

National Cherry Blossom Festival: March 27 - April 11 / www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org

This annual festival celebrates the gift of the 3,000 cherry blossom trees and their symbol of enduring friendship between the citizens of Japan and the US. Enjoy the cherry blossoms in bloom, as well as over 90 events, including daily cultural performances, a night of contemporary art and music on April 2, fireworks on April 3, and the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on April 10.

African American Family Celebration at the National Zoo: April 5 / nationalzoo.si.edu/ActivitiesAndEvents/Celebrations/Easter

Each year, the National Zoo and Friends of the National Zoo host this multicultural tradition on Easter Monday. Visitors enjoy traditional Easter activities for families, as well a variety of special entertainment and opportunities to learn more about the animals.

Filmfest DC: April 15-25 / www.filmfestdc.org

Enjoy a wide range of extraordinary new films from around the world! Film screenings will be held at a variety of venues throughout Washington DC. The Filmfest DC 2010 catalog will be available online by March 30.

Earth Day on the National Mall: April 24, 12p-6p / ww2.earthday.net/earthday2010

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22. The following Saturday, go attend one of the largest Earth Day gatherings in America and enjoy music, entertainment, speakers, and environmental activities!

White House Spring Garden Tour: April, dates TBA / www.whitehouse.gov/about/tours-and-events

Join in this tradition since 1972, in a tour of the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, Rose Garden, Children's Garden, and South Lawn of the White House. Tours will include a visual explanation to help educate visitors on the elements of the gardens.

Cinco de Mayo Festival: May 2, 12p-6p / www.marumontero.com/cinco.htm

Hosted by the Maru Montero Dance Company, this annual Latino celebration features live music, dance, and family entertainment!

National Cathedral Flower Mart: May 7- 8, starting at 10a / www.allhallowsguild.org/fm

All Hallows Guild has sponsored this festival at the National Cathedral since 1939. Browse plant sales, floral and horticultural displays, and boutique booths while enjoying tasty food, music, entertainment, and fun activities for children!

Mount Vernon's Wine Festival & Sunset Tours: May 14-16, 6p-9p / www.mountvernon.org/calendar/index.cfm/fuseaction/event/calID/63

Celebrate the history of wine in Virginia at Mount Vernon! Take a special candlelit tour of the mansion and cellar, enjoy appearances by "George and Martha Washington," as well as live jazz music amid stunning views of the Potomac River.

Passport DC: entire month of May / www.culturaltourismdc.org/info-url_nocat2536/info-url_nocat_show.htm?doc_id=42672

Presented by Cultural Tourism DC, this celebration is all about international culture and heritage! Many of Washington DC's 200 embassies and international cultural centers will open their doors to the public to showcase their culture, art, music, dance, and food. The event kicks off on May 1 with the Around the World Embassy Tour, featuring more than 30 embassies. Other highlights include the Meridian International Children's Festival and the DC Dragon Boat Races on the Potomac River, both held on May 15.

Memorial Day Weekend: May 29-31 / www.pbs.org/memorialdayconcert / www.nationalmemorialdayparade.com

As a day of remembrance for those who have died serving our country, it's a great time to honor our veterans and visit the monuments in DC. On May 30 at 8pm, enjoy a free concert on the West Lawn of the US Capitol Building. On May 31, there will be wreath-laying ceremonies at the Arlington National Cemetery, Navy Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Air Force Memorial. And for marching bands and veterans galore, watch the National Memorial Day Parade on May 31, beginning at 2pm.

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