

Trees in the Gallery garden



This survey was the initiative of the
Dulwich Society Tree Committee



1. Judas Tree
Cercis siliquastrum

2. Dawn Redwood
Metasequoia gytostroboides

3. Magnolia
Magnolia grandiflora

4. Smooth Japanese Maple
Acer palmatum

5. Black Mulberry
Morus nigra

6. Swamp Cypress
Taxodium distichum

7. Honey Locust
Gleditsia triacanthos 'Sunburst'

8. Coral Bark Maple
Acer palmatum 'Sango-kaku'

9. Foxglove Tree
Paulownia tomentosa

10. Handkerchief Tree
Davidia involucreta

11. Golden Indian Bean Tree
Catalpa bignonioides 'Aurea'

12. English Oak
Quercus robur

13. Black Gum
Nyssa sylvatica

14. Persian Ironwood
Parrotia persica

15. Kentucky Coffee Tree
Gymnocladus dioica

16. Tulip Tree
Liriodendron tulipifera

17. Wellingtonia
Sequoiadendron giganteum

18. Paper-bark Maple
Acer griseum

19. Sweet Gum
Liquidambar styraciflua

20. Atlas Cedar
Cedrus atlantica

21. Walnut
Juglans regia

22. Box
Buxus sempervirens

23. Red Oak
Quercus rubra

24. Common Beech
Fagus sylvatica

25. Copper Beech
Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'

26. Dawyck Beech
Fagus sylvatica 'Dawyck'

1. Judas Tree

Cercis siliquastrum

So called because of a tradition that Judas hanged himself from one. Has pretty pinky-mauve flowers before the leaves come out.

2. Dawn Redwood

Metasequoia gyptostroboides

A deciduous conifer from China.

An ancient tree which was thought to be extinct. First seeds sent to Britain in 1948. Pale green leaves. Similar to Swamp Cypress, but with opposite leaves.

3. Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Evergreen tree usually grown against a wall. Large leaves and enormous white scented flowers in summer.

4. Smooth Japanese Maple

Acer palmatum

There is a wide variety of hybrids. The leaves are pale green, turning red in autumn.

5. Black Mulberry

Morus nigra

This tree has delicious fruit, similar to loganberry, but it is the white Mulberry leaves which are eaten by silkworms.

6. Swamp Cypress

Taxodium distichum

The stump of a former impressive specimen 80 ft tall (75m) of this deciduous conifer native to America. A young one has been planted nearby.

7. Honey Locust

Gleditsia triacanthos 'Sunburst'

This has yellow leaves in summer and long black pods in autumn which clatter in the wind. The honey from the beans was used to brew beer.

8. Coral Bark Maple

Acer palmatum 'Sango-kaku' ('Senkaki')

Another Japanese maple with brilliant red bark and golden leaves in autumn.

9. Foxglove Tree

Paulownia tomentosa

A newly planted tree with very large leaves and violet to purple bell shaped flowers, like a foxglove, appearing in late spring, on mature trees. It comes from China where only the Empress was permitted to have one on her grave.

10. Handkerchief Tree

Davidia involucrata

Another young tree, from China. In May the small flowers are hidden by the spectacular drooping snowy white bracts, which gives it its popular name, though these may not appear until the tree is at least ten years old.

11. Indian Bean Tree

Catalpa bignonioides 'Aurea'

Very late to leaf and has panicles of white flowers in summer and long dark slender pods in autumn.

12. English Oak

Quercus robur

This tree was planted by the Queen in 2000, to commemorate the re-opening of the Gallery. It is one of our native oaks, is very long lived and famous for its timber. There are several other oaks in the garden.

13. Black Gum

Nyssa sylvatica

Another tree native to America. Leaves turn brilliant orange and red in autumn.

14. Persian Ironwood

Parrotia persica

This tree was clipped as a bush in the past so now it is multi-stemmed. Leaves, similar in shape to beech, turn red in autumn.

15. Kentucky Coffee Tree

Gymnocladus dioica

A handsome tree of the pea family. Looks very bare and black in winter. The beans were used to make a coffee-like beverage by the early American settlers.

16. Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Wonderful large yellow orange flowers in summer. The unusual shaped leaves turn butter yellow in autumn.

17. Wellingtonia

Sequoiadendron giganteum

A fine evergreen conifer planted here in 1972, but not likely to reach the 100m of trees in the high Sierra Nevada (California).

18. Paper Bark Maple

Acer griseum

Chinese maple – so called because of its orange peeling bark.

19. Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

These six trees, planted to mark the path, have maple like leaves, which turn scarlet in autumn. Now widely planted as a street tree.

20. Atlas Cedar

Cedrus atlantica

An evergreen conifer which will grow into a large tree. Native to the Atlas mountains of North Africa.

21. Walnut

Juglans regia

These are planted for their nuts and timber. Their leaves have a unique smell rather like boot polish.

22. Box

Buxus sempervirens

A small evergreen, native on chalk and limestone, but widely used for low hedges in parks and gardens. Its very hard wood is used in marquetry.

23. Red Oak

Quercus rubra

This large oak has larger leaves with more pointed lobes than the English oak. These may turn a marvellous red in autumn.

24. Common Beech

Fagus sylvatica

This is one of a line of four beeches, easily recognised by their smooth grey trunks.

25. Copper Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'

This is a common tree in gardens.

26. Dawyck Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Dawyck'

Found in Scotland around 1860. Not available commercially in this country until 1937.