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Washington, D.C., will become the mecca of thousands of tourists from the country-over when the nation's Capitol holds its annual Cherry Blossom Fete the weekend of April 6, 7 and 8.

The date has been designated to coincide with the blooming of the famous cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin and Hains Point - one of the most beautiful floral displays in the world. And visitors who make their trip to Washington on American Airlines during the time the cherry trees are in bloom obtain a close-up of the display during the drive from National Airport to their hotel in Washington.

This year, the annual fete is dedicated to the solidarity of the Americas and this theme will be predominant throughout the three days of activities. Officially, the fete will open with a dance and reception on April 6 at the Pan American Union when Princesses representing the 48 states, Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico will compete for the crown of Cherry Blossom Queen. As in the past, the Queen will be chosen by spinning a giant wheel of fortune. Princesses will be chosen by the Conference of State Societies.

In addition to the Princesses, 20 young ladies representing South and Central American Republics will be in the Queen's court, although they will not be eligible to compete for the title of Queen.

On Saturday, April 7, a spectacular water show will be presented at the Tidal Basin, climaxed by a fireworks display.

This year, American Airlines, the only transcontinental airline operating through Washington, has announced that it is stressing stop-over privileges for travelers whose trips are or can be routed through Washington. The airline is also offering low cost tours of Washington of 2, 3 and 4-day duration.

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