

A Self-Guided Walk

This Self-Guided Walk highlights a selection of the 30 or so different species of tree to be seen in the Park.

The walk starts from the Bath Road end at:

The Italian Gardens (A): complete with its sunken pool and fountains. These gardens, designed by Edward White, opened in 1927, contain a number of yew and juniper trees.

Annecy Gardens (B): named after one of Cheltenham's twin towns, contains a lion-headed fountain and pergola walkways supporting wisteria. It also contains a demonstration vegetable garden maintained by volunteers.

The Friendship Circle (C): created in 1993 by artist Neville Gabie, symbolises the twinning of Cheltenham with other towns.

The Unwin Fountain (D): commemorates Herbert Unwin, a coalmine, brewery and newspaper owner who lived at Arle Court.

Crossing College Road, you will find the other half of Sandford Park lined with lime and maple trees.

'The Weathered Man' Statue (E): by James Gould was installed in 2006, as part of the flood relief works.

The Petanque Court (F): was opened in 2016 and can be found close to the children's play area.

The Whish sisters' drinking fountain (G): is in the middle of the circular flower beds near Keynsham Road. This fountain (now non-functioning) was commissioned in 1891 as a gift to the people of Cheltenham and originally stood at Westal Green in the town.

Sandford Parks Lido

Next to Sandford Park is Sandford Parks Lido, opened in 1935. Since then it has proved a popular destination especially on warm summer days. Refurbished in 2007 the Lido still retains many of its original features.



Sandford Park

Self-Guided Tree Walk



Friends of Sandford Park

The Friends of Sandford Park was set up by local residents in 2014 to encourage the enhancement and enjoyment of both sides of Sandford Park. Volunteer working parties are regularly held in the gardens. For more information visit the Friends of Sandford Park Facebook page.



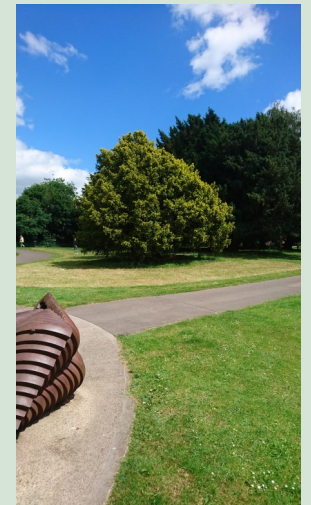
For more information go to:

www.cheltenham.gov.uk

Tree Section: 01242 264262

General Park Enquiries: 01242 262626

Tourist Information Centre: 01242 237431





1. Indian Bean Tree (*Catalpa bignonioides*)

Originating from eastern United States, its name derives from the American Indian for this tree 'kutuhlpa'. Produces exotic orchid-like flowers in midsummer followed by 'beans' similar to runner beans in the autumn.

2. Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Native to America this large fast growing tree can live for up to 200-250 years. Older trees produce pale green or yellow tulip shaped flowers in June and July.

3. Rowan Tree (*Sorbus aucuparia*)

Also known as Mountain Ash. Rowans are a native tree, which provide good ecological interest. These trees were once widely planted as protection against witches.

4. Judas Tree (*Cercis siliquastrum*)

Native to Eastern Mediterranean, these small trees have heart shaped leaves and produce clusters of edible pink flowers in the spring. There is a long standing myth that Judas Iscariot hanged himself from a tree of this species.

5. Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Native to Eastern USA, one of the finest trees for autumn colour. It takes its name from the sweet viscous sap it exudes if the bark is damaged. This sap was once used as chewing gum in the USA. When crushed the leaves have a distinctive fragrance.

6. Common Oak (*Quercus robur*)

Also known as English Oak this is a long lived native tree. Acorns are not produced until the tree is 40 years old. Oaks are an immensely valuable ecological resource as oaks support more life forms than any other native tree, providing food and shelter for many different species from insects and lichens to bats and birds.

7. Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*)

Probably the fastest growing oak grown in Britain. Introduced to the UK as an ornamental tree in the 18th Century but has now become naturalised. Turkey oak is host to a gall wasp which damages the acorns of English Oaks.

8. Robinia Tree (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

Native to Eastern US, this fast growing tree was once widely planted as an ornamental tree but has become naturalised in many locations. Although the tree is poisonous to humans, the renowned acacia honey can be produced from its flowers.

9. Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)

Only truly native pine in the UK. It is found in abundance in the Caledonian Forests in Scotland where it is home to many rare species, including red squirrels. Its timber is widely used in the construction industry.

10. Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)

First introduced from Turkey in late 16th century. The leaf stalks leave a scar on the twig when they fall which resembles an inverted horse shoe with nail holes. This could be the origin of the name.

