Blossom |

Cherry Blossom Crossword Puzzle

DIRECTIONS: Using the across and down clues, fill in the puzzle with the correct words.

Across
5. In Japanese culture, the cherry blossom tree represents new ________
8. Place where people grow food
11. Season cherry blossoms bloom in
12. Hot drink made from cherry blossoms
13. Mountains where cherry blossoms originated

Down
1. Type of cherry tree that makes you cry?
2. Insect that pollinates cherry blossoms
3. Former name of the bridge connecting Manhattan, Queens, and the Bronx to Randall’s Island
4. Typical color for cherry blossom flowers
6. Do cherry blossom trees produce edible cherries?
7. Japanese name for cherry blossoms
9. Part of cherry blossom tree traditionally used to make dye in Japan
10. Typical color of cherry blossom bark
11. Mineral used to preserve cherry blossoms for cooking

Answers:
Color Your Cherry Tree

BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

CHERRY TREE
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THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED, IN PART, BY PUBLIC FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY COUNCIL.