

Tree bingo

by Mina McPhee

The Friends of Bedgebury Pinetum

The Pinetum is home to the most amazing trees from around the world. How many of these conifers and broadleaf varieties can you find? Why not take some paper and colouring crayons on your walk and draw pictures of the trees you see!



FIND OUR TREES

Find one of each of the trees described in the Pinetum and write down the tree number **xx-xxxx** from its label in the boxes shown. Return your answers to the Visitor Information Office to collect your Love Bedgebury sticker!

If you want to know more about Bedgebury's tree conservation activities, visit our website: bedgeburypinetum.org.uk to find out about the Pinetum, Bedgebury's seed-collecting expeditions and many interesting conifer facts!



Golden larch

(Pseudolarix amabilis)

Although known as a larch it is not a larch; nor is it evergreen! Its needles turn an amazing shade of yellow before falling in the autumn! A native of China, it is vulnerable in the wild.

Serbian spruce

(Picea omorika)

Now reduced to fewer than 5,000 trees in the wild, the Serbian spruce is endangered in its native range. Bedgebury probably has the largest collection of this tree grown from wild-collected seeds.

Tamarack

(Larix laricina)

The cones of the tamarack start off a vivid shade of pink before maturing into brown. You have to be around at exactly the right time in the spring to marvel at the pink rosebud cones. This is the tree represented in the logo of the Friends of Bedgebury Pinetum.

Giant redwood

(Sequoiadendron giganteum)

The giant redwood is the largest living organism by mass. It can live for a few thousand years - the oldest known individual tree is about 3,500 years old! Look at the cones – don't they look like pairs of lips all stacked on top of each other?

Great white cherry tree

(Prunus 'Taihaku')

The avenue of cherry trees that runs to the children's play area is a wonderful sight in late spring when the trees are in bloom. It is stunning in autumn too! 111 trees were presented to Bedgebury as a gift from a Japanese martial arts organisation in 2013.

Wollemi pine

(Wollemia nobilis)

There are only about 100 Wollemi pine trees left in the wild. They live for hundreds of years and the oldest, 'King Billy', is thought to be over 1,000 years old. The first specimen of this tree to arrive at Bedgebury was confiscated by HM Customs from a traveller trying to smuggle it into the country in a suitcase!

English oak

(Quercus robur)

The quintessential English tree, conjuring images of summer picnics and cricket matches, the oak is native to most of Europe and can live to be several centuries old. Can you spot oak apples as well as acorns on the tree?

Scots pine

(Pinus sylvestris)

The iconic Scots pine, with its towering sculptured silhouette and orange bark, is one of only three native conifers in the UK. It can grow up to 35m tall and lives for several hundred years.

Monkey puzzle

(Araucaria araucana)

A tree that was around in the time of the dinosaurs but is now endangered in its homelands of Chile and Argentina. The seeds of the monkey puzzle tree cannot be stored in a seedbank so the trees must be grown to be conserved.

Sweetgum

(Liquidambar styraciflua)

The sweetgum tree is a native of south eastern USA and is a popular ornamental tree because of its spectacular autumn colour. It is one of the most common commercial hardwood species grown in the USA.