

Late Autumn Tree Trail

C200 Japanese Maples *Acer palmatum*

As you pass through the Autumn Garden you will see many varieties of mature Japanese maples. These maples were planted in the 1960s as part of the original planting scheme under the guidance of Sir Richard Cotterell then the Chairman of Queenswood Coronation Fund. Sir Richard was the driving force behind establishing the arboretum and it's to his love and knowledge of trees that we owe the presence and appearance of the mature trees in the Arboretum today. The maples are of a number of different varieties for which records have not survived.

Oak Avenue

Oak Avenue contains a wide variety of oaks from around the world, you will find these at various stages of colouration depending on their variety and when you are visiting.

G366 Scarlet Oak

Quercus coccinea

One either side at the beginning of the avenue, perhaps the brightest of the oaks, from Central and Eastern North

America the leaves turning bright scarlet in

F447 Japanese Rowan *Sorbus commixta*

Also known as Japanese Mountain Ash, giving deep red autumn colours in both the leaves and berries.

F69 Japanese Maples *Acer palmatum*

You will pass another small collection of mature Japanese Maples.

Native woodland

Quercus petraea, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Corylus avellana*

This area of more natural wood gives contrast between the more managed areas (where we mow the areas around the individual specimen trees each year). Here Ash and hazel are growing up as an understory to the canopy Oak trees. This area is probably how Queenswood would appear if we were to let it develop without any intervention.

B341 Mountain Maple *Acer spicatum*

This maple is not from Japan but Eastern North America, ranging widely across the far north and spreading south along mountain ranges. The tree grows as understory beneath canopy trees in moist woods on rocky hillsides and along streams.

C203 Vine Maple *Acer circinatum*

Another American maple, but this time from the American Pacific Northwest.

B405 Shagbark Hickory *Carya ovata*

When in full colour you can't miss this Hickory from North America, where it is the most important nut producing species (although rarely produces fruit in the UK). Its timber is also valuable being close grained, very hard, strong and flexible, used for tool handles, athletic goods and interior finishing.

B494 Coral Bark Maple *Acer palmatum 'Sango kaku'*

Although noted for its coral coloured bark this particular example provides a brilliant flash of bright golden yellow foliage through the trees when viewed from Lime Avenue.

A675 Japanese Maple 'Bloodgood'

Acer palmatum 'Bloodgood'

This cage has two red-leaved Japanese Maples of the Bloodgood variety with more Coral Bark Maples nearby.



Beech Wood *Fagus sylvatica*

This area of Beech was planted in the 1950s. Beech woods do occur naturally in the UK but not in this part of the country. In contrast to the Oak woodland there is no understory, this is typical of Beechwoods which tend to shade out other trees and shrubs. This area is covered in Bluebells in spring.

Redwood Grove *Sequoia sempervirens*,

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Not known for their autumn colour! (they are conifers and will retain their green leaves (needles) throughout the winter). They do however have reddish trunks and when the low Autumnal sun catches them, they glow spectacularly red. These are found on the West coast of North America and grow to be the tallest and biggest trees in the world.

B5 Sargeants Rowan *Sorbus sargentiana*

From Western China. The leaves are the largest of any rowan turning deep red late in autumn. Produces small bright red berries in large numbers, which are a popular food source for birds such as Thrushes and Blackbirds.

Large Group

This cage contains the first of our Japanese Maples. There are hundreds of varieties of Japanese Maples, having been bred and crossed to create dazzling coloured leaves or bark or exotic leaf shapes.

A722, 723, 724 Coral Bark Maples *Acer palmatum 'Sango kaku'*

The brilliant coral colour of the bark is the outstanding feature of this maple and gives it its name which means 'coral tower'. Leaves are green with a reddish margin which turn to an overall golden yellow colour in autumn. The younger the tree the brighter the colouration.

A681 Japanese Maple 'Suminagashi' *Acer palmatum 'Suminagashi'*

A distinctive bright purple leaved variety turning crimson in the autumn.

A719 Japanese Maple 'Tamuke yama' *Acer palmatum 'Tamuke yama'*

Another red leaved Japanese Maple, new leaves changing from deep crimson to very dark purple red and finally bright crimson in autumn.