

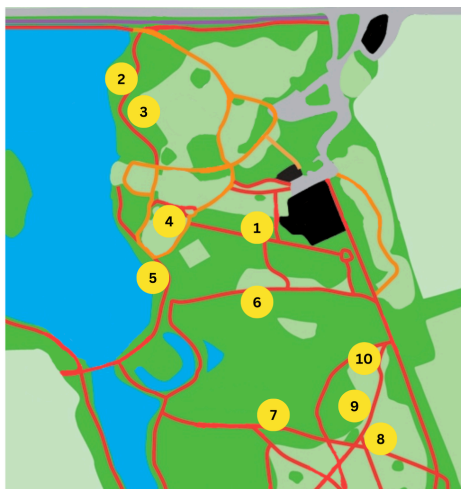
## About the trail

The locations of these trees are marked on the map. You'll have to use your observation skills to spot these trees and find your way around.

The tree trail follows paths that may be uneven or muddy in places. It is suitable for all ages, although young children should be accompanied at all times.

It is just about 1km long so allow approx. 40 minutes to complete.

Don't forget there are many other different tree species in the park not included on the trail. If you are interested in learning more, ask a Ranger about a guided walk.



You may wish to help with recording of species or volunteer your time to help with the management of the park.

If you are interested in booking a walk or joining in any other activity please speak to a Park Ranger.

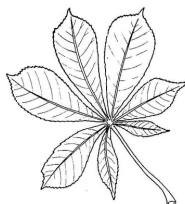
For further information about the Country Park or Nature Reserve, please contact [hartsholmecp@lincoln.gov.uk](mailto:hartsholmecp@lincoln.gov.uk) or call 01522 873577

Trees continue to provide food and shelter both when they are alive and once they have died. This is why we leave dead wood in the park as habitat piles, and dead tree stumps - a favoured spot for our woodpeckers.

They also provide an important wildlife habitat for many different species, over 350 species alone can live on an oak tree; they form wildlife corridors allowing animals to move along 'tree highways'.

Some trees grow in Britain naturally, these are our native species. Others have been brought here by people as they have settled in Britain from other countries.

Can you figure out which trees these leaves are from? You'll meet all the trees on the trail.



## Discover the Trees of Hartsholme Country Park



Follow the trail and meet 10 fascinating trees of Hartsholme Country Park.

Many of the trees in Hartsholme Country Park were planted here in the 1800s. The gardens were designed by Edward Milner who also designed the Arboretum in Lincoln.

Trees are essential to life on earth, they create oxygen, give shade and protection from ultraviolet radiation rays, absorb pollution from the air, provide us with timber, paper, fuel and medicines.





# 1 Larch



Walk across the lawn away from the café to the top of the dog free lawn. You will spot this tree on the left behind the fence.

Larches were introduced to Britain as a curiosity. Unusually, for a conifer, they lose their leaves in the winter after turning a beautiful butter yellow colour. In addition to their striking appearance they also produce a high quality timber. By the mid – 1800s the Larch had become one of the most widespread timber trees in Britain. Millions were grown in plantations not for amenity value but for wood production.

# 2 Cedar of Lebanon and 3 Giant Redwood

Look for two large trees by the lake. One has dark brown bark and long spreading branches, the other has red bark and a tall trunk.



The Cedar of Lebanon tells a cautionary tale. In its native Lebanon its strong durable timber has been used in building palaces and temples since biblical times. So many trees were felled that only a few remain. In Britain it was valued for its beauty and is now a common tree in landscaped gardens.



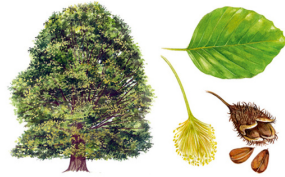
The Giant Redwood is a monster of a tree. In California where they grow naturally they can live for 1000's of years. This tree is only a youngster. If this survives to be a mature species, imagine how the landscape might change around it!

# 4 Yew



Search for a circle of trees. These trees are not very tall and they have forked green needles.

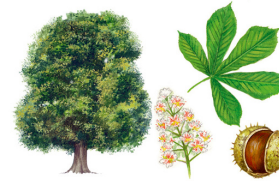
Once, the Yew was a tree of battles; it provided wood for one of the most deadly weapons of its time, the longbow. The longbow was the most powerful weapon in Europe between 1300 and 1588. The timber was prized as it is strong and flexible although Spanish and Italian yew was favoured as it grows straighter.



# 5 Beech

These trees line the path by the lakeside, you will recognise them by their smooth grey bark. In recent years we have had to cut two trees down but have left high stumps as a habitat for wildlife such as bats and woodpeckers.

The elegant Beech is a tree of words; its graceful shape inspiring poets. The first books were made by carving thin slabs of beech wood. The word 'beech' and 'book' share the same origins. Both come from the Anglo-Saxon word 'boc'.



# 6 Horse Chestnut

A Horse Chestnut can be seen by the '1st cut' footpath. You will know it from its seeds, or 'conkers'.

This species was first introduced to Britain from the Balkans in the late 16th century, they were popular for their large candle flowers. It was not until about 200 years later that the fruits of the Horse Chestnut trees were used to play the game 'conqueror' or 'conkers'. Before that, 'conkers' were played with hazel/cobnuts or snail shells.



# 7 Common Lime

Lime trees border the crescent pond footpath. They have heart shaped leaves.

The Lime was a 17th century fashion success. It looks good in long avenues and has beautifully fragrant blossom in July. The wood is often used for carving and is easy to work with. Grinley Gibbons used lime wood for his flower and figure carvings in St Paul's Cathedral, Windsor Castle, and Chatsworth House.

# 8 English and Turkey Oak 9

Here is a group of oak trees. You will notice some have broad lobed leaves and other have more narrow pointed leaves.



The English Oak is one of our most loved trees. Buildings were made of Oak, great sea battles were fought on ships made from oak and an English King has even hidden in an Oak tree.



The timber of Turkey Oak, a cousin of the English Oak, was highly regarded but never lived up to expectations. It was introduced in the 1700s but it was found to have poor timber. However the trees have remained to become part of our landscape. Why this may not be a good thing, ask a Park Ranger.

# 10 Silver Birch

The last tree in our trail is probably the most common tree in the park. This tree has white bark and as it grows older, darker diamond shaped fissures appear on the trunk.



The Birch is a survivor. One tree may only live up to 80yrs but it will produce millions of tiny seeds. These seeds fly through the air and help Birch colonise new areas of bare ground. Birches were one of the first trees to grow in England after the last ice age (10,000 yrs ago) and are one of the first trees to grow in areas left bare by human activity.

## Trees through time

1400s

1415: Yew longbows were used by 5000 English archers during the battle of Agincourt.

1500s

1576: The Horse Chestnut was introduced from Turkey.

1600s

1620: The Larch is introduced from Europe.  
1660: Charles II hid in an oak tree during his exile.  
1683: Cedar of Lebanon introduced.

1800s

1835: Black Pine introduced from Austria.  
1857: Giant Redwood introduced.

1900s

World War II, Conkers were used to make explosives.

2000s

To mark the new Millennium, Oak trees were planted around Lincoln to be used for future Cathedral restoration.