



When you venture outside, look up and look around you - we are surrounded by beautiful trees of all shapes and sizes... How many of these Manchester trees can you spot in your local park or around your community?

Share your findings on Facebook, using the hashtag #MCRtreediscoverytrail and we might feature your photos on our social media pages!



The Manchester Poplar (*Populus nigra*)

One of only two trees which is named after a city, the other is the London Plane (*Platanus x hispanica*). Both named after their respective cities as they are two of the few trees which are able to survive in the most polluted conditions, and are found in the two greatest cities of the Industrial age. The Black Poplar or Manchester Poplar is the most endangered native tree in Britain.



Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*)

People have taken advantage of the medicinal properties of willow trees since ancient times (as early as 400 BC). Chewing on willow bark was said to be an effective way of treating fever and inflammation. This is because the bark contains salicin, which is a chemical similar to the active ingredient in aspirin - acetylsalicylic acid.



Ash (*Fraxinus*)

One of our most beloved trees. Ash is one of the most common trees in the UK. When fully grown, they can reach a height of 35m. Tall and graceful, they often grow together, forming a domed canopy. In Norse mythology, the tree of life was an Ash tree called Yggdrasil which grew on an island surrounded by the ocean and its trunk reached up to the heavens, and its boughs spread out over all the countries of the Earth.



Cherry (*Prunus avium*)

An impressive flowering species, Blossom is one of the first signs that spring is well and truly on the way, and is a welcome sight of colour after the frosty winter months. From the pinker hues to the cloudy white, these delicate blossoms are a joyful sight and a reminder that warmer days are on their way. The Roman General Lucullus had introduced cherries to Europe in 72BC and named the cherry tree 'Cerasus'



Silver birch (*Betula pendula*)

Is a familiar, small, spindly tree with thin branches and papery bark. A symbol of purity with its silver white bark. It is found on heathland, moorland and mountainsides, as well as on dry, sandy soils. In spring, the male catkins (or 'lamb's tails') turn yellow and shed their pollen, which is carried by the wind.



Lombardy poplar also known as French Poplar (*Populus nigra*)

This species of poplar is tall and thin, its shape columnar. Lombardy poplar trees grow rapidly. They could grow to a mature height of up to 60 feet, spreading around 12 feet.



Oak Tree (*Quercus*)

The ruling majesty of the woods, the wise old English oak holds a special place in our culture, history, and hearts. It supports more life than any other native tree species in the UK; even its fallen leaves support biodiversity. Oak trees can live up to 1000 years.



Horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)

Spiky cases, gleaming seeds, celebrated by children. Horse chestnuts, with their mahogany bright conkers, are the very essence of autumn. Mature horse chestnut trees grow to a height of around 40m and can live for up to 300 years.



Copper Beech
(*Fagus sylvatica*)

Monumental, majestic and home to rare wildlife. Beech is an enchanting species and known as the queen of British trees. To wander beneath the leafy canopy, its cathedral-like branches spreading upwards, is an awe-inspiring experience. Mature trees grow to a height of more than 40m and develop a huge domed crown. The bark is smooth, thin and grey.

Why not collect a leaf from each of these trees and start a scrapbook or use crayons and colouring pencils to create leaf rubbings?

Share your findings and discoveries via the Heaton Park Facebook page - www.facebook.com/heatonparkandhall