Cherries are stone fruits, related to plums and more distantly to peaches and nectarines. They have been enjoyed since the Stone Age—pits were found in several Stone Age caves in Europe. Cherries are grown in several regions of this country, but 70% of the cherries produced in the United States come from four states—Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah. There are two main types of cherries: sweet and sour.

- Sour cherries are mostly canned or frozen for use as pie filling or sauce.
- Sweet cherries include Bing—the best known sweet cherry; Lambert—second most popular sweet cherry, smaller than Bings and more heart shaped; Rainer—sweet with a yellow or pinkish skin, milder and sweeter than the Bing; Royal Ann—blush-yellow skin and often canned or made into maraschino cherries.

Japan gave the US 3020 cherry blossom trees in 1912, as a gift of their growing friendship. These trees were planted in Manhattan in Sakura Park. Once upon a time, serving ice cream on cherry pie in Kansas was prohibited. Canada holds the record for baking the biggest cherry pie in the world—it weighed 39,683 pounds!