

ANNEX B

Sakura Matsuri Floral Display: Tale of the Peach Boy

Witness the blossoming of spring at Sakura Matsuri – Tale of the Peach Boy (櫻花节花卉展：桃太郎传说) as the Flower Dome transforms into a Japanese springtime landscape. Follow the adventures of the legendary Momotaro, a boy born from a peach, and meet the three adorable warriors that fought alongside him. Amidst a quaint backdrop featuring Gassho-style farmhouses with their distinctive, steep thatched roofs, a Japanese tea house and the quintessential torii gates, take in the ephemeral beauty of over 20 varieties of cherry and peach blossoms in this one-of-a-kind floral display.

Date: Until Sunday, 29 March

Time: 9am – 9pm

Location: Flower Dome

Details: Admission charge to Flower Dome applies.

#SakuraMatsuriGBB #AnimeGarden #FlowersNeverStopBlooming

Cherry Blossoms & Peach Blossoms

Prunus is a genus of about 400 species of shrubs and trees from the Rose (*Rosaceae*) family. This genus includes many economically important fruit and nut trees such as cherry, peach, plum, almond and apricot.

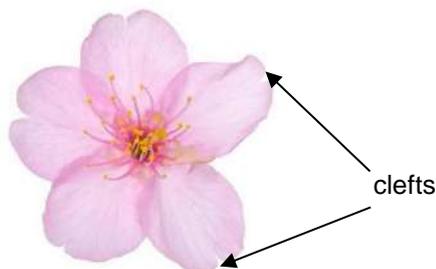
Cherry blossoms (sakura)

Over 300 sakura trees will be featured in this year's Sakura Matsuri floral display. The trees display various growing habits and come in different shapes and forms. Having dramatic drooping branches that descend to the ground, it is no wonder that the weeping cherry blossoms are the more popular and common form found in Japan. Other forms include columnar, pyramidal, and vase-shaped ones.

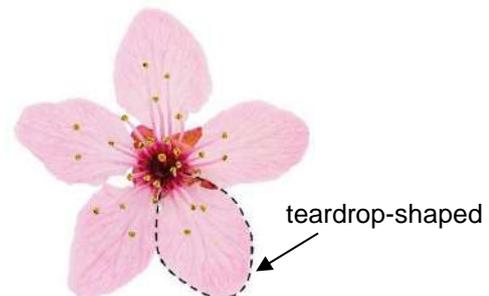
Peach blossoms (momo)

Peach blossoms, commonly known as momo in Japan, belong to the *Rosaceae* family just like sakura. This year's floral display will see a larger number of peach blossoms featured alongside the beloved cherry blossoms, as befitting the titular character of Momotaro. Around 200 peach trees will be on display.

One way to differentiate cherry blossoms and peach blossoms is to observe the shape of the petals. There is a slight cleft at the tip of each cherry blossom petal, while those of peach blossoms are teardrop-shaped. Another method is to observe the attachment of the blooms to the branches. Cherry blossoms flower in a cluster that is attached to a long stem that extends from the branch. Peach blossoms have fewer blooms along very short stems that extend from the branch.



Cherry blossom petal



Peach blossom petal

Interesting Varieties



***Prunus* 'Accolade'**

A recipient of the prestigious Award of Garden Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society, *Prunus* 'Accolade' is regarded as one of the most attractive ornamental cherries with beautiful, double shell-pink flowers that emerge from dark pink buds. Blooming in drooping clusters, it provides a magnificent floral display, even on its own!



***Prunus subhirtella* 'Pendula'**

A type of weeping Higan cherry, has pale pink, almost white flowers that cover its branches in spring. This often makes the tree look like it is covered in snow!



***Prunus* 'Yedoensis'**

Also known as the Yoshino Cherry, this is a Japanese favourite with classic white flowers that have five petals. A popular cherry tree in Japan, it is found in gardens, parks and as a street tree from Hokkaido to Kyushu. It is sensitive to urban pollution.



Genpei shidare momo

A peach blossom variety in weeping form, with pendulous branches and flowers of two different colours – red and white – growing on the same plant.

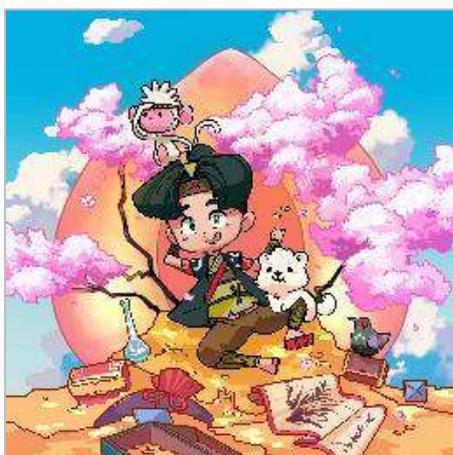


Prunus persica

The peach tree, *Prunus persica*, not only bears juicy fruits but also produces beautiful flowers with a pleasant fragrance in early to mid-spring that last for about two weeks.

They have double-flowering peach blossoms, with huge flowers in colours ranging from white to red.

Momotaro, the Peach Boy



Momotaro is a classic tale from Japanese folklore that is shared with the young on the commendable bravery and filial piety of the main character.

It tells the tale of Momotaro, a boy born from a giant peach, who heroically vanquishes the evil demons that have been terrorising his village, with the help of three animal friends – a dog, a monkey, and a pheasant.

Sakura-inspired Artwork

Alongside the Sakura Matsuri floral display are reproductions of six paintings by Singaporean artist Quek Kiat Sing. Featuring cherry blossoms, these artworks were inspired by Kiat Sing's visit to Sakura Matsuri with her parents in 2018.



"My visit to Sakura Matsuri in 2018 was the first time I saw cherry blossoms. My parents were getting on in years and I wanted them to experience sakura without having to travel overseas. We were mesmerised by the profusion of blossoms all around us and I was inspired to capture the beauty of sakura in art."

Quek Kiat Sing

The six paintings are part of Kiat Sing's upcoming exhibition "Prayer to Spring – Love", which will be held in April and showcase her latest series of paintings on sakura.

About the artist

Quek Kiat Sing juxtaposes modern-day subjects with traditional Chinese Ink to emphasise the relevance of Asian culture in contemporary life. She has received numerous awards and has been commended in competitions such as the Sovereign Asian Art Prize, United Overseas Bank Painting of the Year Competition, Dr Tan Tsze Chor Art Award, and China ASEAN Youth Artwork Creativity Contest. She has twice been awarded the Freeman Fellowship at Vermont Studio Centre, USA, and represented Singapore at the ASEAN Cultural Week in Vietnam in 2004 and the India ASEAN Artist residency in Darjeeling, India, in 2012. She has been selected to provide the artwork for the upcoming Shenton Way MRT Station under the Land Transport Authority's Art-in-Transit programme.