

NATIONAL Cherry Blossom FESTIVAL

Getting to the Cherry Blossoms 2026

The National Cherry Blossom Festival invites you to celebrate cherry blossom season in the District. "Find your Bloom" and embrace the blossom magic by leaving your car behind and trying transit to get to festival events.

TRANSIT OPTIONS



METRORAIL

Rides start at \$2.25. Pay with a SmarTrip® card, mobile wallet, or credit/debit card.

wmata.com/rail



CAPITAL BIKESHARE

Check out a bike and return it to any station. A single trip up to 45 minutes starts at \$1.

capitalbikeshare.com



METROBUS

Buses run on a schedule and rides cost \$2.25. Pay with a SmarTrip® card, mobile wallet, or credit/debit card.

wmata.com/bus



MICROMOBILITY

Scoters and dockless bikes are available; prices vary by provider.

goDCgo.com/scooter



TRIP PLANNING TOOLS



Citymapper
iOS
Android



Google Maps
iOS
Android



Metro Pulse
iOS
Android



Transit App
iOS
Android



BLOOMFEST AT THE TIDAL BASIN

Date(s): During Peak Bloom
Time: 10am - 6pm (Welcome Area)
Time: 12pm - 6pm (ANA Stage)
Location: South Lawn of the Jefferson Memorial

Live performances among the blossoms at the Tidal Basin celebrate the longstanding friendship between the US and Japan with a dynamic, cross-cultural mix of American, Japanese, and other performing arts. The Welcome Area will feature resources, Ranger Talks, activities, refreshments, and more!

- Smithsonian ●●●●
- 17th St & Independence Ave SW
Lincoln Memorial
Ohio Dr & West Basin Dr SW / MLK & FDR Memorials
Jefferson Dr & 14th St SW
- D50, A29, F19



OPENING CEREMONY

Date: March 21
Time: 5pm - 6:30pm
Location: DAR Constitution Hall

Co-presented with The Japan Foundation, the Opening Ceremony celebrates the Festival's roots and the gift of trees showcasing Japanese performing arts and culture. This one-time-only performance featuring world-renowned artists is a celebration of the friendship between the US and Japan. Featured performances include sword dances by Futago Onikenbai and pop award-winning singer Ayaka Hirahara.

- Farragut West ●●●●
Federal Triangle ●●●●
- 18th & C St NW
19th St & Constitution Ave
Virginia Ave & C St NW
- A49, F19, D96, D74, D82



BLOSSOM KITE FESTIVAL

Date: March 28
Time: 10am - 4pm
Location: Washington Monument (north side between 15th & 17th St NW)

Bring on the kite flying fun with activities, music, competitions, and performances. Kite enthusiasts, beginners, families, and friends are all welcome – bring your own kite, or children can make a kite to fly at an activity station (while supplies last).

- Federal Triangle, Smithsonian ●●●●
- 15th St & Constitution Ave NW
17th St & Independence Ave SW
Jefferson Dr & 14th St SW
- A29, F19, D50, A49, D96



OXON RUN PINKNIC & KITE FLY

Date: March 29
Time: 12pm-3pm
Location: Oxon Run Park

This event is a free, family-friendly spring celebration featuring colorful kite flying, live entertainment, food vendors, and activities for all ages. Located in Ward 8, visitors and residents are encouraged to attend and celebrate the joy of spring.

- Congress Heights ●
- Valley Ave & Wheeler Rd SE
- C29 C27 C13 C21, C15, P93, P94, P97



PETALPALOOZA®

Date: April 4
Time: 1pm - 9pm
Fireworks: 8:30pm
Location: The Yards Park - Navy Yard Metro (Dept of Transportation Exit)

This free festival takes over the Capitol Riverfront with art, music, and more, culminating in dazzling fireworks over the Anacostia River as the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge is lit up in pink.

- Navy Yard-Ballpark ●
- 3rd & Tingley St SE
1st & Potomac Ave SE
1st & N St SE
- C11, C55, C31, C53
- 3rd, 4th, 5th, & Water Street SE will be closed



JAPANESE STONE LANTERN LIGHTING CEREMONY

Date: April 5
Time: TBD
Location: Japanese Lantern (Independence Ave SW at the West End of Kutz Bridge)

Join the National Conference of State Societies and National Park Services for a traditional lighting of the Hapense Stone Lantern located against the cherry blossom trees. This ceremony will feature remarks from US officials and Japanese diplomats, traditional songs, and music

- Smithsonian ●●●●
- 17th St & Independence Ave SW
Lincoln Memorial
Ohio Dr & West Basin Dr SW / MLK & FDR Memorials
Jefferson Dr & 14th St SW
- D50, A29, F19



NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL PARADE®

Date: April 11
Time: 11am-1:30pm
Location: Constitution Avenue NW between 7th & 17th St NW

This energy-filled celebration brings colorful balloons, elaborate floats, marching bands, celebrities, and performers, like musical group Quad City DJ's and Grammy-nominated Kathy Sledge. Experience the parade through free standing room access or paid, reserved grandstand seating from \$25-40.

- Archives-Navy Memorial-Penn Quarter ●●●●
- Federal Triangle ●●●●
- Metro Center ●●●●
- 10th St & Constitution Ave NW
15th St & Constitution Ave NW
- 32, 36, 59, 63, 64, 70, 74, 79, P6, D6, S2

Visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org for road closures.



CREDIT UNION CHERRY BLOSSOM 10 MILE

Date: April 12
Time: 7:18am - Elite Women's Start
7:30am - 10 Mile Start
Location: Washington Monument Grounds

The Cherry Blossom 10 Miler is an annual race established in 1973 that takes runners on a scenic journey through historic landmarks in the District. Set against the backdrop of peak cherry blossom bloom, this race offers a unique, breathtaking view for runners. The two-day race event features a kids run, 5K, and 10K race.

Washington Monument:

- Federal Triangle, Smithsonian ●●●●
- Jefferson Dr & 14th St SW
Smithsonian-National Mall/Jefferson Dr & 12th St SW
15th St & Constitution Ave NW
17th St & Independence Ave SW
- A29, F19, D50, A49, D96

Visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org for road closures.

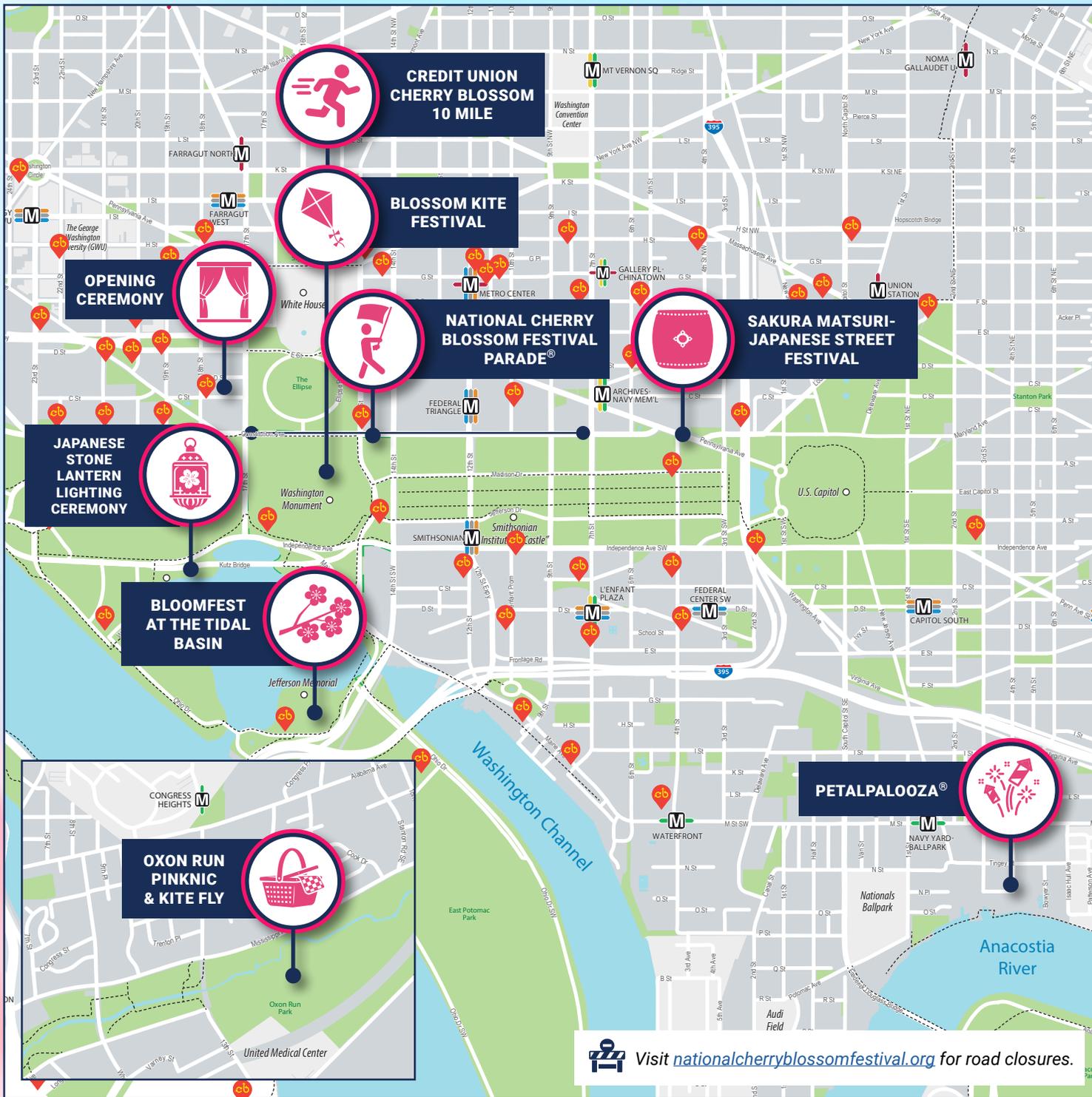


SAKURA MATSURI - JAPANESE STREET FESTIVAL

Date: April 12 & 13
Time: TBD
Location: Pennsylvania Ave NW between 3rd & 7th St NW

The Sakura Matsuri - Japanese Street Festival is the largest celebration of Japanese culture in the United States. Celebrating its 63rd year, this festival features 24 hours of Japanese cultural performances, exhibitors and food.

- Archives-Navy Memorial-Penn Quarter ●●●●
- Consitution Ave & 2nd St NW/DOL
4th St & Madison St NW
6th St & Indiana Ave NW
17th St & Independence Ave SW
- 32, 36, 70, 74, 79, A6, D6, P6, S2, X8



EVENT LOCATIONS

-  Oxon Run Pinknic & Kite Fly
-  Opening Ceremony
-  BloomFest at the Tidal Basin
-  Blossom Kite Festival
-  Petalpalooza®
-  Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile
-  National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade®
-  Sakura Matsuri - Japanese Street Festival
-  Japanese Stone Lantern Lighting Ceremony

TRANSPORTATION

 Capital Bikeshare
  Metrorail
  Bike Route

*Scooters and dockless bikes are available throughout the District



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