

Rosebery Park Tree Trail



# There are a great many trees in Rosebery Park!

## Populus x canescens Grey Poplar

# This trail will lead you to the ones which are named.

	English Names	Botanical Names	Page for illustrations and information
1	Grey Poplar	Populus x Canescens	3
2.	Elm	Ulmus 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'	3
3.	Wellingtonia	Sequoiadendron Giganteum	3
4.	Walnut	Juglans Regia	4
5.	Sweet Chestnut	Cantanae Sativa	4
6.	Indian Bean Tree	Catalpa Bignonioides	4
7.	Bird Cherry	Prunus Padus	4
8.	Strawberry Tree	Arbutus Unedo	5
9.	False Acacia	Robinia Pseudoacacia	5
10.	Manna Ash	Fraxinus Omus	5
11.	Norway Maple	Acer Platanoides 'Crimson King'	5
12.	European Larch	Larix Decidua	6
13.	Silver Birch	Betula Pendula	6
14.	Common Lime	Tilia x Europaea	6
15.	Red Oak	Quercus Rubra	7
16.	Horse Chestnut	Aesculus Hippocastanum	7
17.	Holm Oak	Quercus Ilex	7
18.	Weeping Willow	Salix x Sepulcralis Chrysocoma	7
19.	Cappadocian Maple	Acer Cappadocicum	8
20.	Tulip Tree	Liriodendron Tulipifera	8
21.	Maidenhair Tree	Ginkgo Biloba	8
22.	Common Beech	Fagus Sylvatica	9
23.	Common Hornbeam	Carpinus Betulus 'Fastigiata'	9
24.	Contorted Willow	Salix Matsudana 'Tortuosa'	9

See if you can find all these trees.

# **ENJOY THE TRAIL!**

- Q. Why does a tree have a botanical name?
- A. So that the tree is recognised world wide.



### 1. Grey Poplar

- Populus x Canescens

(The Rosebery twins) along with its adjacent twin this mature specimen is about 120 years old. Found throughout Britain and Europe, the timber can be used to make storage pallets and packing cases.

### 2. Elm

- Ulmus 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'

Fast growing medium sized tree with a spreading habit. Glossy green leaves that turn yellow-green in Autumn. Its resistance to Dutch Elm disease comes from its Asiatic parentage of a cross between Ulmus pumilla and Ulmus japonica.







# 3. Wellingtonia

- Sequoiadendron Giganteum

A large majestic tree introduced soon after it was discovered in North America in 1852. This was the same year the Duke of Wellington died, thus its English name. In its native California there are specimens over 3,400 years old.

### 4. Walnut

- Juglans Regia

Native of Asia. Handsome spreading tree valued for its timber in furniture making. The kernel of the nut is edible and the oil extracted was once used for soap making.





### 5. Sweet Chestnut

- Cantanae Sativa

Long lived tree probably brought here by the Romans. The nuts can be roasted and eaten and the timber used for fencing.

### 6. Indian Bean Tree

- Catalpa Bignonioides

From the Southern United States of America. Introduced to Britain in the 18th Century. White flowers in the summer followed by long bean like seed pods which stay on the tree all winter.





# 7. Bird Cherry

- Prunus Padus

A native tree with a wonderful display of long white hanging blossoms in May. Birds love the black fruits that follow. In the Middle Ages pieces of bark were hung outside doors and put in the drinking water to guard against the plague.

### 8. Strawberry Tree

- Arbutus Unedo

Its popular name comes from its round red fruits which ripen in Autumn but are not for human consumption. The latin name "unedo" means "I eat one only". Grows wild in Ireland and France and the wood can be used for inlay and marguetry.





#### 9. False Acacia

- Robinia Pseudoacacia

A large tree with furrowed bark and white slightly fragrant flowers. Native to North America and Mediterranean regions. This specimen is over one hundred years old.

# 10. **Manna Ash**– Fraxinus Omus

Introduced to Britain in 1700 from Italy and Sicily where it is still cultivated for its gum for medicinal purposes. The flowers are creamy white and are borne in dense heads in May, making this a very decorative tree.





# 11. Norway Maple

- Acer Platanoides 'Crimson King'

A large handsome tree with leaves of deep crimson-purple, with deep yellow flowers tinged with red. Tolerates pollution and thrives on most soils. Grows fairly quickly and lives to a good age.

### 12. European Larch

- Larix Decidua

The Larch was brought to Britain from Europe in about 1620 and at first was mainly grown as an ornamental tree. Between 1740 and 1830 three successive Dukes of Atholl planted more than 14 million Larch on their estates in Perthshire. They are now recognised as a good timber tree for staircases, wall panels and many other uses. It is a deciduous tree losing all its foliage in winter.





13. **Silver Birch**– Betula Pendula

Distinctive white trunk with a delicate tracery of branches. Not a long lived tree but a good absorber of pollution.

# 14. Common Lime

- Tilia x Europaea

The Common Lime is the tallest growing broad leaved tree in Britain. It can live up to 500 years and graced the gardens of stately homes since the 18th Century. The greenish yellow sweet smelling flowers produced nectar which is much sought after by bees.





#### 15. Red Oak

- Quercus Rubra

Large fast growing tree, giving good Autumn colour when leaves turn dark red. In its native North America the bark is used for tanning leather. Introduced to Britain in 1724.

### 16. Horse Chestnut

- Aesculus Hippocastanum

Introduced to Britain from the Balkans in the late 16th century. It was not until the 1800's that the game of conkers was first played. White ornamental candle like flowers appear in the spring making a very showy display.







# 17. Holm Oak

– Quercus Ilex

This Oak is an evergreen, staying green all year round and is sometimes called Evergreen Oak for this reason. It is native to the Mediterranean regions and was brought to this country about 1550. Grows best on well drained soils and does well in coastal areas. A long lived tree.

18. Weeping Willow

– Salix x Sepulcralis Chrysocoma

Willows were among the earliest trees to recolonise Britain after the Ice age. The leaves are long and narrow appearing with the slender catkins in Spring. Out of the willow tree family possibly the most beautiful is the weeping willow which has been cultivated since 1888.







### 19. Cappadocian Maple

- Acer Cappadocicum

This Maple has a broad rounded shape and short trunk. The leaves are opposite and have paired seeds in clusters. Its glossy leaves turn rich butter-yellow in Autumn. Native from the Caucasus to the Himalayas and was introduced to Britain in 1838, a year after Victoria came to the throne.

20. **Tulip Tree**– *Liriodendron Tulipifera* 

Tall tree from North America has tulip shaped flowers, hence its name. Arrived here in the 1650's and has display of rich yellow leaves in the Autumn.





#### 21. Maidenhair Tree

– Ginkgo Biloba

Imprint of this leaf has been found in fossils some 250 million years old, yet this primitive tree still lives on today. Originates from China.

### 22. Common Beech

- Fagus Sylvatica

Undoubtedly a most noble large tree which is also good for hedge making. It has good Autumn colour turning yellow at first, then orange or redbrown. Beech is used for furniture making, including chairs. Has a life span of about 250 years.









# 23. **Common Hornbeam**– Carpinus Betulus 'Fastigiata'

Native to Britain. Very hard wood and can live for hundreds of years. The original maze at Hampton Court was planted with Hornbeam before being replaced with yew and holly.

### 24. Contorted Willow

- Salix Matsudana 'Tortuosa'

Sometimes called the Corkscrew Willow, originating from China. All parts of the tree are twisted corkscrew fashion, leaves and branches. Willows are deciduous and bear long catkins usually with male and female flowers on separate trees.



# TRY THE TREE QUIZ!

Which tree do these leaves come from?

1.







# WHICH TREE

1. Has red fruits?

4.





2. Has black fruits the birds like?

3. Is probably the oldest tree in the park?

6.





4. Originated in China?

5. Have edible nuts?

7.

# WHICH FOUR TREES

6. Come from North America?

AND WHICH TREE do you like best?

# The Friends of Rosebery Park

We are a group of local residents and users of the park with an interest and desire to enhance the park, raise awareness and work in conjunction with Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (E&EBC).

If you would like to get involved or learn more please visit our web site at:

# http://friendsofroseberypark.org.uk

The Whitten family have donated the tree labels in happy memory of Stephen John Whitten - dentist, potter, gardener and naturalist - who was born in Epsom and lived here all his life. 1932 - 2015.

Thanks are due to all those who have helped to devise this Tree Trail.

Mike Ford of the Epsom & Ewell Tree Advisory Board for sharing all his wisdom and information to make this project possible: Rosie Hall for all her work in preparing the beautiful illustrations: and Steven McCormick and his Committee of the Friends of Rosebery Park for their help and encouragement throughout.

J.W.

6. Maidenhair Tree, 7. Hornbeam. Answers: 1. Strawberry, 2. Bird Cherry, 3. Grey Poplar, 4. Maidenhair and Contorted Willow, 5. Walnut and Sweet Chestrut, 6. Wellingtonia, Tulip, False Acacia & Red Oak.