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Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival 2013

March 21st, 2013 @ 4:10pm (PT) by Rebecca Bollwitt

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Fragrant pink blossoms are appearing on branches around the city which can only mean one thing: The [Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival](#) is almost here. From poetry and bike rides to painting and dance, the festival has ways for everyone to celebrate the blossoms and the new season.



Photo credit: rocketcandy on Flickr



Photo credit: cahadkin & lavbovvr on Flickr

World Umbrella Dance

Rehearsals are underway for the [World Umbrella Dance](#) that will take place in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery on April 13th. RSVP online to participate and book your umbrella for the dance.

Cherry Jam Downtown

Burrard SkyTrain Station (and what will become [Art Phillips Park](#)) will set the backdrop for the [Cherry Jam Downtown](#) on Thursday, April 4, 2013. Watch Chef Tojo do culinary demonstrations and be sure to pre-order your [SakuraB Bento Boxes](#), which you can enjoy during the afternoon concert series.

Plein Air Blossom Painting

Capture the beauty of the season with [Plein Air Blossom Painting](#) at VanDusen Botanical Garden every Saturday from 11:00am to 2:00pm between April 6th and April 27th.

Tree Talks and Walks

Tie up those laces (or slip on those flip-flops) and join one of these [Tree Talks and Walks](#):

Cherry & heritage walk in Mandarin in Coal Harbour
Tuesday, April 4th, 2013 from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Tree Talks and Walks VanDusen Botanical Garden
Saturday, April 6th, 2013 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm
and Sunday, April 7th, 2013 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm

Tree Talks and Walks Oppenheimer Park
Sunday, April 7th, 2013 from 10:00am to 11:30am

Tree Talk (not a walk) Blossom Biology Workshop
Thursday, April 11th, 2013 from 7:30pm to 9:00pm

Tree Talks and Walks UBC
Saturday, April 13th, 2013 from 10:00am to 11:30am

Tree Talks and Walks Stanley Park
Saturday, April 13th, 2013 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Tree Talks and Walks Queen Elizabeth Park
Sunday, April 14th, 2013 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm

Tree Talks and Walks in the West End and Downtown
Saturday, April 27th, 2013 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Bike the Blossoms

In partnership with Velopalooza, you can [Bike the Blossoms](#). This free, guided bike ride will take place Saturday, April 27th, 2013 from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Sakura Days Japan Fair

The [Sakura Days Japan Fair](#) will take place Saturday, April 6, 2013 and Sunday, April 7, 2013 from 10:00am to 5:00pm at VanDusen Botanical Garden. This fun two-day Japanese festival will celebrate cultural arts and traditions with activities like an authentic Japanese tea ceremony, festival food, ikebana (flower arranging), premium sake tastings, martial arts demos, a kids' tent, guided tree talks and walks with Anne Eng, and Haiku Invitational readings.

Haiku Invitational

Allow the blossoms to inspire your poetic side and submit your entries for the [Haiku Invitational](#) by Monday, June 3rd, 2013.



Photo credit: Wynonna on Flickr

If you would like to enjoy the blossoms at your own pace you can find out [what's blooming now](#) and use this [map of the blossoms](#) around Vancouver to create your own tours.

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- [Enter here](#) to win tickets to see Jillian Michaels in Vancouver (until March 25)
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