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Places to Visit for the Best Cherry Blossoms

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Updated: Sep 30, 2015 07:01 AM EDT

Tags

cherry blossoms, cherry trees, sakura, where to go, best cherry blossoms, full bloom, white cherry blossoms, pink cherry blossoms, purple cherry blossoms, Canada, south korea, new york, cherry blossom festival



New York, UNITED STATES. People gather near cherry trees in full blossom in Central Park in New York April 20, 2014. (Photo : REUTERS/Carlo Allegri)



Plan your next escapade and witness the cherry blossoms festival somewhere other than in Japan. Many of us have come to believe that cherry blossoms are only seen in Japan. However, this is not true at all. There are still several places around the world where you can visit and marvel at the beauty of the blooming cherry blossoms. Check out the following places for more unexpected locations in the world where you can find cherry blossoms.

Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival, Vancouver, Canada

The sakura - or known as the cherry tree - has its own festival in Vancouver City. It is amazing to note that the entire city gets all busy at this time of the year in preparation for their sakura event. If you want to get the best of this festival, you can visit their site and check out the map on where the blooms are concentrated. Plus, you will be in for more surprises other than just seeing and witnessing the cherry blossoms display its beauty. The event happens every April.

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Jinhae Cherry Blossom Festival, Jinhae, South Korea

In South Korea, they hold their largest cherry blossom festival in honor of naval hero Admiral Yi Sun-shin. He is famous for holding back the

Japanese invasion of the peninsula over 400 years ago.

What makes this event even greater is that more than 220,000 cherry trees display their glory with white blooms, giving the town an ethereal ambience especially during the peak blossom period.

If you want to get the best views, you can go to Anmin Road where a 3.5-mile tunnel of cherry trees are located. You can do your pseudo-bridal walk here or just an emotional walk. Here, you can also make your way to Jehwangsang Park where you can ascend the 365 steps of the Inyeon Gyedan (or One Year Stairway) where another batch of cherry blossoms awaits. Like the rest of the cherry blossom festivals, this happens also every April.

Sakura Matsuri, Brooklyn, New York

During hanami - or known as the cherry blossom season - Brooklyn also gets all busy and cramming in preparation for their Brooklyn conservatory's celebration of hanami. At this period of time, people get to witness the Cherry Esplanade. It is a long pathway, or, say, walkway, that is filled with colorful cherry trees bearing flowers in different shades, such as pink, purple and white. This is also a month-long event that happens every April.

So, plan your next trip to anywhere of these three places and experience your very own cherry blossom festival that is not in Japan.