

# YOUR MONTHLY MILE | April

There are endless paths to travel in Central Park, and even lifelong New Yorkers can discover something new in its 843 acres. Check out this month's featured landmarks to learn more about their history and about the Central Park Conservancy's mission to restore, manage, and enhance Central Park.



## **① Swedish Cottage**

Under the direction of the City Parks Foundation, the Swedish Cottage is home to one of the last public marionette companies in the country. Puppeteers have worked there since 1947. The cottage was originally constructed as a model schoolhouse, and was Sweden's entry in the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. After the exhibit, Park co-designer Frederick Law Olmsted chose the rustic building for Central Park.

## **② Shakespeare Garden**

Shakespeare Garden is a four-acre landscape dedicated to the memory of William Shakespeare. Designed to evoke the spontaneous nature of the English countryside, the Garden contains flowers and plants mentioned in Shakespeare's poems and plays, and features rustic seating that make it a great resting spot. Ten plaques featuring Shakespeare quotations are scattered throughout the Garden – can you find them all?



## **③ King Jagiello**

This bronze statue stood at Poland's pavilion during the 1939 World's Fair, but the outbreak of World War II prevented the statue's return to its homeland. It was subsequently placed in Central Park as a symbol of the proud and courageous Polish people. It portrays King Jagiello, the Grand Duke of Lithuania, who became king after marrying the Queen of Poland in 1386. The Conservancy's team of technicians restored the monument in 2016.



## **④ Bridge No. 24**

Bridge No. 24, one of the oldest examples of cast iron bridges in America, was originally designed to allow pedestrians to stroll through this area of the Park without having to encounter any of the equestrian traffic on the bridle path below. Take a moment to read the inscriptions on the plaques along Gilder Run, which stretches across the bridge and is one of the few places where individuals can leave their permanent mark on Central Park.



## **⑤ Stephanie and Fred Shuman Running Track**

As one of the most popular running destinations in the world, this 1.58 mile running track features sweeping views of nearly 100 acres of water and the Manhattan skyline. The track spans almost the entire width of the Park. As part of the track's ongoing care, Conservancy staff regularly regrade the path to improve the running experience for all.



## **⑥ Kwanzan and Yoshino Cherry Trees**

In 1912, Japan gifted nearly 2,500 cherry trees to the City of New York as an act of friendship, and many of them were planted in Central Park. With breathtaking pink and white blooms arriving in mid-April, the Kwanzan cherry trees on the west side of the Reservoir and the Yoshino cherry trees on the east side of the Reservoir are not to be missed.