




Events

9 Things To Do at the Vancouver CHERRY BLOSSOM Festival

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The annual Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival has once again blossomed upon us. The festival celebrates the iconic Cherry Blossom and looks to renew Vancouver's cherry tree heritage. The arts & cultural festivities kicked off with the Cherry Jam Downtown Concert and Sakura Night Gala. Here's 9 more things you can do at the 2017 Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival:

9 [Sakura Days Japan Fair](#)

April 8-9, 2017

VanDusen Botanical Garden

The two-day Japanese cherry blossom fair celebrates culture through art, cuisine and more. So taste some sake, read some haiku, go on a guided tree talk walk and enjoy the Lantern Parade. VanDusen members receive a reduced rate for the fair.



Photo/Sakura Days

8 [Haiku Invitational](#)

Until June 1, 2017

The theme for this year's online Haiku Invitational is "freedom" to coincide with Canada's 150th birthday. Top cherry blossom haiku poems will be published.



Photo/VCBF

7 [Spring Lights Illumination](#)

Date TBA

Queen Elizabeth Park

FREE

A free evening of illumination and inter-arts performances and displays features local artists in different mediums. There's also lantern making workshops plus cocktails and canapes for order.



Photo/Evan Chen Photography

6 [The Big Picnic](#)

Date PENDING BLOOM

Queen Elizabeth Park

Pre-order your very own cherry blossom (including one vegetarian and gluten free) and cocktail for your picnic experience under the cherry blossom canopy. There's also bollywood dancing, urban sketchers and more.

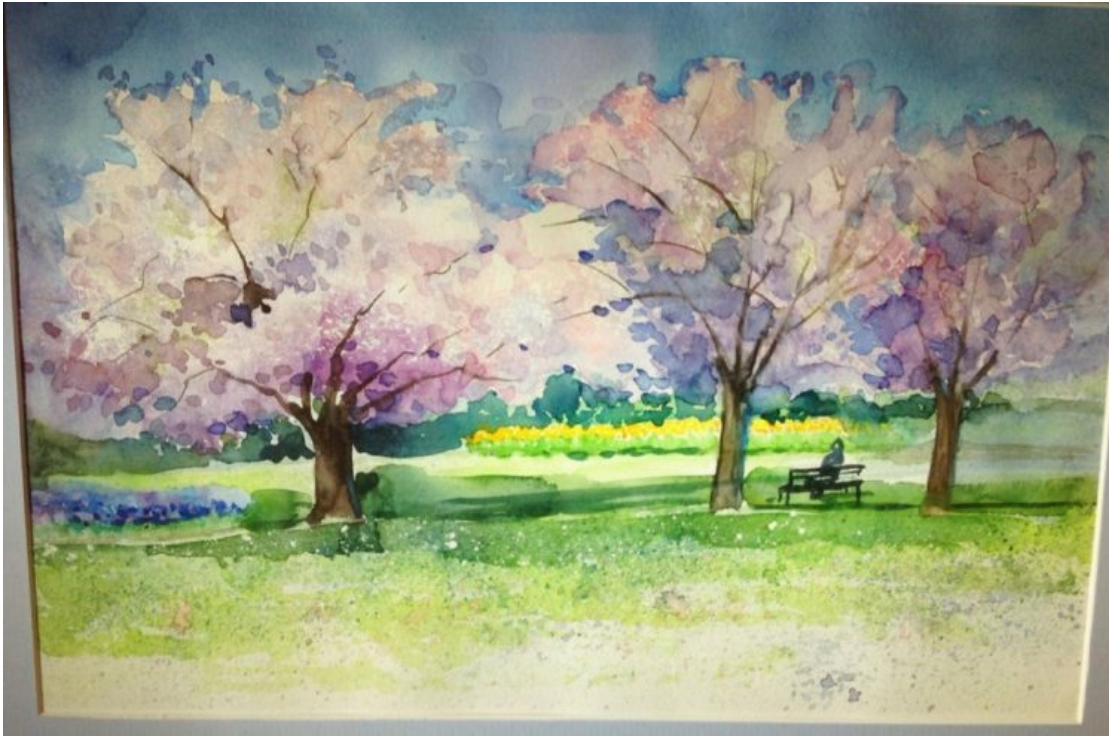


Photo/Lobo Photography

5 [Tree Talks & Walks](#)

Vancouver Parks & Green Spaces

Cherry Blossom Viewing is a real thing. You can talk, or walk, or talk & walk. You can show up to any of the planned workshops (registration required for evening ones) which include locations like VanDusen Botanical Garden, UBC, West End, Coal Harbour, Queen Elizabeth Park and Stanley Park.



Painting by Anne Carten

4 [Plein Air Exhibition](#)

April 6-23, 2017

VanDusen Botanical Garden

A number of local plein air artists will be working in studio and at blossom locations which you can observe in person or live on Facebook. In addition to the artist exhibition there's also an informal 'plein air paint out and picnic' scheduled for April 20th, anywhere at the Garden – all skill levels welcome, just bring your own materials.



Photo Credit/Joseph Lin

3 [BC Blossom Photo Watch Contest](#)

Until April 23, 2017

But first, let me take a #selfie. Capture your own blossom and share it on Instagram with #vancherryblossomfest to be featured on the official @cherryblossomfestyvr feed.



Photo/VCBF

2 [Bike The Blossoms](#)

Date TBA

South side of John Hendry Park (Trout Lake)

FREE

Once the date is announced, show up with your signed waiver and bike with fellow blossom lovers along the official Vancouver Cherry Blossom route.



Photo/VCBF

1 [Blossom Workshops](#)

Various locations and dates

It's time to get hands-on. There's something for everyone at these workshops: Haiku Koinobori Scale Painting, Spring Lights Lanterns and How to Haiku.



Photo/VCBF

By Amar Mirchandani [@amarmirch](#)

Amar enjoys writing for online publications and working with film festivals. He also likes his beer chilled and ranch sauce with pizza.

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