

A visual guide to street and park trees in Britain

A guide for everyone

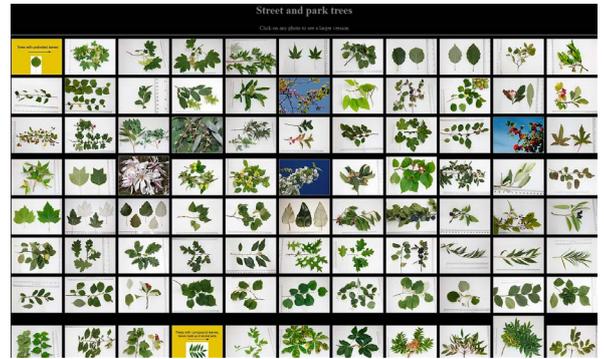
If you're new to tree identification, or if you're having trouble identifying what you have seen, then this tree guide is for you!

The treezilla team have compiled a visual guide to common street and park trees. The guide is divided into sections; non-conifer trees with simple leaves, non-conifer trees with compound leaves and conifer trees. Conifers are trees which bear cones, generally have needle or scale-like leaves and are usually evergreen.

The Pictures

Compare the tree you are trying to identify with the [pictures](#). Once you have found the best match check out our notes below for that type of tree. You can look up more information in guide books or on the internet. You can view more pictures of these species and others [here](#).

The guide shows at least one example from each 'genus' (a set of species that are closely related to each other). It can sometimes be quite easy to identify the exact species of a tree, for example, if it is a *Ginkgo*, there is only one species within that genus; the Maidenhair tree (*Ginkgo biloba*). However in other instances it can be much trickier; the genus for Oaks (*Quercus*) has about 600 species, many of which can grow in Britain. However, there are only about half a dozen types of oak planted in streets and parks, the rest are more commonly found in botanic gardens or arboreta. The same can be said for Maples (*Acer*), there are 150 species of *Acer* but only a small handful are widely planted. A large *Acer* tree in the street is likely to be Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) or Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), though quite a few smaller types of maples are planted in parks and gardens, these often have distinctive bark or autumn colours.



Some species in the guide are more commonly seen as hedgerow shrubs rather than growing as trees; Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*), Guelder Rose (*Viburnum opulus*), Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), and Common Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) are all examples of these. Other trees, such as Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) and Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) can be seen growing in hedgerows, or planted on their own.

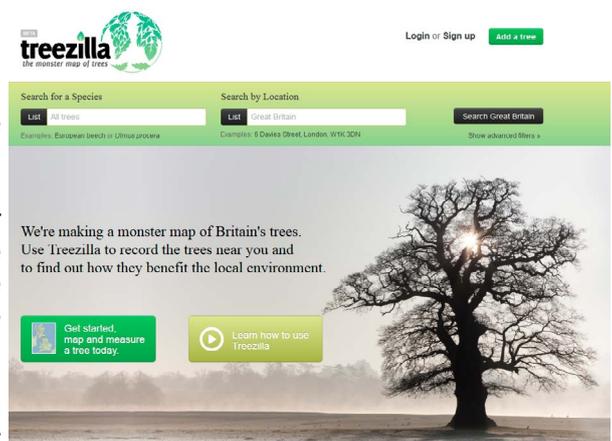
Conifers are not commonly planted as street trees; they are more common in parks, especially species such as Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) and Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*).

There's a lot to consider when identifying trees, don't worry if you can't find an exact match - some street and park trees can be tricky to identify as their leaves are not very distinctive and they don't have berries or other obvious features to help. It is not just beginners that have difficulty with these trees; the experts can be fooled too!

Treezilla

If you're not sure what the species is, upload photos of the tree when you enter the details on treezilla.org. Include a general shot to show the whole tree, the trunk to show bark detail, close-up of the buds on a twig, then depending on time of year also give a picture of leaf, fruit and flowers. If you can, include a ruler or other reference object in the images for scale. The community of users on Treezilla should then help out with the identification.

Many of the commonly found species in streets and parks are listed below. Consider these species first when selecting a species name on Treezilla. The trees are listed alphabetically by genus, the same order as they are shown in the pictures.



Broadleaves with simple leaves

Simple leaves can have large lobes and other indentations but they are still joined together as one single leaf, they are not separated into a series of individual leaflets.

Acer – there are three very common large trees in this genus: Sycamore ([Acer pseudoplatanus](#)), Norway Maple ([Acer platanoides](#)) and Silver Maple ([Acer saccharinum](#)).

Sycamore and Norway Maple are often confused, look out for the points at the tips on Norway Maple leaves. Both of these species have a few cultivars particularly the dark purple leaves of *Acer platanoides* 'Goldsworth Purple' although note that there are a couple of other purple cultivars that look very similar. Another large tree with particularly good yellow autumn colour is Cappadocian Maple (*Acer cappadocium*), it is similar to Norway Maple but has smaller untoothed leaves.



There are several medium and small *Acer*s, the most well known are the Japanese maples particularly [Acer palmatum](#), they have very good autumn colour and there are several variants with [highly divided leaves](#). Box Elder ([Acer negundo](#)) is a small but vigorous untidy tree, common in urban areas. It has 3-5 leaflets on each leaf arranged as in Elder (so should really be in the divided leaf part of guide!).

Alnus – There are three common species, all medium sized trees. The native Common Alder ([Alnus glutinosa](#)) is often found near water. Grey Alder ([Alnus incana](#)) and Italian Alder ([Alnus cordata](#)) are often planted in streets and parks. Check the leaf shape to tell the 3 species apart. Note that all 3 species usually have brown 'cones' left over from the previous year and may also have green cones or catkins.



Amelanchier – Snowy Mespil

([Amelanchier lamarkii](#)) is a dainty small tree with white flowers in spring, small berries and oval leaves. The berries are often long gone by autumn.

Arbutus - Strawberry tree ([Arbutus undedo](#)) is an evergreen small tree with white flowers in autumn and small leathery leaves. It is known for its strawberry like fruits that ripen in the autumn. It is mainly found in the south and west of Britain.

Betula – The two native species Silver Birch ([Betula pendula](#)) and Downy Birch ([Betula pubescens](#)) are frequently planted but they are also abundant in the wider countryside. As the scientific names suggest, *Betula pendula* tends to have twigs that hang down and *Betula pubescens* tends to have hairy twigs. However they can sometimes still be difficult to tell apart. There are a number of non-native birches that are planted for the interesting colour of their bark, these include Himalayan Birch ([Betula utilis](#)) and its cultivars.

Buxus – Box ([Buxus sempervirens](#)) is a native evergreen tree that is often grown as a hedge but can also form a small straggly tree.

Carpinus – Common Hornbeam ([Carpinus betulus](#)) is a medium sized tree. The cultivar [Carpinus betulus](#) 'Fastigiata' makes a very neat street tree and is widely planted. There are a small number of much less common hornbeam species, these include Hop-hornbeam ([Ostrya carpinifolia](#)) with its distinctive hop like fruits.

Castanea – Sweet Chestnut ([Castanea sativa](#)) is potentially a large tree that is usually found in parkland rather than as a street tree. It has undivided leaves with a toothed margin and very spikey seed cases and produces the familiar chestnuts. Not to be confused with [Horse chestnut](#)

(*Aesculus*) which has palmate leaves and large sticky buds.

Cercis - Judas tree ([Cercis siliquastrum](#)) is a small tree that has brilliant pink flowers in the spring just before coming into leaf. After the flowers, pods are produced which last into the autumn. The leaves themselves are round.



Catalpa – Indian Bean ([Catalpa bignonioides](#)) and Western Catalpa ([Catalpa speciosa](#)) are generally more common than the few other species of Catalpa that can grow in the warmer areas of UK. The small to medium sized trees have large floppy leaves, large flower heads and may have long, bean like pods. The two species can be tricky to tell apart, Indian Bean leaves look like a squarish ‘ace of spades’ shape although with the leaf base squared off. Whereas Western Catalpa leaves are more elongate and tapering to a point. Both species can occasionally have side lobes on the leaves although this is more common on Indian Bean.

Cornus – Common Dogwood ([Cornus sanguinea](#)) is a small native bushy tree with black fruits. There are several other less common species of *Cornus* planted in parks, some of these have large ‘flowers’ (actually bracts) or distinctive fruits.

Corylus - Hazel ([Corylus avellana](#)) is a small native tree or bush normally found in hedgerows or in blocks of shrubs or trees, it can also be found as an understory tree in woodland. Turkish hazel ([Corylus colurna](#)) is an increasingly common street tree, the leaves are similar to *Corylus avellana* but the nuts are surrounded by a distinctive large bristly outer case.



Cotoneaster – Himalayan Tree Cotoneaster ([Cotoneaster frigidus](#)) and [Cotoneaster x watereri](#) are two of the commoner large Cotoneaster species. None are particularly common but they can cause confusion as Cotoneasters are normally thought of as small shrubby plants. Occasionally single small Cotoneaster trees are found left over from a shrub planting scheme where everything else has long gone.

Crataegus – Common Hawthorn ([Crataegus monogyna](#)) and Midland hawthorn ([Crataegus laevigata](#)) are both native species of small trees. Common Hawthorn is more common and can be separated from Midland hawthorn by its leaves being cut more than half way to the midrib whereas Midland hawthorn leaves are much less cut, their fruits also have 2-3 pips compared to 1 in Common Hawthorn. Both species have a few cultivars, the pink double flowered version of *C. laevigata* ‘Punicea Flore Plena’ is one of the commonest. The third common type of *Crataegus* is not a single species but covers a range of [cockspur thorns](#) from USA. They often have oblong rounded leaves and large thorns and are difficult to tell apart but Broad-leaved Cockspur Thorn ([Crataegus persimilis](#) ‘Prunifolia’) is one of the most frequent.

Eucalyptus – The number of different [Eucalyptus](#) species grown in UK is increasing as new types are tried in our climate. Three of the commoner species are: Cider Gum ([Eucalyptus gunnii](#)), Broad-leaved Kindling Bark ([Eucalyptus dalrympleana](#)), Snow Gum ([Eucalyptus pauciflora](#) ssp. *niphophila*). They are all evergreens and have a distinctly ‘Eucalyptus’ look about them often with blue/grey foliage and [distinctive bark](#) that may come off in strips. They are not planted as street trees but may be found in parks and gardens and sometimes in plantations. Juvenile *Eucalyptus* tend to have very different leaf shape to adult trees, often with smaller rounder leaves.

Euonymus - Spindle tree ([Euonymus europaeus](#)) is a small native tree found most often in hedgerows but may also be planted in shrubberies mainly for its brightly coloured poisonous fruits.

Fagus – Beech ([Fagus sylvatica](#)) is a large tree occasionally seen as a street tree but much more often planted in parks. There are a few variants for example with purple leaves, incised leaves or with a very upright or weeping growth form.



Ficus - Fig ([Ficus carica](#)) is usually found as a small tree. It is easily recognised by the large leathery dark green leaves and figs which remain on the tree all year.

Visual guide to street and park trees

Frangula - Alder Buckthorn ([Frangula alnus](#)) is a small straggling tree that looks similar to Purging Buckthorn ([Rhamnus cathartica](#)) but tends to grow on acid damp sites. The fruits are scattered along the slender branches and they are red before finally turning black. This compares to Purging Buckthorn which has stiffer branches and fruits that tend to form clusters and are black from the outset.

Ilex – There are two main species, Common Holly ([Ilex aquifolium](#)) and Highclere Holly ([Ilex x altaclarensis](#)). Common Holly tends to have more spikey leaves but both types have many variants with different leaf shapes different amounts of variegation and different amounts of armament. All are evergreen and many have distinctive red (or yellow) berries.

Liquidambar – Sweet Gum ([Liquidambar styraciflua](#)) and Oriental Sweet Gum ([Liquidambar orientalis](#)) are grown mainly in parks at the moment but are starting to be planted in streets. They have similar shaped leaves to some of the Acers with 5 points although the leaves are smaller than [Norway Maple](#). The growth form of the sweet gums tends to be more pyramidal than the rectangular or globular maple trees. Sweet gums also have [spectacular autumn colour](#), often shades of red.

Liriodendron – Tulip Tree ([Liriodendron tulipifera](#)) has very distinctively shaped leaves and can have [tulip like flowers](#) in June. They can grow into large trees and are normally found in parks rather than as a street tree.

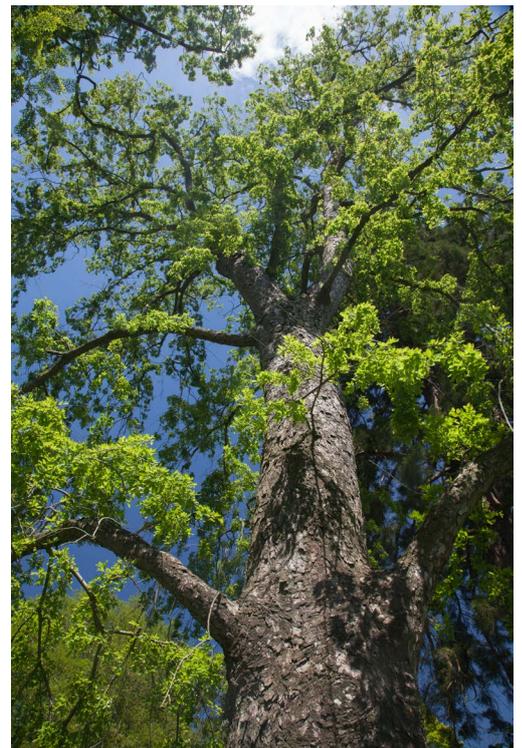
Magnolia – *Magnolias* can be large trees or, more often, small trees, there are evergreen types and deciduous types. They have spectacular large flowers and undivided leaves. An example of a large evergreen species, Southern Evergreen Magnolia ([Magnolia grandiflora](#)) is often found in parks usually growing against a wall. Deciduous species include Star Magnolia ([Magnolia stellata](#)) and Saucer Magnolia ([Magnolia x soulangiana](#)), both are small trees and again planted in parks. There are also a large number of hybrid types of various sizes, some of these can be quite common. It is unusual to see any of the *Magnolias* as street trees.



Malus – A group of small trees that produce a good show of flowers and fruit. The familiar Orchard Apple ([Malus domestica](#)) produces the apples we eat. Crab Apple ([Malus sylvestris](#)) produces similar but smaller fruit that are very acid, it is usually found in hedgerows rather than as a street or park tree. There are a range of other *Malus* species such as Japanese Crab ([Malus floribunda](#)), Hubi Crab ([Malus huphensis](#)), Pillar Apple ([Malus tschonoskii](#)), Cherry-crab ([Malus x robusta](#)) and cultivars, these have flowers and fruits of varying shapes, size and colour. Some of these trees are relatively easy to identify as *Malus* but others such as [Malus trilobata](#) can look very much like *Crataegus*, other *Malus* can be confused with *Prunus*. A detailed guide book is needed to tell them apart.

Mesphilus - Medlar ([Mesphilus germanica](#)) is a small tree with rounded brownish fruit and oblong leaves. It is quite often planted in parks especially where there are remains of kitchen gardens.

Morus – Of the two *Morus* species Black Mulberry ([Morus nigra](#)) is more commonly found and has a much more solid appearance than the willowy branches of White Mulberry ([Morus alba](#)). The rough leaves of Black Mulberry also give a solid thick appearance and have an even outline whereas leaves of White Mulberry are sometimes lobed with three or five points. Both are small trees and are often planted in parkland in association with an old house or walled garden. Black Mulberry takes on a haggard appearance that makes it seem ancient even if the tree may only be 50 or 100 years old, on the other hand the floppy branches of White Mulberry are liable to break and the whole tree fall apart under severe weather conditions so it may not even reach 50.



Nothofagus – Southern Beech. Roble Beech ([Nothofagus obliqua](#)) is a large, vigorous but short lived tree. Look out for the remains of the nuts and nut cases which look like those of the native Beech but are much smaller. The leaves may be confused with [Hornbeam](#) (*Carpinus*) but the tree growth form is different being more open, light and airy and a more upright relatively narrow straggling column. There are a small number of other Southern Beech species occasionally grown in UK, the one most likely to be confused with Roble Beech is Rauli ([Nothofagus alpina](#)). This has slightly larger less toothed leaves with about 16 pairs of veins compared to about 8 pairs of veins on Roble Beech.

Olea – Olive ([Olea europaea](#)) has distinctive silver/grey foliage and is starting to be planted as a street tree in city centres in the warmest areas of the country. It remains to be seen if the trees will survive for long under the UK climate since it is a plant from warmer Mediterranean areas.

Parrotia- Persian Ironwood ([Parrotia persica](#)) is a wide spreading low tree often with many substantial tangled trunks and branches, it is known for its brilliant autumn colours.

Platanus – When it comes to the scientific name of the most frequently found plane tree in UK, there is a problem. The common name [London Plane](#) is not too much contested but the scientific name might be *Platanus x acerifolia* or *Platanus acerifolia* or *Platanus x hispanica* or even *Platanus x hybrida*. It is unusual to have an issue like this as there are strict rules governing plant names, however in this case the names *Platanus x hispanica* and *Platanus x hybrida* come from trees or published source that cannot be traced so cannot be relied upon. *Platanus x acerifolia* is perhaps the best name to use although there are still many who use *Platanus x hispanica* and think this is the most appropriate. There is a second Plane tree species *Platanus orientalis* found relatively commonly in UK but it is much less frequent than London Plane. Both species are potentially very large park or street trees with palmate leaves, [flaking bark](#) and fruit consisting of strings of [small round balls](#). Oriental planes have much more [deeply divided leaves](#) than London Planes.



Populus - Generally fast growing species of large trees doing well on floodplains or as shelter belts. White Poplar ([Populus alba](#)) and Grey Poplar ([Populus canescens](#)) can look rather similar with leaves and trunks that show white or grey from a distance. Note differences in leaf shape shown in the photos. Aspen ([Populus tremula](#)) leaves flutter and make a noise even in the slightest breeze so much so that you can often tell it's an aspen before looking up to see the tree. The native Black Poplar ([Populus nigra](#)) is common only in a few restricted areas of UK but the strictly upright narrow Lombardy Poplar [Populus nigra 'Italica'](#) is very common throughout warmer areas of UK. Hybrid Black Poplar (*Populus x canadensis*) and Balsam Spire Poplar (*Populus 'Balsam Spire'*) are common especially in wetter areas. They are very fast growing and form broad green columns in the landscape.

Prunus - There are several general types of *Prunus*, the cherries, plums, almond, and cherry laurels. Wild Cherry ([Prunus avium](#)) is a native fast growing medium to large tree with single white flowers. It is commonly planted on the edges of woodland or in blocks of trees along roadsides, cultivated versions of this species also produce the cherries we eat. Also with single white flowers but growing as small bushy trees or in hedgerows are Myrobalan Plum ([Prunus cerasifera](#)) which flowers in March and, Blackthorn ([Prunus spinosa](#)) which flowers in April. The exact dates of flowering depend on which part of the country you are in and the particular weather that year however Myrobalan Plum always flowers well ahead of Blackthorn, these two species are often confused but this difference in flowering date, spines on Blackthorn and the type of fruit easily separate them. Myrobalan Plum has fruit that look like small plums and are just about edible raw whereas Blackthorn has much smaller blue/purple fruit with very tart taste and which can only be used for sloe gin! Plum (*Prunus domestica*) tree is somewhere between Wild Cherry and Myrobalan Plum in size and shape, a medium sized tree with white flowers then the familiar purple or yellow plums.



Visual guide to street and park trees

The '[flowering cherries](#)' are grown for their double flowers alone, examples include pink flowering *Prunus* 'Kanzan' one of the most common types, Lombardy Poplar Cherry (*Prunus* 'Amanogawa') also with pink flowers but a vertical growth form like Lombardy Poplar, there are many other less common flowering cherry cultivars.

Some of cherries have other benefits, Tibetan Cherry (*Prunus serrula*) has single white flowers but is mainly planted parks and streets for its [rich red wine coloured bark](#) that peels off. Bird Cherry (*Prunus padus*) is a fairly unassuming small tree. It is a native species with strings of single white flowers followed by small black fruit.

Appearing quite different to the other *Prunus* species are the evergreen Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) with leaves about 200mm long and Portugal Laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*) with leaves 100mm long however if you use some imagination the leaves are of the general shape of others in the genus and the flowers and fruit are similar to Bird Cherry.

Pyrus - Just as with the edible plum and apple Common Pear (*Pyrus communis*) trees are often found as relics of old gardens, orchards or in hedgerows, they are sometimes also planted in 'community orchards' in urban areas. A tree that has been very much in fashion in recent years is Chanticleer Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* 'Chanticleer'), it is totally anonymous upright green blob on a stick and perhaps this is why urban designers love it so much. There are usually no fruits to cause a slip hazard on the pavement, the branches grow upward so the lower ones do not need to be trimmed and the tree generally appears to be low maintenance and safe. Willow-leaved Pear (*Pyrus salicifolia*) is also a tree that came very much into fashion although this fad may have passed now. In this case the tree is a silvery tangled column with willow like leaves but it is not really suitable as a street tree so is more likely to be found in parks and gardens.

Quercus - The two native species of oak in Britain are English Oak also called Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Sessile Oak also called Durmast oak (*Quercus petraea*). English Oak is more common in the east and Sessile Oak more common in the west of Britain, there are also hybrids between the two called *Q. × rosacea* which has intermediate characters between the two main species. English Oak has very short stalks on the leaves and often a wavy edge to the bottom of the leaf, it also has acorns on a long stalk. By contrast Sessile Oak has longer (10-20mm) leaf stalks and acorns with almost no stalk, Sessile Oak also tends to have a more light and open growth form although both species can develop into massive, sturdy, long-lived trees. They are common in woodland and parkland and occasionally found as a street tree. Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*) has long shaggy whiskers on its buds and a 'mossy' acorn cup, the dark hard foliage looks as if it might be evergreen but it is not. It is common in parkland where it forms a wide spreading large tree. Other oaks are less common although still widely planted for example, Lucombe Oak (*Quercus x hispanica*) particularly common in Devon, it has mossy acorn cups like Turkey Oak but leaves more like Sessile Oak. Some of the leaves of Lucombe Oak hang on between years when the others fall. Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*) is a true evergreen with untoothed leaves and a bushy growth form. Holm Oak trees can become very large but still retaining the bushy look with billows of foliage. There are a number of other much less common evergreen oaks including Cork Oak (*Quercus suber*) with its distinctive corky bark. Two oaks that can have red autumn colour are Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) and Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*). They are somewhat similar to each other having a lighter more spreading branch structure than our native oaks and their leaves have distinct whiskers at the leaf points. Red Oak has much larger leaves, up to 200mm, compared to 100mm in Pin Oak, Red Oak also tends to have a more spreading habit and its autumn colour is less reliable sometimes leaves just going brown rather than red. Both of these species are planted in parkland and occasionally as street trees. There are many other species of oaks found in collections and occasionally parks in UK including several species that are similar to the species mentioned here.



Rhamnus - Purging Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) is a small tree or bush normally found in hedgerows on chalky soil. Rarely planted but you may find it in scrubby areas associated with roads.

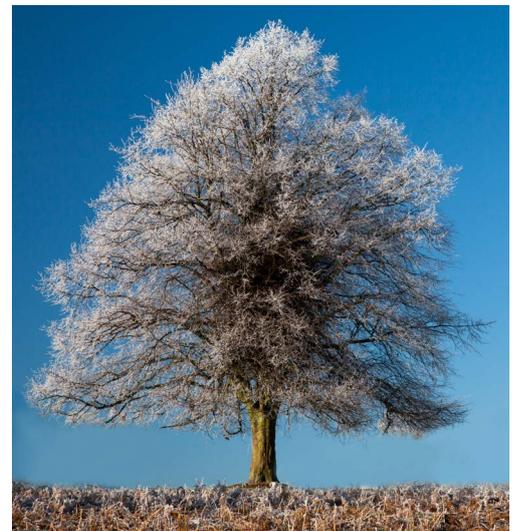
Salix - White Willow (*Salix alba*) a distinctly greyish tree from a distance and like most of the other *Salix* species is only really planted along floodplains and other similar potentially wet areas. Normally a variety rather than the wild species is planted, in Milton Keynes there are thousands of [Salix alba var. caerulea](#) planted for making cricket bats, this variety's common name is Cricket-bat

Willow. Leaves have silvery hairs on both the upper and lower surface giving the white appearance. Crack Willow ([Salix fragilis](#)) has similar long narrow leaves to White Willow but they quickly lose any silvery hairs. They are often found along river banks where the habit of readily cracking branches is of benefit as they can break off, float away and root and develop into a new tree. This habit also means they are rarely planted in public areas due to the danger of tree falling apart. Goat Willow ([Salix caprea](#)) and Grey Willow ([Salix cinerea](#)) are very common bushy small trees even on drier soils, they are usually self-seeding rather than being planted. They have shorter rounder leaves than the other *Salix* species, Goat Willow has leaves not more than twice as long as wide whereas for Grey Willow its 2-3x as long as wide.



The commonly found weeping willow is Golden Weeping Willow (*Salix x sepulcralis* 'Chrysocoma'), it has leaves similar to Crack Willow but the shoots develop a gold colour that stands out from a distance especially in winter. There are a couple of much less common types of weeping willow but they do not have the golden appearance. Common Osier ([Salix viminalis](#)) has the longest, narrowest leaves of the commonly found willows, it tends to be found as a shrub rather than a tree. It grows wild in wet areas but is also extensively planted.

Tilia - It is relatively easy to recognise a tree as a Lime (*Tilia*) with its characteristic growth form, simple rounded leaves, red or green shoots, yellowish green flowers and wing attached to the bunch of seeds. However, more care is then needed to tell the different species apart. The first thing to look out for is whether or not the leaves are silvery white underneath. If not then the commonest species are Broad-leaved Lime ([Tilia platyphyllos](#)), leaves 150x150mm, Common Lime ([Tilia europaea](#)), leaves 100x100mm, and Small-leaved Lime ([Tilia cordata](#)) leaves 80x80mm. Leaf shape in all 3 species is rather similar, Broad-leaved Lime tends to have small hairs on the leaf stalk and veins and some other parts of leaf and twig whereas Small-leaved Lime and Common Lime only have hairs in vein joints on underside of leaf. The general outline of the tree in Common Lime tree tends to be different to the other two species often with dense growths of twigs. All three species are extensively planted in parks and have been used as street trees. There is another species that is starting to be widely planted Crimean Lime ([Tilia x euchlora](#)), this has distinctly glossy leaves with fine teeth round the leaf and is a smaller tree than the 3 above. If the leaves do have some silverying on the underside then the two common types to consider are Silver Lime ([Tilia tomentosa](#)) which has a leaf stalk less than half as long as the leaf and Silver Pendent Lime ([Tilia tomentosa](#) 'Petiolaris') which has a leaf stalk much more than half as long as the leaf and where the shoots tend to hang down strongly. Leaves of Silver Pendent Lime are less coarsely toothed than Silver Lime.



For all the limes make sure you have a good sample of the leaves from the tree as they can vary in size from place to place on the same tree.

Ulmus - The elms in recent years have been devastated by Dutch Elm Disease (DED), individual street or park trees were cut down and removed when they died. However in a few parts of the country such as Brighton, large elm trees still survive. In other areas elms are often found in hedgerows or woodland edges re-growing from suckers but not being able to develop into large trees as they are regularly re-infected by the disease and the above ground parts of the tree dies. Young vigorous trees or trees re-growing from suckers often have atypical leaves and so can be difficult to identify. Common types of elm that can still be found include English Elm ([Ulmus minor var vulgaris](#)), often seen in hedgerows. It often has relatively small (50mm) oblong or rounded leaves. Wych Elm ([Ulmus glabra](#)) has very large leaves, up to 180mm long often with 3 points to the leaf. Some other types of elm can be common in certain areas of the country for example Wheatley Elm (*Ulmus minor subsp. sarniensis*) in Brighton. There are also some DED resistant

Visual guide to street and park trees

types of elm grown such as [Ulmus 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'](#), this has much narrower leaves than other elms, it is also a rather thin branched small or medium sized tree compared to the other elms that can be very large meaty trees.

If you are keen on trees then I would certainly recommend a summer visit to Brighton to see the very large elm trees, for example in Preston park. These were once the big trees across much of Britain, the landscape and parks changed dramatically when they went.

Viburnum - Guelder rose ([Viburnum opulus](#)) and Wayfaring tree ([Viburnum lantana](#)) are two native 'trees' or perhaps better classified as shrubs as they are rarely very large and usually have multiple stems. Guelder rose has red berries, grows on all soils and has Maple like leaves. Wayfaring tree has red berries that turn black, tends to grow on chalky soils and has simple oval leaves.

Broadleaves with compound leaves

Compound leaves have several separate 'leaflets' all joined to a central part. Leaves can also be doubly compound, leaflets join a central rib then these join onto the central spine of the leaf.



Aesculus - Horse Chestnut or 'Conker tree' ([Aesculus hippocastanum](#)) has at least 5 unstalked leaflets on each leaf forming the shape of a fan. Red Horse Chestnut ([Aesculus x carnea](#)) is similar but has stalked leaflets, red (as opposed to white) flowers and fruits without spines on the husks. Horse Chestnut trees in the southern part of GB suffer severely from horse-chestnut leaf miner ([Cameraria ohridella](#)) which eats the leaf tissue and eventually causes the whole leaf to turn prematurely brown in late summer, other species of *Aesculus* are generally less badly affected by this moth.

Ailanthus - Tree of heaven ([Ailanthus altissima](#)) is common in urban areas especially in the south of GB where it may be planted as a street or park tree. It is sometimes also found growing wild on old railway sidings and other waste areas.

Fraxinus - Three types of Ash are commonly found in UK, European Ash ([Fraxinus excelsior](#)), Raywood cultivar of Caucasian Ash ([Fraxinus angustifolia ssp. oxycarpa 'Raywood'](#)) and Manna Ash ([Fraxinus ornus](#)). European Ash is a common large native tree of the countryside all over GB, it has distinctive [large black buds](#), pale brownish grey bark and bunches of winged seeds. Raywood Ash has much finer leaflets and is only a medium sized tree with rather brittle branches, it is planted in parks for its fine autumn colour. Manna Ash is also a medium sized tree, the leaflets tend to be much broader than on European or Raywood ash. It has dense clusters of tiny white flowers in late spring and also has good autumn colour, again often found in parks. Other types of Ash such as Green Ash ([Fraxinus pennsylvanica](#)) are occasionally found as street or park trees.



Gleditsia - Honey Locust ([Gleditsia triacanthos](#)) has tall thin branches and delicate leaves composed of many small leaflets, some of the leaves may be doubly compound as shown in the bottom left of the [photo](#). Some forms of the tree have large spines. It is a similar medium sized tree to *Robinia* but the shape of the leaflets is subtly different, [see photo](#) of the two species side by side.

Juglans - Common walnut ([Juglans regia](#)) is a spreading medium to large sized tree with large leaves composed usually of 5 or 7 leaflets frequent in parks. The other species of Walnut such as Black Walnut ([Juglans nigra](#)) are generally much less common although they can give spectacular autumn colour.

Laburnum - Common Laburnum ([Laburnum amagyroides](#)) has trifoliate leaves and long strings of yellow flowers followed by poisonous black seeds in papery light brown pods. Voss's Laburnum ([Laburnum x watereri 'Vossii'](#)) is very similar however very few seeds are produced, this is seen as a benefit especially where children may eat the seeds. Voss's Laburnum now tends to be the commonly planted species in parks and streets.

Pterocarya - Common Wingnut ([Pterocarya fraxinifolia](#)) has large to very large (0.5m+ long) leaves. It forms a clump of many suckering medium sized trees. It is sometimes planted in parks, often by water. A few other *Pterocaryas* are grown in UK but all much rarer than Common Wingnut.

Rhus - Stags-horn Sumach ([Rhus typhina](#)) is a small tree or bush with very hairy or velvety shoots and long leaves that droop. It is very common in parks and gardens.

Robinia - False Acacia ([Robinia pseudoacacia](#)) has been commonly planted as a street tree and in parks. It has strings of [white pea like flowers](#) and the tree has an open light growth form that does not cast too dense a shade. Note the illustrated False Acacia has larger leaves than normal as the leaf was from a vigorous new shoot from the base of a cut tree. False Acacia can form a dense thicket of shoots with large paired spines if they are cut down. [When compared to Honey Locust](#) (*Gleditsia*) both have similar leaves and can have similar growth form. False Acacia is generally much more common. False Acacia leaflets have a more rounded end and are generally broader than Honey Locust.

Sambucus - Elder ([Sambucus nigra](#)) is a small bushy tree often found in hedgerows but also planted in more natural areas of parks. There are a few cultivated forms, these may be cut to the ground every few years to encourage the plant to send up vigorous yellow shoots.

Sorbus - The genus *Sorbus* of small or medium sized trees is rather variable. Some species such as Rowan ([Sorbus aucuparia](#)) have many pairs of leaflets making up a single leaf whereas others such as Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*) have just simple leaves without separate leaflets. Beside Rowan and Whitebeam other commonly planted species include: Swedish Whitebeam (*Sorbus intermedia*), Bastard Service ([Sorbus thuringiaca](#) 'Fastigiata'), and Wild Service ([Sorbus torminalis](#)), this latter species often found in woodland rather than open areas. These small *Sorbus* trees are very commonly planted in supermarket carparks, roadsides and parks. It is always worth checking these small trees with reddish berries as there sometimes much less common species mixed in, I recently found Service Tree of Fontainebleau ([Sorbus latifolia](#)) in among the Swedish Whitebeam in a local industrial estate. I had walked past the trees for years without noticing this very uncommon species. In addition to the main types there are a number of cultivars and less common species.



Conifers

Conifers have cones. However the cone scales are sometimes modified into fleshy structures, for example in Yew or Juniper trees, or the cones can be rather small as in some of the Cypresses. Most conifers are evergreen but some of the common species that are planted in Britain are deciduous for example Larch and Swamp Cypress.



Abies - None of the fir ([Abies](#)) tree species are particularly common. There is often at least one species of fir planted in sizeable parks but it is more difficult to predict which species this will be. Some of the more common species include: Grand Fir ([Abies grandis](#)) green foliage, small cones high up and can be a very tall tree, Korean Fir ([Abies koreana](#)) a small tree mainly grown for its fine display of cones, Noble Fir ([Abies procera](#)) grey foliage, very large cones, can be a very tall tree. One difficulty for identifying these trees is that the lower branches are often shed and cones are only present high up so binoculars can be useful.

Visual guide to street and park trees

Fir tree species can be told apart from the otherwise similar spruce as they have cones that are [held upright](#) compared to spruce cones which [hang down](#). Fir cones also disintegrate while still on the tree leaving a central rachis which can remain on the tree for many years. Fir tree needles are also attached to the twigs by what look like little suckers whereas spruce needles have a small brown peg attaching them to the twig. Photo shows these [brown peg like structures](#) at the base of each needle on a Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*). Generally fir foliage is soft and spruce foliage is sharp but this is not a fully reliable character as there are some exceptions. Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) can look rather like fir (*Abies*) but it has cones that hang down and the cones themselves have obvious bracts that stick out from the scales, again binoculars can be useful here as the cones may be at the top of the tree.

Araucaria - Monkey Puzzle ([Araucaria araucana](#)) is a very distinctive tree with its sharp, stiff, pointed leaves and branches coming out of the main trunk at right angles.

Calocedrus - Incense Cedar ([Calocedrus decurrens](#)) makes a [dense green column](#) with the lower few metres often bare of branches. The fan shape of the dark green sprays of foliage and cones are somewhat different to the otherwise similar [Chamaecyparis](#) and [Thuja](#) but it can be difficult to reach these so binoculars can be useful. The cones turn brown and [open up almost like small \(25mm\) flowers](#).

Cedrus - There are three commonly planted species of Cedar and one very common form of one of these species: Cedar of Lebanon ([Cedrus libani](#)), Atlas Cedar ([Cedrus atlantica](#)), Blue Atlas Cedar ([Cedrus atlantica f. glauca](#)), and Deodar ([Cedrus deodara](#)). Typical well grown examples of these trees can look quite different from each other and be relatively straightforward to tell apart. However young trees and those of atypical form can be much more tricky even giving experts trouble. Typical form of Cedar of Lebanon has flat plates of foliage, leaves about 25mm, green. Atlas Cedar has ascending branches, leaves 20mm, green, Blue Atlas Cedar is similar but foliage is silver grey. Deodar has drooping ends to the branches and leaves 35-50mm, green. This [photo](#) shows Blue Atlas Cedar on the left and Deodar on the right, several trees of each species.

Chamaecyparis - Lawson Cypress ([Chamaecyparis lawsoniana](#)) is the most common of the three *Chamaecyparis* species commonly grown in UK. The other two species are Hinoki Cypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*) and Sawara Cypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera*). None of the three are used as street trees but are found in parks. One confusing factor about all three species is that they all have numerous different forms, some of these are simply golden forms or with somewhat different growth shape but others such as [Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Filifera'](#) have a tangled mass of thread like shoots. [Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Squarrosa Sulphurea'](#) has a mixture of needle like juvenile foliage and the normal adult foliage, it also changes from light yellow in summer to grey in winter.

It is best to consult a detailed guide book to tell the different *Chamaecyparis* apart. *Chamaecyparis* may be confused with [Thuja](#) although the cones are quite different, round balls in *Chamaecyparis* but more elongate or pointed in *Thuja*. Foliage of *Thuja* tends to be heavier and less fine although there is so much variation within the *Chamaecyparis* cultivars that it is difficult to generalise about foliage.

Cryptomaria - Japanese Red Cedar ([Cryptomaria japonica](#)) is an occasional tree found in parkland especially as the cultivar *Cryptomaria japonica* 'Elegans' which grows as a large fluffy round bush with soft juvenile foliage that turns bronze in autumn. Normal adult foliage is rather hard and sharp.

Cupressus - Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) is a large tree found especially along the south and south west coast of England where it is one of the few trees resistant to the salt laden winds, it is much less common inland. The tree spreads out and often has part of the canopy missing where branches have been ripped off in the coastal gales. Italian Cypress ([Cupressus sempervirens](#)) on the other hand is rather a delicate narrow upright tree associated with the Mediterranean



region but now starting to be planted in urban landscape schemes for its architectural stature. Sprays of *Cupressus* foliage are 3D rather than flat as seen in [Chamaecyparis](#), [Thuja](#) and similar, *Cupressus* also have significantly larger cones.

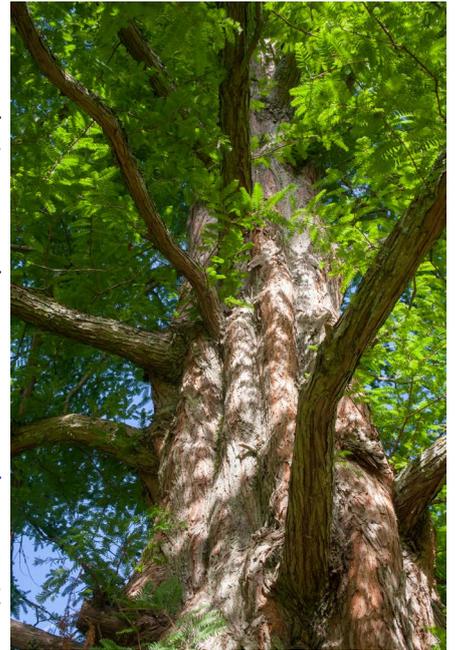
Juniperus - The native Common Juniper ([Juniperus communis](#)) has sharp foliage and blue/purple berries, it normally forms a bush but can grow as a short tree. It is not found as a street tree and is rarely found in parks. Other species of junipers are also rarely found but one or two of their cultivars are fairly common. Junipers are dioecious meaning they have separate male and female plants, a [male plant shedding pollen](#). Look out for berry like fruits and sharp juvenile foliage. An example of one of the rarer species is Chinese Juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Kaizuka'), it is somewhat different to the other junipers as it has mainly adult foliage, this photo shows a [female plant with the fleshy fruits](#) that are formed from cone scales

Larix - The larches are unusual among the conifers as they are deciduous and may have golden autumn colour. The 3 common species are difficult to tell apart but the cones can help to some extent, European Larch ([Larix decidua](#)) has oval cones with scales that are almost straight, Japanese Larch (*Larix kaempferi*) has almost round cones with scales that curve back strongly, Dunkeld Larch ([Larix x eurolepis](#)) has long oval cones with scales that bend outward. European Larch is most common in parks, the other species more common in shelter belts or forestry. They are rarely grown as street trees.

Metasequoia - Dawn Redwood ([Metasequoia glyptostroboides](#)) is a deciduous conifer that is easily confused with [Swamp Cypress](#), their foliage and growth form are similar and they can both be planted in damp areas. Dawn Redwood has side shoots and winter buds in pairs opposite each other compared to mainly alternate in Swamp Cypress. It is occasionally found in parks.

Picea - Norway Spruce ([Picea abies](#)) is the traditional [Christmas tree](#) and the species of Christmas tree found in Trafalgar Square each year, it does drop its needles. Like the other spruces it has sharp needles and cones [that hang down](#). It is fairly common in parkland and suburban gardens where people have planted out their Christmas tree although note it can grow into a large tree. Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) is the most common forestry tree in the west and north of Britain and is also planted in parkland in those areas, it is rarely found in drier areas. It has very sharp foliage. Serbian Spruce ([Picea omorika](#)) is a distinctive bluish green, narrow tree with weeping branches that turn up at the end. It is commonly planted in parks. Blue Colorado Spruce (*Picea pungens* f. *glauca*) as the name suggests it has bright blue/grey sharp foliage, a very distinctive tree but usually [dwarf cultivars](#) are planted. Found in parks and gardens.

Pinus - One of the identification features to look out for in Pines is the number of needles in each cluster. They can be in pairs, threes or fives. The native Scots Pine ([Pinus sylvestris](#)) has 60mm needles in pairs and is to be found commonly in all parts of Britain. It planted in parks and very occasionally as street tree, it also grows naturally in the wider countryside. One feature to look out for is the reddish colour of the bark especially towards the upper parts of mature trees. [Pinus nigra](#) looks similar to Scots pine but lacks the reddish bark and has longer, 120mm, needles. It is widely planted in parks, landscaping schemes and rarely on roadsides. Maritime Pine (*Pinus pinaster*) has long (120-250mm) needles; it may be confused with *Pinus nigra* but is only common in SW England. Bosnian Pine ([Pinus helreichii](#)) has very stiff 70mm forward angled leaves in pairs. It has large (20mm), distinctive buds and is increasingly widely planted. Bhutan Pine ([Pinus wallichiana](#)) has silky leaves in fives, it also has very large cones. It is occasionally planted in parks. Monterey Pine ([Pinus radiata](#)) has leaves in threes and quite large oval cones that persist on the tree branches for many years. Mainly found in the milder areas of UK. Many other species of pines are grown in Britain but most are not common or are restricted to a few large collections.



Visual guide to street and park trees

Pseudotsuga - Douglas Fir ([Pseudotsuga menziesii](#)) has soft flexible needles spreading out all round the shoot and [cones that hang down](#). The cones themselves have obvious bracts that stick out from the scales; binoculars can be useful as the cones may be at the top of the tall tree.

Sequoia - Both of the redwoods, Coast Redwood and Giant Sequoia have [thick spongy bark](#) and both can grow into very large trees in the UK. Coast Redwood ([Sequoia sempervirens](#)) has flattened needles and is generally less common than Giant Sequoia. It is occasionally planted in parkland.

Sequoiadendron- Giant Sequoia ([Sequoiadendron giganteum](#)) has scale like leaves and thick spongy red bark. It can develop a thick flared trunk that gives the impression of a massive tree. Frequently planted in parkland and very occasionally grown as a street tree in avenues.

Taxodium - Swamp Cypress ([Taxodium distichum](#)) is a deciduous medium sized conifer that is easily confused with Dawn Redwood, their foliage and growth form are similar and they can both be planted in damp areas. Dawn Redwood has side shoots and winter buds in pairs opposite each other compared to mainly alternate in [Swamp Cypress](#). It is occasionally planted in parks.

Taxus - Common Yew ([Taxus baccata](#)) is the longest lived tree in Britain. It is commonly found in churchyards and planted as hedges but also planted in more open areas of parkland. Never growing very tall but old trees develop a very wide trunk. It has red fruit. There are a number of cultivars including upright forms and those with yellow berries.



Thuja - Western Red Cedar ([Thuja plicata](#)) has leaves in drooping glossy deep green sprays that smell strongly of pineapple when crushed. The large trees are common in parks. Eastern Red Cedar ([Thuja occidentalis](#)) is not common as the wild species but some of its cultivars such as [Thuja occidentalis 'Holmstrup'](#) are commonly planted and form small or medium sized trees.

Tsuga - Western Hemlock ([Tsuga heterophylla](#)) has gentle floppy foliage with small soft flattened needles. The leading shoot flops over. Trees on their own form a dense cone and those in a group form very dark shade underneath. Not grown as a street tree but fairly common in parks and also grown in forestry. The [small \(25mm\) oval cones droop](#). There are a small number of other Hemlock species grown in UK but they are less common or very rare.

x Cupressocyparis - Leylandii ([x Cupressocyparis leylandii](#)) sometimes called the most hated plant in Britain as it is so widely planted as a hedge which often gets out of hand and rapidly grows too big. Its foliage can be confused with [Chamaecyparis](#) or [Thuja](#) and does not often have cones to help with ID. Compared to these two other genera its foliage tends to be in three dimensional plumes which can stick out from the overall [uniform light green column](#). It is abundant in gardens everywhere but rarely planted as a street tree, not common in parks except as a hedge. It is planted on some of the roundabouts in Milton Keynes, these trees are now getting rather large and stand out as a landmarks.

Finally an ancient species that does not really fit in anywhere else but is most similar to the conifers:

Ginkgo - Maidenhair Tree ([Ginkgo biloba](#)) is one of the most distinctive medium sized trees with its fan shaped leaves and unusual upright but rather haphazard branching pattern. It used to be planted only in botanical collections but is increasingly being planted as a street tree.



Fun Trees

These trees are generally very uncommon but might be found in parks if they have a collection of unusual trees. Some of the trees such as Foxglove tree tend to be found in the south of UK. These trees are generally easy to identify as they are so different to the run of the mill trees normally found in parks.



[Populus lasiocarpa](#) Chinese Necklace Poplar- Has huge leaves, to 35cm, held out all round the stem. It has typical poplar simple leaves but totally oversized and very distinctive, it may also have a surprisingly narrow trunk for such large heavy leaves.

[Paulownia tomentosa](#) Foxglove Tree - Has huge woolly leaves, to 35cm. They are somewhat similar to Indian Bean Tree leaves but Foxglove Tree leaves are more hairy especially on the leaf stalk. It also has mauve flowers in spring before the leaves then rounded pods, Indian Bean has white flowers and long bean shaped pods.

[Sassafras albidum](#) Sassafras - A tree that does not know what shape its leaves are! The picture shown is not unusual, the leaves are really that variable. No other tree that is grown outside in UK has this kind of variation in leaf shape, the three lobed leaves are the most distinctly different to other types of tree.

[Aralia elata](#) Japanese Angelica Tree - In the past this species has been planted quite extensively as a small 'architectural' tree in parks and around new housing. However it now seems to be vanishing, possibly a victim of health and safety as the whole plant including leaves is armed with [small sharp thorns](#). It has huge leaves which are many times divided and it often forms a clump of several trunks. It flowers late in the year, the [white flowers](#) being followed by deep purple berries.



[Gymnocladus dioica](#) Kentucky coffee tree - It has possibly the largest leaves of any broadleaved tree growing in UK, up to 1m long. The photo shows one leaf, not a branch, with lots of

separate leaves. Individual leaflets are connected to one stalk and this is connected to the central stalk. These huge leaves are all the more surprising as the trees come into leaf relatively late and shed relatively early. The trees are

[Koelreuteria paniculata](#) Golden Rain Tree - It has large divided leaves with each leaflet being very frilly round the edge. After the [small flowers](#) it has sprays of [red or yellow bladders](#) that, from a distance, look like large bunches of flowers all over the tree in late summer. It is mainly found in botanical collections but it is occasionally planted as a street tree.

[Decaisna fargesii](#) Blue Sausage Tree - A fairly nondescript small tree until the [sausages](#) appear but then its very hard to miss!

[Cupressus guadalupensis](#) Guadalupe cypress - There are a small number of rarely encountered trees with interesting bark that looks somewhat like this but *Cupressus guadalupensis* is probably the most extreme example with its large thick curls of bark peeling away. It is a Cypress so has cypress like foliage to distinguish from Pines or other conifers that might have somewhat similar bark.

[Pseudolarix amabilis](#) Golden Larch - The bright yellow of the autumn foliage is absolutely spectacular but so are the bright [green leaves](#) in spring. The relatively small tree seems to be



Visual guide to street and park trees

increasingly widely planted although is still uncommon at present.

[Torreya nuctifera](#) Japanese nutmeg - This species is part of a small group of trees that look a bit like Yew (*Taxus*) but have longer leaves and 'nutmegs'. These are not the true spice nutmeg, this comes from a completely different type of broadleaved evergreen tree that grows in the tropics, *Myristica fragrans*. Instead *Torreya* are conifers that produce a single nut in a similar way to Yew trees producing the small nut inside their red 'berries'.

[Cunninghamia lanceolata](#) Chinese Fir - It looks a bit like a cross between a Monkey Puzzle and a fir tree with its long, 50mm, relatively broad flexible needle like leaves with a sharp tip. The female cone is rounded with scales as shown in the photograph. The bark can form [interesting patterns](#) around the cut branches on the lower trunk. The trees growing in UK are rather shambling untidy medium sized trees but in the wild can grow up to 50m.

[Wollemia nobilis](#) Wollemi Pine - If you have an older tree book then it may not include this species as it was only discovered in 1994 in a remote area of Australia but already it is widely grown in botanical gardens and is spreading to parks. The [growth form](#) is somewhat similar to Monkey puzzle and the two species are related both being in the Araucariaceae family. The tree may also be confused with Chinese Fir but the leaves are linear rather than being a long drawn out triangle, the leaves also do not have the white bands of the Chinese fir and the cones are completely different.

Winter identification

This simple guide relies on being able to see the leaves, this is a problem if you are trying to identify deciduous trees in winter. There are sometimes clues even at this time of year, for example fallen dead leaves under the tree, remains of fruits or seeds such as 'conkers'. On the longer listing of species [here](#) there are often pictures of the winter buds or bark, sometimes these are very [distinctive](#). The image shows just a few of the native tree winter buds, other trees can also have easily recognisable buds for example the very large sticky buds of the Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*). The type of bark can also be diagnostic although it is often necessary to also see the overall shape and size of the tree and the buds, for example a large tree with very twisted bark like [this](#) is very likely to be a Sweet Chestnut whereas [white smooth bark](#) is likely to be a birch although it may not be possible to tell which of the birch species it is. Tree shape can sometimes be a problem especially if it has suffered damage or has been severely pruned but there are some trees that are easy to recognise at a distance for example the upright type of hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata') or the very [fine tracery of branches](#) on the native birch trees.



Common species vs total number of species

The table below shows the approximate number of different species within each genus. Some species may also have a number of cultivars (cultivated varieties) for example *Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata', an upright pyramidal form of the Common Hornbeam that is often planted as a street tree. Cultivars generally look similar to the main species but just have slightly bigger leaves or fruit or differently coloured foliage or a different growth form. The 'number of common species in the UK' is an approximate figure to give an idea whether you should be checking for other similar species. Genera which have large numbers of cultivars are also noted.

Genus	Common name	Number of species total worldwide	Number of common species in UK
Undivided leaves			
<i>Acer</i>	Maple	150	<10
<i>Alnus</i>	Alder	30	3
<i>Amelanchier</i>	Snowy Mespil	20	1
<i>Arbutus</i>	Strawberry Tree	14	1
<i>Betula</i>	Birch	60	<5
<i>Buxus</i>	Box	70	1
<i>Carpinus</i>	Hornbeam	70	1
<i>Castanea</i>	Sweet Chestnut	10	1
<i>Catalpa</i>	Indian Bean	40	2
<i>Cercis</i>	Judas Tree	10	1
<i>Cornus</i>	Dogwood	60	1
<i>Corylus</i>	Hazel	14	2
<i>Cotoneaster</i>	Cotoneaster	70	2 (also several smaller species that do not reach tree size)
<i>Crataegus</i>	Hawthorn	200	3
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Eucalyptus	500	3
<i>Euonymus</i>	Spindle Tree	130	1
<i>Fagus</i>	Beech	11	1
<i>Frangula</i>	Alder Buckthorn		1
<i>Ilex</i>	Holly	500	2 (but several cultivars)
<i>Liriodendron</i>	Tulip Tree	2	1
<i>Malus</i>	Apple	30	<10 (but several cultivars)
<i>Mesphilus</i>	Medlar	2	1
<i>Liquidambar</i>	Sweetgum	5	2
<i>Magnolia</i>	Magnolia	210	4
<i>Morus</i>	Mulberry	10	2
<i>Nothofagus</i>	Southern Beech	36	1
<i>Olea</i>	Olive	40	1
<i>Parrotia</i>	Persian Ironwood	1	1
<i>Platanus</i>	Plane	11	2
<i>Populus</i>	Poplar	30	5
<i>Prunus</i>	Cherry, Plum	400	10 (but many cultivars)
<i>Pyrus</i>	Pear	30	3
<i>Quercus</i>	Oak	500	<10
<i>Rhamnus</i>	Purging Buckthorn	150	1
<i>Salix</i>	Willow, Sallow	400	6
<i>Tilia</i>	Lime	30	5
<i>Ulmus</i>	Elm	60	3

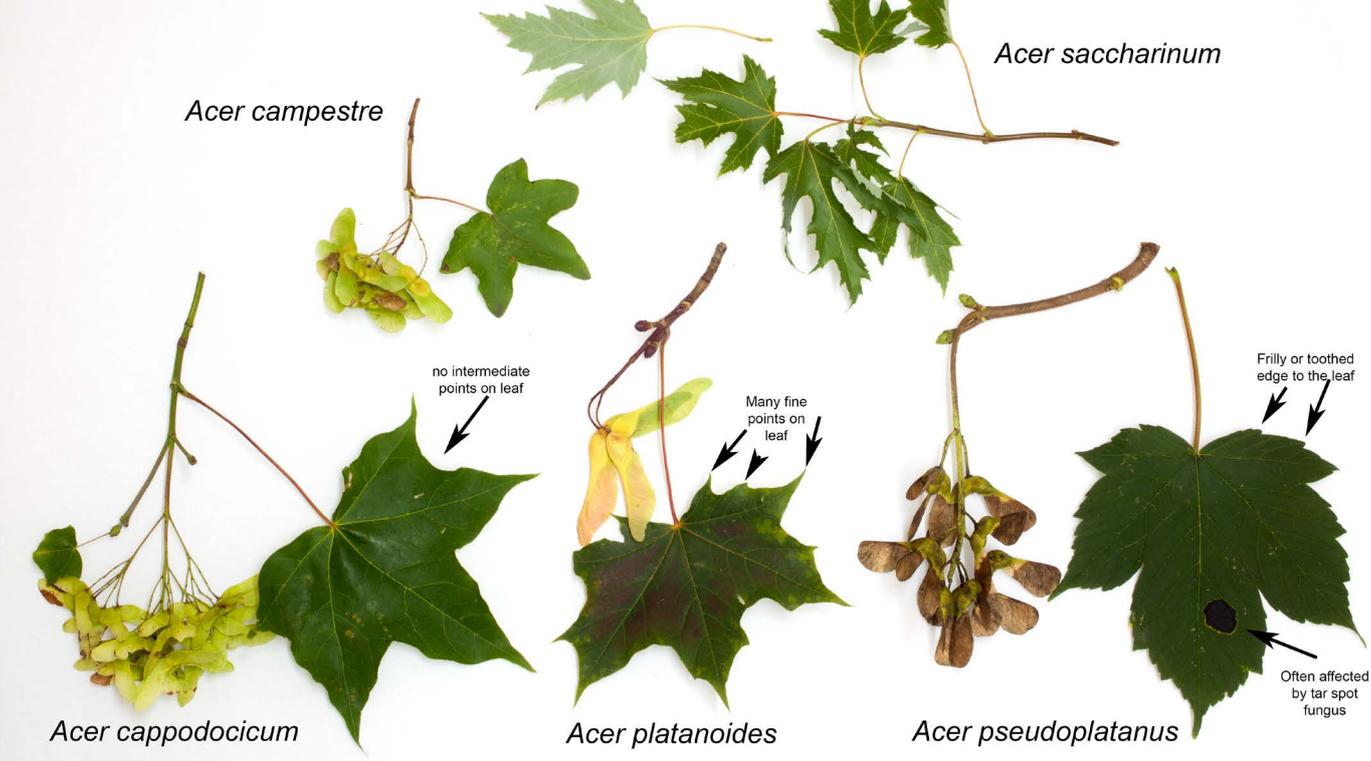
Visual guide to street and park trees

<i>Viburnum</i>	Guelder Rose	150	2 (there are several other shrubby species)
Divided leaves			
<i>Aesculus</i>	Horse Chestnut	25	2
<i>Ailanthus</i>	Tree of Heaven	8	1
<i>Fraxinus</i>	Ash	60	3
<i>Gleditsia</i>	Honey Locust	12	1
<i>Juglans</i>	Walnut	21	1
<i>Laburnum</i>	C o m m o n Laburnum	2	2
<i>Rhus</i>	Stag's-horn Sumach	250	1
<i>Pterocarya</i>	C a u c a s i a n Wingnut	8	1
<i>Robinia</i>	False Acacia	10	1
<i>Sambucus</i>	Elder	25	1
<i>Sorbus</i>	R o w a n , Whitebeam	100	4 (several other species and cultivars)
Conifers			
<i>Abies</i>	Fir	50	3 (No single species particularly common)
<i>Araucaria</i>	Monkey Puzzle	19	1
<i>Cedrus</i>	Cedar	4	3
<i>Chamaecyparis</i>	Cypress	6	3 (many different forms)
<i>Cryptomaria</i>	Japanese Red Cedar	1	1
<i>Cupressus</i>	Cypress	20	2
<i>Juniperus</i>	Juniper	60	1
<i>Larix</i>	Larch	10	3
<i>Metasequoia</i>	D a w n Redwood	1	1
<i>Picea</i>	Spruce	40	2
<i>Pinus</i>	Pine	115	4 (several other species slightly less common)
<i>Pseudotsuga</i>	Douglas Fir	6	1
<i>Sequoia</i>	C o a s t Redwood	1	1
<i>Sequoiadendron</i>	Giant Sequoia	1	1
<i>Taxodium</i>	S w a m p Cypress	3	1
<i>Taxus</i>	Yew	6	1
<i>Thuja</i>	Red Cedar	5	2
<i>Tsuga</i>	Hemlock	10	1
x <i>Cupressocyparis</i>	Leylandii	1	1
<i>Ginkgo</i>	Maidenhair Tree	1	1

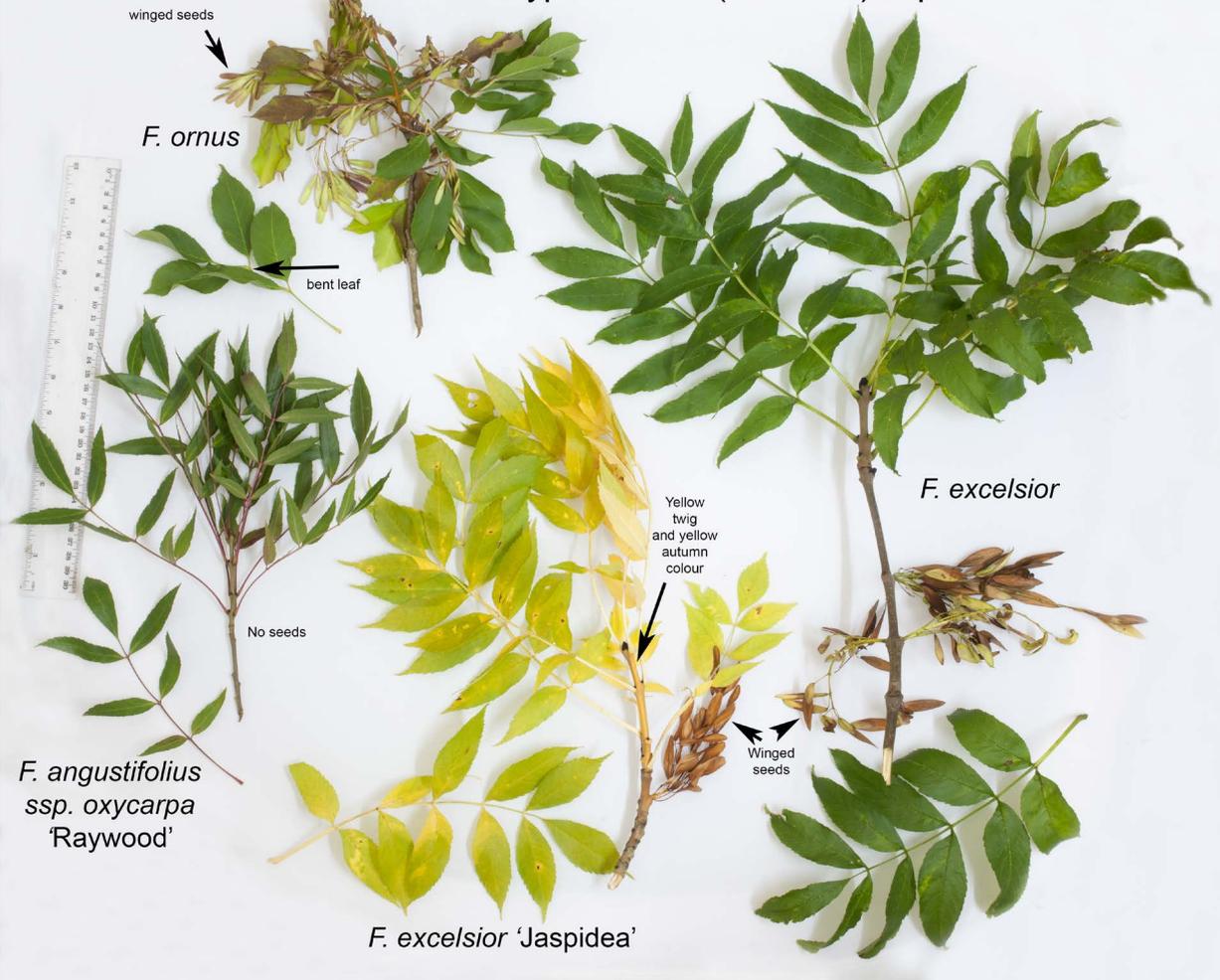
Guide written by Mike Dodd and Rachel Ward

Comparison of some common species within genera. Note there are many other species in these genera so it is possible your tree may not be shown here.

Acer saccharinum has silver on back of leaf may not produce seeds.
Acer campestre has small leaves and is a smaller tree
Acer platanoides has many needle points on leaf and big winged seeds
Acer pseudoplatanus has frilly edge to leaf and big winged seeds
Acer cappadocicum has leaf with no frill or needle points and small winged seeds



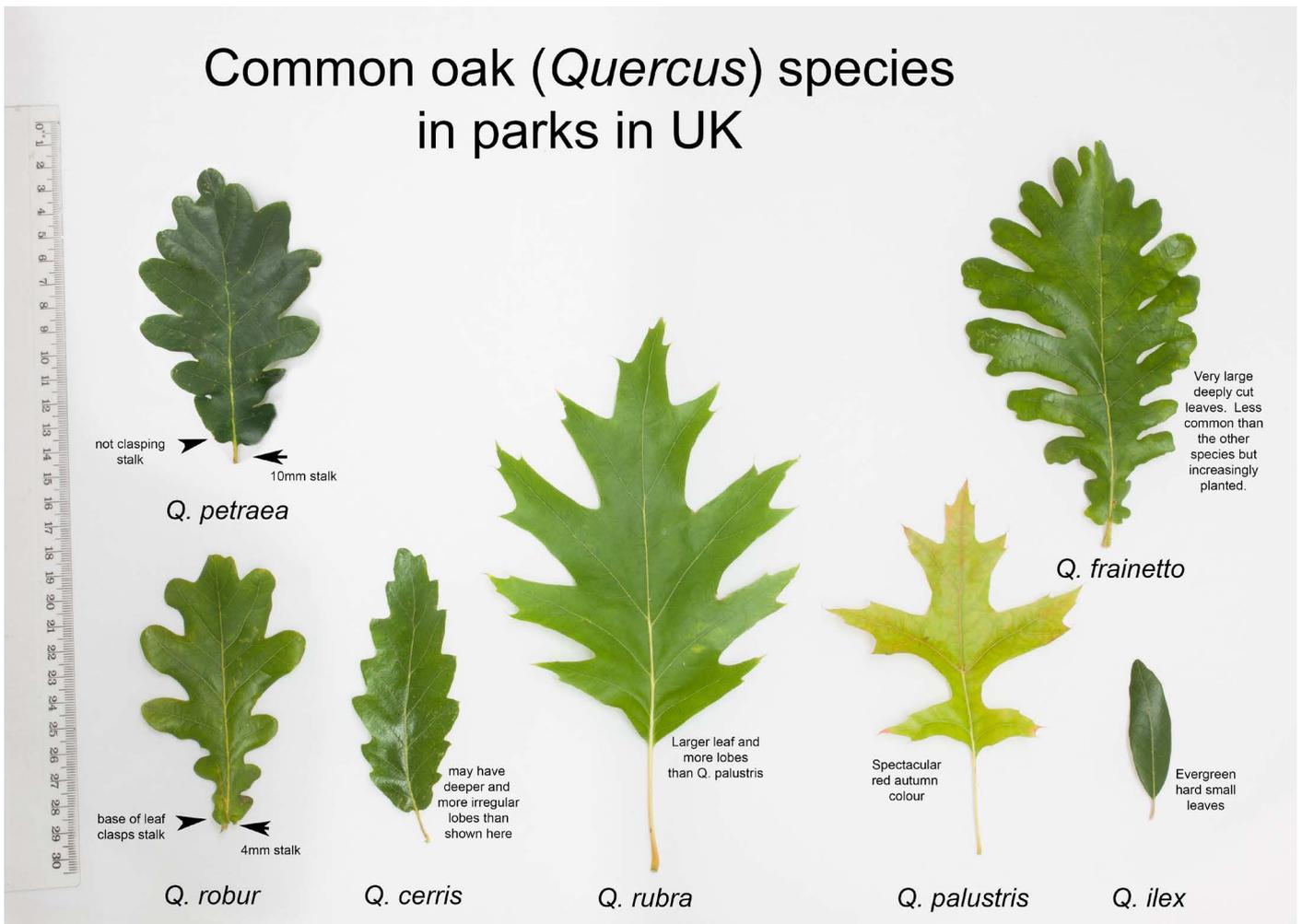
Common types of Ash (*Fraxinus*) in parks and streets



Common types of Ash (*Fraxinus*) trees in parks and streets in Britain



Common oak (*Quercus*) species in parks in UK



The three native Lime trees, Common Lime, Small leaved- Lime and Broadleaved Lime

Intermediate sized flat leaves soon almost hairless

Small flat leaves soon almost hairless

Large slightly furry floppy leaves that curl at the edges



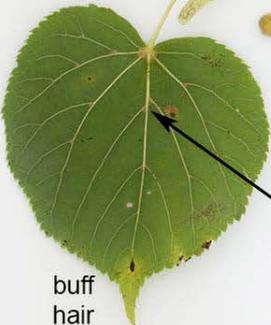
Flowers and seeds hanging down

Flowers and fruit sticking out at all angles to the stem, few drooping

velvety seed indistinct ribs

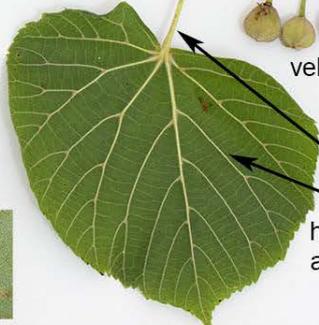
velvety seed indistinct ribs

velvety seed with clear ribs



only hair in tufts in vein junctions

reddish hair



Tilia x europaea

Tilia cordata

Tilia platyphyllos

note collins guide is wrong about hairyness of small leaved lime seed

