

[To media representatives]

March 12, 2025  
Japan Weather Association

## **Cherry Blossom and Full Bloom Forecast for 2025 (Part 2)** **Cherry Blossom arrives in Japan from Uwajima on March 16** **With the warm spring's arrival, the buds are swelling**

Japan Weather Association (JWA) released its part 1 forecast for cherry blossoms and full bloom across 84 locations throughout Japan on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### ◆Key points for the 2025 cherry blossom forecast (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

- The 2025 cherry blossom is expected to start from March 16<sup>th</sup> in Uwajima, Ehime Prefecture (※).
- The trees are expected start blooming across a wider area from Kyushu to Kanto by the end of March.
- This year's cherry blossoms are expected to blossom and reach full bloom approximately in line with the yearly average in western Japan, and close to or earlier than the yearly average in eastern and northern Japan.

\*The information for Uwajima is not from sample trees of the meteorological observatories, but from independent observation points of JWA.

The next cherry blossom forecast (3<sup>rd</sup>) is scheduled for March 19, 2025.

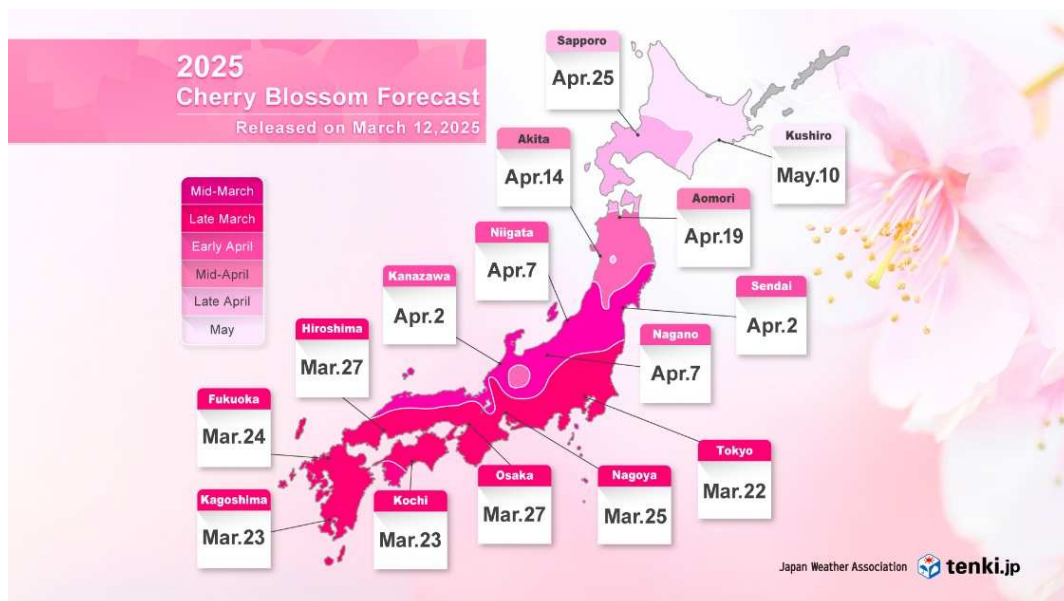
In case of any extraordinary developments or updates to the forecast between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March, an updated forecast will be published on JWA's weather forecasting media 【tenki.jp】 , on their cherry blossom forecasting page.

For the most recent updates and information on the 2025 cherry blossom please visit the

【tenki.jp】 The Cherry Blossom and Full Bloom Forecast page:

<https://tenki.jp/sakura/expectation/> (Japanese only)

### **Cherry Blossom Forecast Map**





### **2025 Blossoming Trend**

For 2025, the cherry blossom is expected to bloom roughly in line with the yearly average in western Japan, while eastern and northern Japan will bloom closer to the average or earlier compared to normal years.

The blooming season this year is expected to begin in Uwajima, Ehime Prefecture, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, and spread through Kyushu to Kanto by the end of the month. By early April the blossom will arrive in Nagano, Hokuriku and southern Tohoku, before reaching Hokkaido in late April.

### **2025 Full Bloom Trend**

For the 2025 full bloom, it is expected to start roughly around the yearly average for western Japan, and closer to the average or earlier in eastern and northern Japan compared to the trends of normal years. The wider area from Kyushu to southern Tohoku is expected to see a full bloom from the end of March to early April. Then from northern Tohoku, cherry blossoms will reach full bloom from mid to late April, while for parts of Hokkaido, the full bloom is expected to land around the Golden Week holidays in the beginning of May.

#### Cherry Blossom Forecast Information

For more detailed information about JWA's Cherry Blossom Forecast, please visit the link below.

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

#### Cherry Blossom Season in Japan

For more detailed information on the cherry blossom forecast vocabulary and development, please visit the link below.

<https://tenki.jp/sakura/english/160.html>

#### [Description of words]

Normal: Average of 1991-2020

Much earlier: 7 or more days earlier than normal

Earlier: 3 to 6 days earlier than normal

Near normal: 1 or 2 days earlier or later than normal

Later: 3 to 6 days later than normal

Much later: 7 or more days later than normal



## References Material

### Frequently asked questions regarding cherry blossom forecast

**Q1: What is the 2025 schedule for the cherry blossom forecasts releases?**

A1: Here are the scheduled releases:

The graphic is a rectangular box with a light pink background and a white border. It contains the title 'JWA's 2025 Cherry Blossom Forecast Schedule' at the top, followed by four rows, each representing a part of the forecast and its corresponding date. The background of the graphic features a soft-focus image of cherry blossoms.

JWA's 2025 Cherry Blossom Forecast Schedule	
Part 1	: 5th of March
Part 2	: 12th of March
Part 3	: 19th of March
Part 4	: 26th of March

\*English release approximately one day later. Schedule from April is yet to be determined.

**Q2: What are the criteria for the flowering and full bloom dates?**

A2: The criteria are the same as those used by Japan Meteorological Agency. The flowering period starts the first day when 5 to 6 or more flowers have started to bloom on the designated observation tree (i.e. sample trees), and the full bloom date is the first day when more than 80% of the buds have opened on the sample trees.

**Q3: How many locations are expected?**

A3: We announce forecasts for 84 locations nationwide. The forecast locations consist of 53 sample trees observed by each local meteorological observatory and 31 locations where observation data are obtained from cooperating agencies such as municipalities/local governments and parks.

**Q4: What are the methods and characteristics of the Japan Weather Association's cherry blossom forecast?**

A 4: We use our proprietary forecasting model that focuses on the temperature trends from autumn onwards, which significantly influence the growth process of the cherry blossom buds. Our forecasts are based on accurate observation data from sample trees at local meteorological observatories and cooperating agencies, emphasizing meteorological principles. Japan Meteorological Association has been conducting cherry blossom forecasts since 2007, making this year the 19<sup>th</sup> year of our endeavour.

**Q5: What data are utilised for forecasting cherry blossoms?**

A5: The following data are used.



1. Temperature observation data from the previous autumn to the forecast date
2. Temperature forecast data from the forecast date to the blooming period (from Japan Weather Association's point forecasts and long-term forecasts).

The temperature from the previous autumn to spring significantly influences the cherry blossoming period. Cherry buds form during the previous summer and then enter dormancy. Exposure to a certain period of low temperatures during winter breaks this dormancy, and the buds grow and bloom with rising temperatures. It is believed that higher temperatures promote faster bud growth and earlier blooming.