

XPLR

# Sakura



*“Sakura” is the Japanese word for cherry blossom trees. In Japan the cherry blossoms are believed to exemplify the transient nature of life because of their short blooming times. This means we have a special opportunity to capture these ephemeral markers of spring during the 2008 Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival.*

## Today's ride:

- A. Start at the Philadelphia Art Museum steps. Bike across the Schuylkill River and along West River Drive.
- B. Photograph *sakura* planted on the river bank. More than 2,000 trees are currently planted in the park.
- C. Continue to historic Memorial Hall. This building has been the backdrop of many movies and is the new home of Philadelphia's Please Touch Museum.
- D. Stop and smell the *sakura* on the way to the Horticulture Center.
- E. Fairmount's Horticulture Center features many types of flowers and trees, a pond, creek, and a wetland. The grounds include many gardens and should provide plenty of XPLRing action.
- F. Continue to Belmont Plateau and get a great view of Philly.
- G. Sunday's sunset is at 7:30 pm. We will ride to the Strawberry Mansion Bridge for some final shots in the warm evening light.

April 6, 2008

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## Sakura Snapshots Cherry Blossom Photo Contest

All participants in today's event are encouraged to participate in the JASGP Sakura Photo Contest (details to follow via email). The categories include:

- Japan America - Photos that exhibit a connection between Japan and America
- Sakura - Photos that incorporate cherry blossoms
- Subaru - Photos that include a reference to Subaru

