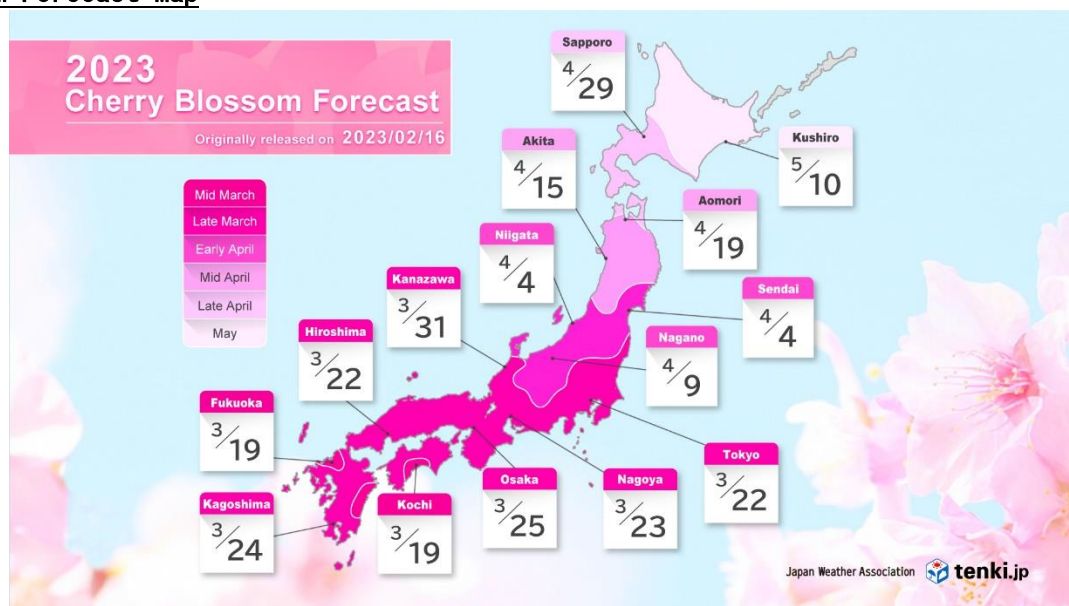


2023 Cherry Blossom Forecast (Part 1): Cherry blossoms to bloom first in Fukuoka and Kochi on March 19th

On Thursday, February 16th, 2023, Japan Weather Association (JWA) announced the forecast of the dates when cherry blossoms will bloom at 49 locations throughout Japan.

Blossom Forecast Map



Forecasted Blossom Date (Main Locations)

Prefecture	City	Forecasted Bloom Date	Trend of Forecasted Bloom Date
Kagoshima	Kagoshima	March 24 th	Nearly Normal
Fukuoka	Fukuoka	March 19 th	Early
Kochi	Kochi	March 19 th	Early
Hiroshima	Hiroshima	March 22 nd	Early
Osaka	Osaka	March 25 th	Nearly Normal
Aichi	Nagoya	March 23 rd	Nearly Normal
Tokyo	Chiyoda-Ku	March 22 nd	Nearly Normal
Nagano	Nagano	April 9 th	Nearly Normal
Niigata	Niigata	April 4 th	Early
Ishikawa	Kanazawa	March 31 st	Early
Miyagi	Sendai	April 4 th	Early
Akita	Akita	April 15 th	Nearly Normal
Aomori	Aomori	April 19 th	Early
Hokkaido	Sapporo	April 29 th	Nearly Normal
	Kushiro	May 10 th	Early

[Explanation of Terms]

Normal : The average for 1991–2020

Fairly early : At least 7 days earlier than normal

Early : 3 to 6 days earlier than normal

Nearly Normal : Within 2 days of normal

Late : 3 to 6 days later than normal

Fairly late : At least 7 days later than normal



Blossom Trends

Blossom trends in 2023 is likely to be nationwide nearly normal or partly earlier than average.

The blossoms will likely occur in Fukuoka and Kochi on March 19th. The blossoms are expected on 20th in Miyazaki, and on 21st in Kumamoto, and 22nd in Tokyo, Wakayama, Hiroshima, and Oita. By the end of March, we will see the cherry blossoms in a wide area from Kyushu to Kanto. The cherry blossom front will cross Hokuriku, Nagano, and the southern part of Tohoku in early April, the northern part of Tohoku in mid-April, and will reach Hokkaido in late April. The blossoms will occur in Hakodate on April 26th.

This winter, strong cold air flowed in frequently across the country, and the temperature of December was lower than normal years nationwide.

Although temperatures in January were generally normal, an extremely strong cold wave hit in late January, resulting in record-breaking cold temperatures, with the lowest temperature ever recorded at observation sites across the country. As a result, the dormancy breaking* of cherry blossom buds went smoothly.

*Dormancy breaking: a phenomenon in which the dormant flower buds that were formed in the summer of the previous year come out of dormancy in winter when exposed to low temperatures for a certain period of time.

JWA's Cherry Blossom Forecast

For more detailed information about JWA's, please find the link below:

<https://www.jwa.or.jp/english/service/seasonal-news-cherry-blossom-forecast/>

Cherry Blossom Forecast Information in tenki.jp

The forecasted blossom dates for cherry trees in all 49 locations are available on the cherry blossom forecast page (<https://tenki.jp/sakura/expectation/>) of "tenki.jp," the weather forecast media operated by JWA (Japanese only).

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