

Caldecott Park



www.rugby.gov.uk/caldecottpark



Tree Trail



- (A) Silver Birch
- (B) Minkey Puzzle Tree
- (C) Austrian Pine
- (D) Yew Tree
- (E) Tree of Heaven
- (F) Ginkgo
- (G) Horse Chestnut
- (H) English Oak
- (I) Walnut Tree
- (J) Whitebeam
- (K) Turkey Oak
- (L) Atlantic Cedar
- (M) Cider Gum
- (N) Common Lime
- (O) Pin Oak
- (P) Turkish Hazel
- (Q) Tulip Tree
- (R) Norway Maple
- (S) Southern Beech
- (T) Copper Beech
- (U) Sweet Chestnut
- (V) Downy Birch

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| (1) Main Entrance | (8) Floral Steps | (15) Tennis Courts |
| (2) Sculpture/Public Art | (9) Floral Garden | (16) Multi Sports Area |
| (3) Toilets | (10) Depot Area | (17) Entrance Gates from Lancaster-Road |
| (4) Children's Play Area | (11) Cafe | (18) Public Right of Way |
| (5) Entrance from Car Park | (12) Toddler Play Area | (19) Memorial Tree |
| (6) Bandstand | (13) Warden's Office | (D) Disabled Toilet |
| (7) Woodland | (14) Bowling Green and pavilion | ➤ Access Points |

Caldecott Park Tree Trail

Located at the heart of Rugby, Caldecott Park provides a great opportunity for local residents and visitors to see a wide range of wildlife, spectacular floral displays and various different species of tree. During spring and summer are ideal times to see a range of flowers and animals within the park.

Leaflets are available to encourage people to learn and appreciate how valuable Caldecott Park is to the community. Leaflets on animals and birds within the park, history of the park as well as a tree walk and events programme are available at the park ranger's office, café, visitor centre and town hall reception.

A tree can be defined as a perennial woody plant with many secondary branches supported off ground by one single main trunk. Trees are important not only because they absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and the obvious ability to produce oxygen as a by-product but because they can be the first link in a food chain, provide a suitable habitat for various animals and keep the soil in good condition. Many trees produce fruits or nuts that are a valuable resource for many organisms and the trunks can be used as building material and a primary energy source in many developing countries.

Caldecott Park has a range of young and mature trees with over 50 different species and over 300 specimens. The spinney wood area of the park and surrounding holly trees predate the park making them well over 100 years old. As you walk around hopefully you will be able to identify as many as possible, the guide provides information on 22 of the parks interesting trees.

Silver Birch



Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*)

- The graceful silver birch is a genuine native of Britain
- Papery-white bark – almost pink in young trees
- Sap from the bark was used to make birch tree wine and was thought to have medicinal properties.

Monkey Puzzle Tree



Monkey Puzzle Tree (*Araucaria araucana*)

- Species is estimated to be around 60 million years old, based upon the fossil record known today
- The term Monkey Puzzle comes from a comment from an Englishman, Archibald Menzies in the 1800's, who thought it would certainly be a puzzle for a monkey to climb!
- Native to South America.

Austrian Pine



Austrian Pine (*Pinus nigra*)

- Widely distributed throughout the Mediterranean, Black pine occurs in several forms, one of which is Austrian pine
- The needles contain a substance called terpene, this is released when rain washes over the needles and it has a negative effect on the germination of some plants, including wheat
- It is a valuable remedy used internally in the treatment of kidney and bladder complaints.

YEW TREE



Yew Tree (*Taxus baccata*)

- The elastic qualities of the close-grained wood of the yew were highly prized in the Middle Ages for making longbows such as those with which the English won the Battle of Agincourt. So greatly in demand were the yews for bow making that suitable trees were exhausted, and the timber had to be imported
- The oldest known wooden implement is a spear made of yew wood, about 50,000 years old, from Clacton-on-Sea, England.

Tree of Heaven



Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)

- The Tree of heaven is native to Taiwan and central China and is a very aggressive plant, a prolific seed producer (up to 350,000 seeds in a year), grows rapidly, and can overrun native vegetation. It also produces toxins that prevent the establishment of other plant species
- The toxin produced in the bark and leaves are being studied as a possible source for a natural herbicide. It is used in traditional herbal medicine in China.

Ginkgo



Ginkgo or Maidenhair (*Ginkgo biloba*)

- Fossils of the maidenhair tree have been found in coal seams formed 250 million years ago
- Tree survived through the centuries by cultivation in temple and palace gardens of China. Was introduced to Europe in the early 18th century
- They are long-lived trees, remarkably resistance to disease, pests, and fires. They also are extremely tolerant of air pollution.

Horse Chestnut



Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)

- Native to Northern Greece and Albania, the tree must have been favoured for shade, ornament, and fodder
- It arrived in the sixteenth century and was grown, initially, as a specimen tree in collections
- The nut is typically used by school children in the classic playground game named 'conkers'.

English Oak



English Oak (*Quercus robur*)

- English oak is native to Europe, western Asia and northern Africa. It was a major component of the original forest in England
- The wood has been a valuable commodity for centuries, and during Britain's reign on the High Seas, many a sailing ship was made from the fine hard wood of English oak. Throughout the British Isles many ancient English oaks have their own names
- The oak supports more insect species than any other British tree.

Walnut



Walnut (*Juglans regia*)

- The walnut, a native of Asia Minor, was imported to Rome from Greece by about 100 BC. The Greeks called it the 'royal nut' or 'Persian nut', names that reflect its importance
- As the legions of Imperial Rome marched north to conquer the barbarian lands of Gaul and Britain they carried with them the seeds of the walnut tree. The 'royal nut of jove' was their name for the fruit of the tree, which they prized as a food source of cooking oil.

Whitebeam



Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*)

- When the buds are opening in spring, showing the silvery-white undersides of the leaves, the whole tree seems to be covered in flowers, but these arrive later
- Used commonly as a decorative street tree. Their compact shape and relative modest size allow it to be planted in restricted spaces; and the hairy undersides of its leaves resist pollution and sea winds and help the tree conserve moisture on dry sites.

Turkey Oak



Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*)

- It grows vigorously, reaching a height of 40 meters and is native to south east France across to the Balkans and Turkey
- The tree was also once known as iron oak because of the weight of its timber when green; or mossy-cupped oak, from the distinctive acorn cups which hold the bitter acorns until they ripen in the second year. The acorns are freely produced and the tree has become naturalised in many parts of southern Britain.

Atlantic Cedar



Atlantic Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*)

- Native to North Africa, the cedar is confined to the Atlas mountains of Algeria and Morocco and introduced to Britain in 1841
- An essential oil obtained from the distilled branches is a good antiseptic and fungicide that stimulates the circulatory and respiratory systems
- An essential oil obtained from the distilled branches is used in perfumery, notably in jasmine-scented soaps.

Cider Gum



Cider Gum (*Eucalyptus Gunnii*)

- Several species of gum tree or eucalyptus have been introduced into Britain from Australasia for their ornamental qualities. The cider gum, which comes from the cool mountain regions of southern Australia and Tasmania, is the most widespread in gardens and parks
- Gum trees take their name from the resinous substance that they exude from their bark. The flowers have a hinged lip that opens to allow insects to pollinate them.

European Lime



European Lime (*Tilia x europaea*)

- This is the tallest broad-leaved tree in Britain and it originated as a hybrid between the large-leaved and small-leaved lime
- Nectar from the flowers provides food for honey bees in July
- Linden, a herb derived from various species of *Tilia*, or lime tree, has been used in European folk medicine for centuries to treat a wide range of health problems.

Pin Oak



Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)

- It is also known as water oak and swamp oak, both of which are names that describe situations in which it grows in its native North America
- In its native home it has been used for making charcoal, and its bark for tanning leather
- In winter the short, slender twigs that stand out from the branches have a pin-like appearance at a distance hence the common name.

Turkish Hazel



Turkish Hazel (*Corylus colurna*)

- Turkish Hazel was Introduced to Britain in the 17th century probably for its nuts
- Although it produces prolific crops in its native lands of south – east Europe and western Asia, where the summers are hot and the winters are cold, it does not fruit well in Britain
- In its native lands, the Turkish hazel is greatly valued for its timber, used in furniture making.

Tulip Tree



Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

- The tree was introduced to Britain by the Tradescants, father and son, gardeners to Charles I
- A tulip tree reaches its full stature in approximately 200 years
- North American Indians used to call the tulip tree 'canoe wood' since canoes carrying up to 20 people could be hollowed out of a single log.

Norway Maple



Norway Maple or Crimson King (*Acer platanoides*)

- Harsh climatic conditions in the mountains of northern continental Europe which are its native home make the Norway maple very hardy and resistant to frost
- The young tree grows quickly but is prone to attack by grey squirrels, which strip off and eat the bark and also the sweet sap beneath
- Native in most of Europe except the extreme north and west, introduced into Britain in the 17th century.

Southern Beech



Southern Beech (*Nothofagus*)

- When Spanish explorers reached the areas of South America where this tree grows, its shape reminded them of the oaks they had left behind in Spain
- Southern beeches once formed extensive forest in South America and especially in Chile, from which country the tree was introduced into Britain in 1903.

Copper Beech



Copper Beech (*Fagus sylvatica* or *Purpurea Pendula*)

- *Fagus sylvatica* as a native tree is confined to south-east England and the midlands, but grows as a result of planting over the rest of Britain, native to Europe
- The Copper Beech is a cultivated variety of the European Beech. Its leaves are coppery or reddish in colour. It has a typical lifespan of 150 to 200 years, though sometimes up to 300 years.

Sweet Chestnut



Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*)

- The sweet chestnut is a native of the Mediterranean lands and was probably introduced to Britain by the Romans
- The nuts develop in early autumn. They are protected by a very prickly shell. Each shell contains two or three nutlets, beautiful dark brown nuts with a white, pointed tip
- Romans used the fruits to make a form of porridge, called pollenta in Latin, which is sometimes eaten in poorer regions of southern Europe.

Downy Birch



Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*)

- One of two birches native to the British Isles, the downy birch often crosses with the silver birch, the other native species, to produce hybrids that have characteristics of both
- In upland areas, downy birch woods provide useful shelter for sheep in winter, and they are a favourite habitat for roe-deer
- As firewood it burns with a particularly bright flame.





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