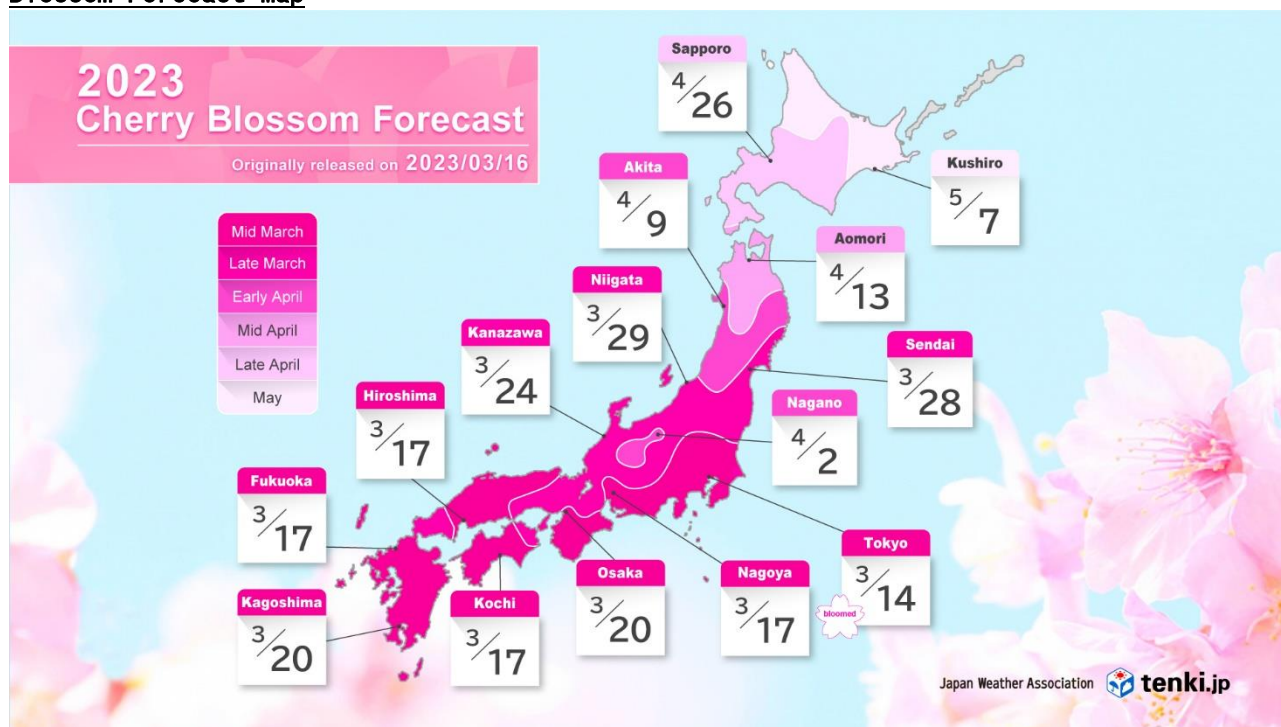


2023 Cherry Blossom Forecast (Part 3) : Rush of Blooms in This Weekend.

On Thursday, March 16th, 2023, Japan Weather Association (JWA) announced the forecast of the dates when cherry blossoms will bloom at 84 locations throughout Japan.

Blossom Forecast Map



Forecasted Blossom Date (Main Locations)

Prefecture	City	Forecasted Bloom Date	Trend of Forecasted Bloom Date
Kagoshima	Kagoshima	March 20 th	Early
Fukuoka	Fukuoka	March 17 th	Early
Kochi	Kochi	March 17 th	Early
Hiroshima	Hiroshima	March 17 th	Fairly Early
Osaka	Osaka	March 20 th	Fairly Early
Aichi	Nagoya	March 17 th	Fairly Early
Tokyo	Chiyoda-Ku	March 14 th *Bloomed	Fairly Early
Nagano	Nagano	April 2 nd	Fairly Early
Niigata	Niigata	March 29 th	Fairly Early
Ishikawa	Kanazawa	March 24 th	Fairly Early
Miyagi	Sendai	March 28 th	Fairly Early
Akita	Akita	April 9 th	Fairly Early
Aomori	Aomori	April 13 th	Fairly Early
Hokkaido	Sapporo	April 26 th	Early
	Kushiro	May 7 th	Fairly Early



Forecasted Full Bloom Date (Main Locations)

Prefecture	City	Forecasted Full Bloom Date	Trend of Forecasted Full Bloom Date
Kagoshima	Kagoshima	March 29 th	Fairly Early
Fukuoka	Fukuoka	March 25 th	Early
Kochi	Kochi	March 25 th	Early
Hiroshima	Hiroshima	March 26 th	Fairly Early
Osaka	Osaka	March 27 th	Fairly Early
Aichi	Nagoya	March 27 th	Early
Tokyo	Chiyoda-Ku	March 23 rd	Fairly Early
Nagano	Nagano	April 8 th	Fairly Early
Niigata	Niigata	April 3 rd	Fairly Early
Ishikawa	Kanazawa	March 28 th	Fairly Early
Miyagi	Sendai	April 3 rd	Fairly Early
Akita	Akita	April 16 th	Early
Aomori	Aomori	April 18 th	Fairly Early
Hokkaido	Sapporo	April 29 th	Fairly Early
	Kushiro	May 10 th	Fairly Early

[Explanation of Terms]

Normal : The average for 1991–2020

Fairly Early : At least 7 days earlier than normal


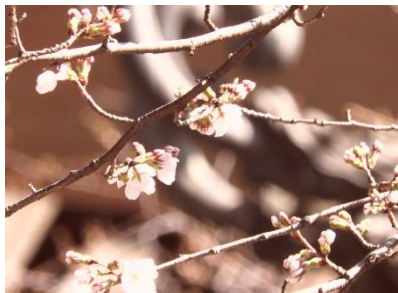
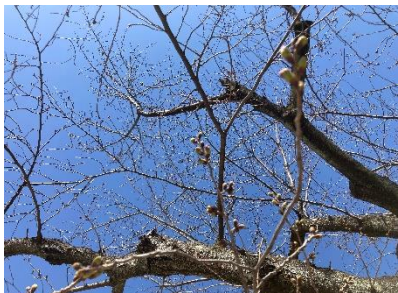
Early : 3 to 6 days earlier than normal

Nearly Normal : Within 2 days of normal

Late : 3 to 6 days later than normal

Fairly Late : At least 7 days later than normal

Cherry Blossom Buds

		
<u>Sample Tree in Nagoya</u> (Photo on March 14th)	<u>Sample Tree in Tokyo</u> (Photo on March 14th)	<u>Sample Tree in Hiroshima</u> (Photo on March 14th)
Expected to be bloom on 17th.	Bloomed on 14th. This was the earliest bloom in Japan.	Expected to be bloom on 17th.

Bloom Trends

In March, temperatures have remained high throughout Japan. Particularly, some parts of the Kanto, Tohoku, and Hokuriku regions are experiencing markedly high temperatures, with the daily mean temperature in early March exceeding +4°C above normal. Temperatures are expected to remain above normal, and both blooming and full bloom will be earlier than normal in many areas.

The blossoms have started in Tokyo on March 14th. They have also occurred in Yokohama on March 15th and in Gifu on March 16th. The blossoms are expected to bloom on March 17th in Fukuoka and Nagoya, on March 18th in Kofu and Maebashi. By the end of March, we will see the



cherry blossoms in a wide area from Kyushu to the south part of Tohoku, and in Morioka on April 10th and in Aomori on April 13th. This will be nearly the earliest bloom since the start of blooming observation. The cherry blossom front will cross Tsugaru Strait in late April. The blossoms will occur in Hakodate on April 22nd, and on April 26th in Sapporo.

The high temperature trend in March is expected to continue by end of the month, it makes the full bloom date earlier than normal years in nationwide. In late March, many areas from Kyushu to Kanto and a part of Hokuriku, Koshin and Tohoku will have full bloom, and Tokyo is expected to be in full bloom on March 23rd. The full bloom is expected to begin earlier than normal in many areas throughout Japan, and this is more likely to be the case in the eastern part of Japan. Some areas in the Kanto Koshin, Hokuriku and Tohoku regions will be in full bloom more than 10 days earlier than normal.

This winter (from December to February), strong cold air flowed in frequently across the country. Since there were many days of bitter cold throughout the country, the dormancy breaking* of cherry blossom buds went smoothly. In addition, since the beginning of March, high temperatures have continued in many areas. This created conditions for an early and full bloom of cherry blossoms. From this weekend, rush of blooms will start.

*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 Cherry Blossom Forecast, 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 84 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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