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# Spring **BLOSSOMS HERE!**

## 2019 NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL AT-A-GLANCE

- Eat, drink, and be cherry at the [Pink Tie Party](#) presented by ANA on Friday, March 22 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. Partygoers will get a taste of DC's thriving culinary scene with more than 15 restaurants and an open bar, plus thrilling performances, a DJ, and splashy pink fashions signaling the start of spring.
- "Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon" The Super Live, a musical adaptation of the widely popular Japanese manga, makes its **North American debut** at the sold-out [Opening Ceremony](#) on Saturday, March 23. The ceremony celebrates the long-standing friendship between Tokyo and Washington, DC and the 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the gift of trees.
- The [National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade](#)<sup>®</sup>, presented by Events DC, steps off on April 13, from 10 a.m.-noon. Led by Grand Marshal **Anthony Anderson, star of ABC's *black-ish***, the Parade features all-star celebrity talent, giant helium balloons, elaborate floats, and more in a grand springtime spectacle of pink pageantry and fanfare seen only once year down iconic Constitution Avenue.
- [Petalpalooza](#)<sup>®</sup> presented by CHASE at The Wharf will bring a full day of art, music, and play to DC's newest waterfront destination on April 6. White Ford Bronco and Broke Royals are among the 12 acts performing across three outdoor stages, in addition to a beer garden, interactive art installations, larger-than-life games and activities, and a spectacular fireworks finale at 8:30 p.m. along the piers of the Southwest Waterfront.
- **Soar into spring!** High flying fun returns to the National Mall during the [Blossom Kite Festival](#) presented by Otsuka on Saturday, March 30. Among the activities are competitions and demonstrations by expert kite-flyers, a bubble zone, a kid's music stage, a kite-making "build-off", crafts, and more.
- **All aboard the "M-Train!"** Pop songstress **Meghan Trainor** headlines [Blossom Bash](#) presented by HOT 99.5 and WASH-FM at The Anthem on April 5. Opening acts include singer/songwriter MAX, and pop-rapper Jake Miller.
- The **Washington Nationals take on the Phillies** on April 3 at Blossoms and Baseball for a specially-themed game that can only happen when two of DC's favorite springtime traditions join forces for a petal-packed, pink takeover of Nats Park.
- Following the Parade, the annual [Sakura Matsuri--Japanese Street Festival](#) – the largest one day celebration of Japanese culture in the United States – **returns to the streets of downtown DC** along Pennsylvania Avenue, presenting more than 80 cultural groups, arts vendors, and food booths.

(more)

- Discover an unforgettable secret garden at the National Cherry Blossom Festival's [Cherry Blast at MGM National Harbor](#) on March 30, with Japanese cultural performances, dueling DJs, art, an open bar, plus plenty of Instagram-worthy experiences that blossom lovers won't want to miss.
- **Perks for pets:** For the second year, the Festival is partnering with MARS Petcare and its Better Cities for Pets™ program to help the Festival become pet friendly and to ensure dogs attending are healthy, happy, and safe. Dog amenities will be featured at select events to make sure that our furry friends have the right necessities while on-the-go.
- The **Cherry Blossom Pop-Up Bar** has returned to DC! The Festival has partnered with the creative minds of the Drink Company to give attendees access to [avoid the line](#) and support the Festival with a guaranteed timed entry into the bar on March 20 - the first day of spring!
- **Get festive with the family** at the [SAAM Cherry Blossom Celebration](#) on March 23 in the Smithsonian American Art Museums' Kogod Courtyard with Japanese cultural performances, face painting, cherry blossom themed crafts, a scavenger hunt, and more.
- **Sounds and Sights of the Festival:** Among the blossoms, the [Tidal Basin Welcome Area and ANA Performance Stage](#) has **over 100 free cultural performances**, including the Washington Ballet (4/14), kabuki style Japanese dance, an award-winning gospel choir, rock, reggae, and more.
- Explore communities east of the river at the sixth annual [Anacostia River Festival](#) on April 14. This official closing event of the 2019 National Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates the **100th Anniversary of Anacostia Park** and the Year of the Anacostia with boating, fishing workshops, hands-on art projects, musical performances, bike parades, and more.
- The Festival has once again partnered with Old Ox Brewery to produce a limited-edition **National Cherry Blossom FestivALE**, a farmhouse cherry saison ale featuring Montmorency cherry juice and hibiscus blossoms. The beer is available at most major grocers in the DC area including Harris Teeter, Safeway, and Whole Foods. *Kanpai* (cheers) to that!

### **About the National Cherry Blossom Festival**

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2019 Festival, March 20 – April 14, includes four weeks of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Visit [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) or call 877.44.BLOOM for more information, or check out [Facebook](#) (CherryBlossomFestival), [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest).

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