FIRST THING

Get in the pink

In the eighth century, Japanese villagers climbed mountains and brought cherry trees down to the fields—and so began hanami, the practice of picnicking under the vibrant pink blossoms. This month, the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival marks its 10th anniversary, with 40,000 budding trees, evening light shows and one tug-pulled barge in full bloom.



Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival, March 21 to April 17, vcbf.ca.