
$\Rightarrow$ Cherries are stone fruits, related to plums and more distantly to peaches and nectarines.
$\Rightarrow$ They have been enjoyed since the Stone Age-pits were found in several Stone Age caves in Europe.
$\Rightarrow$ 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.
$\Rightarrow$ 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; Rainersweet 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.
$\Rightarrow$ 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.
$\Rightarrow$ Once upon a time, serving ice cream on cherry pie in Kansas was prohibited.
$\Rightarrow$ Canada holds the record for baking the biggest cherry pie in the world-it weighed 39,683 pounds!

