

THE SOUTHERN COLLECTION

BUTE PARK  
CHAMPION  
TREE TRAIL

Mae'r  
ar gael yn Gyrraeg

Takes  
approximately  
**1 hour**  
to complete



BUTE PARK  
CHAMPION TREE TRAIL  
THE SOUTHERN COLLECTION

Bute Park contains a nationally significant arboretum collection. Dr Owen Johnson of the Tree Register of the British Isles (TROBI), described the park as 'unique in public parks in Britain or Ireland for its scope and its quantity of rare material'.

An arboretum is a planned collection of trees where specimens from around the world are planted for ornamental and/or educational reasons. You can think of it like an exhibition of trees.

Bute Park has the highest number of "champion trees" in any UK public park (the park with the second highest number of champions is Roath Park, so Cardiff is uniquely blessed with special trees!). A champion tree is the tallest specimen recorded in the British Isle or has the largest trunk girth measured at 1.5m off the ground.

IF YOU ENJOYED THIS CHAMPION TREE TRAIL,  
WHY NOT TRY THE NORTHERN COLLECTION

butepark@cardiff.gov.uk

02920 872730

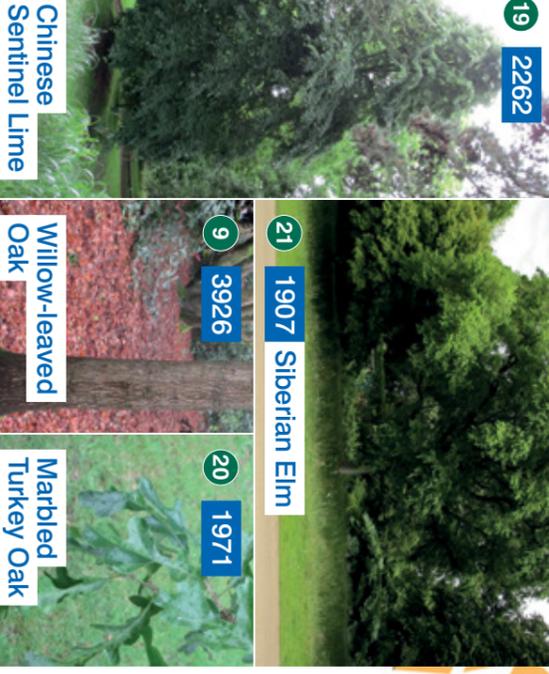
Bute Park, Cardiff, CF10 3DX

Find us on and

Bute Park is owned and managed by Cardiff Council.  
All details are right at time of going to print in Oct 16.  
Tree photos courtesy of cardiffparks.org.uk and Cardiff Council



CF10 3DX



19 Chinese Sentinel Lime

9 Willow-leaved Oak

20 Marbled Turkey Oak

9 3926

20 1971

21 1907

Siberian Elm

19 2262

4 2466

White Alder

17 2118

Birch

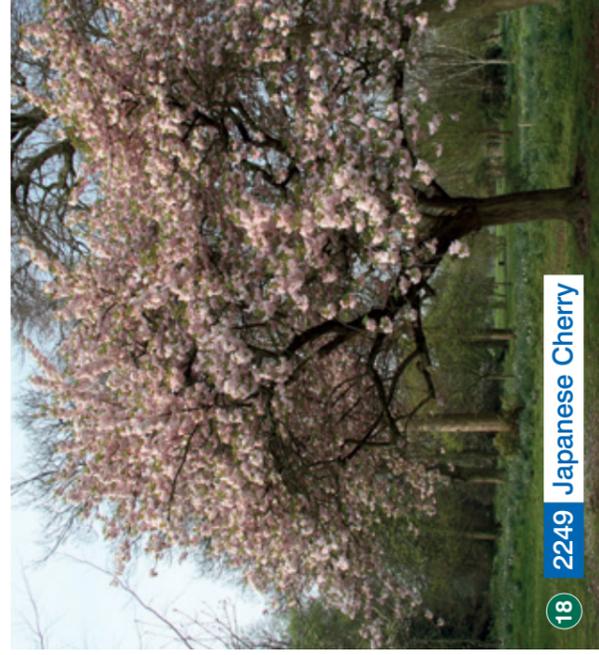
10 2196

Foxglove Tree



Wingnut

11 3337



18 2249

Japanese Cherry



When on site, you will notice that all champion trees have a timber post in front of them displaying the tree's blue champion tree label.

This label will tell you the year the tree first gained champion status, and whether it was for its height (H), girth (G) or both (H & G).

On top of the post are two QR codes containing Welsh and English directions to help you read the map and locate the next tree along the trail. The trees themselves should have a black label on them as well as their tag number.

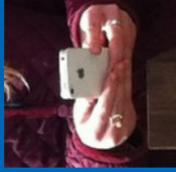
Don't expect all our champions to be giants as some trees naturally grow small when compared to other species. Also, some trees may be classed as champions due to their rarity rather than stature. There is simply a lack of competition from other known UK specimens.



The route mostly involves walking off main footpaths on grass or along informal tracks across open ground. For this reason, we advise you that it is **not wheelchair or pushchair friendly**.  
Closed shoes or wellies should be worn.



- Download free QR reader app
- Open app
- Show QR code to camera as if taking a photo



This trail uses QR code technology it may sound high tech but it is really simple to use.

- You don't need WiFi
- You won't use any data
- Written directions are embedded within the code itself.

You do need to have a QR code reader and a smart phone with camera to access the written directions.

You can download a free QR code reader from your app store either using your data plan or the free public WiFi available at the Bute Park Education Centre. A member of staff will be happy to assist you.

Further Information

Only trees with UK champion status have been included in the trail. However, the park contains numerous trees with champion status at the Wales and Glamorgan county level.

More information about these trees are available at the websites listed below.



[www.cardiffparks.org.uk](http://www.cardiffparks.org.uk)

General information about the Bute Park arboretum collection including photos of the champions and other notable trees through the seasons.



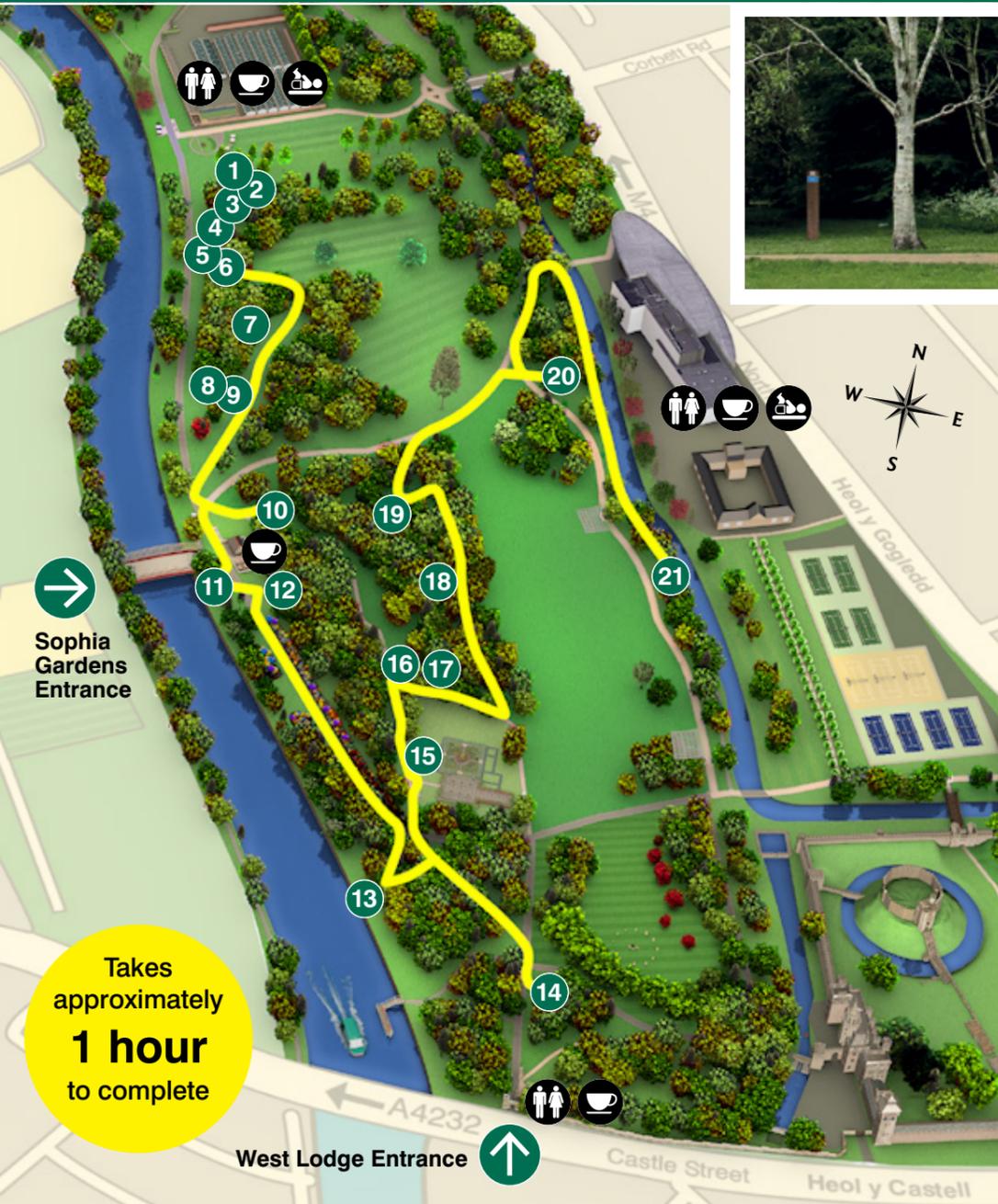
[www.treeregister.org](http://www.treeregister.org)

The website of the registered charity who record and collate information on notable UK trees, including champions. This is the authority source for determining trees with champion status.



# BUTE PARK CHAMPION TREE TRAIL

THE SOUTHERN COLLECTION



Takes approximately  
**1 hour**  
to complete

Scan this QR code to get directions to your first tree



← scan me

Route order and tag No:

1 2477 Alder (common name)

Botanical Name:  
*Alnus maximowiczii*

Pronunciation:  
AL-nus max-im-oh-WIX-ee-eye

Year first gained champion status: 2013

Champion for height, girth or both: H

Year planted: 1989/90

Planted by: M Frazer

Brief description & notable features: Grown for its very showy display of big, fat green/yellow catkins in spring. Doubletoothed large leaves that provide heavy shade. Larger than most green alders. Sometimes multistemmed.

2 2488 Bell-flowered Cherry

*Prunus cerasoides* var. *campanulata*  
*PROO-nus sir-ah-s-OY-deez* var. *kam-pan-yoo-LAH-ta*  
2013, H & G, 1950-55, M Frazer

A small spreading, dense deciduous tree. Smooth, reddish brown bark. Deep pink, bell-shaped flowers appear before the leaves in early spring. Small cherries, ripening to black. Bronze leaves in autumn.

3 2498 Alder

*Alnus fauriei*  
*AL-nus FAR-ee-eye*  
2013, G, 1992-93, M Frazer

A small tree with smooth, glossy green, toothed, wedge-shaped or almost round leaves. The flowers are showy catkins, up to 17 cm long, appearing during early spring before the leaves.

4 2466 White Alder

*Alnus rhombifolia*  
*AL-nus rom-bih-FOH-lee-uh*  
2013, H & G, 1992-93, M Frazer  
Medium/large, spreading tree. Pale grey, smooth bark when young, scaly when mature. Diamond-shaped, serrated leaves. Yellow catkins in spring. Cone-shaped catkins in autumn. Winged seeds in winter. Blackish cones for up to a year.

5 2452 Alder

*Alnus inokuma*  
*Al-nus in-o-KU-ma*  
2013, G, 1993-94, M Frazer  
Grows up to 10 m tall, bark is grey or grey-brown. Flowers May–June, fruits July–August.

6 2447 Alder

*Alnus acuminata* subsp. *acuminata*  
*AL-nus a-kew-min-AH-tu* subsp. *a-kew-min-AH-tu*  
2013, G, 1993-94, M Frazer  
Straight trunk which grows up to 25 m (80 ft) tall. Oval, toothed leaves. Pendulous catkins growing up to 12 cm (5 in). Green, cone-shaped, female catkins. Winged seeds disperse leaving fruit husks.

7 3120 Chinese Phellodendron

*Phellodendron chinense*  
*Fell-uh-DEN-drun chin-EN-see*  
2013, G, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr  
Wide-spreading tree up to 15 m. Dark green, leathery leaves, 38 cm long turning yellow in autumn. Greenish-yellow, drooping flowers in summer. Black berry-like fruits in autumn on female trees.

8 3114 Downy Japanese Maple

*Acer japonicum* 'Aconitifolium'  
*AY-sa juh-PON-ih-kum 'A-kon-eye-tee-FOH-lee-um'*  
2013, G, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr

A small bushy tree with smooth grey bark. Rounded leaves, with deeply cut lobes. Drooping clusters of red flowers in spring with bright green leaves turning rich crimson in autumn.

9 3926 Willow-leaved Oak

*Quercus robur* 'Salicifolia'  
*KWER-kus ROH-bur 'Sah-lih-SEE-foh-lee-uh'*  
2013, H & G, 1992/93, M Frazer

Leaves that resemble a willow with small lobes near the base. Brown in autumn. The tree has a rounded crown. Produces a multitude of small acorns in October so attractive to squirrels.

10 2196 Foxglove Tree

*Paulownia tomentosa*  
*Pau-LOE-nee-uh toh-men-TOH-suh*  
2013, H & G, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr

Broad and spreading with a straight trunk, up to 25 m. Very large woolly, heart-shaped or five-lobed leaves. Fragrant, foxglove-like, lilac flowers produced before the leaves.

11 3337 Wingnut

*Pterocarya x rehderiana*  
*Ter-o-CAR-ree-ah xray-der-ree-AH-nuh*  
2013, H & G, 1960-65, W Nelns Snr

Large and fast-growing often with a short trunk and broad crown. Grey, ridged bark. Dark green, pinnate leaves turning yellow. Tiny-flowered catkins followed by nutlet strings.

12 2080 Manchurian Cherry

*Prunus x fontanesiana*  
*PROO-nus FON-tan-es-e-AN-uh*  
2013, H & G, 1988-89, M Frazer

*Prunus x fontanesiana* is a fast-growing tree reaching at least 15 m. Dark green, oval, or heart-shaped toothed leaves. White clusters of flowers in May. Produces nearly black fruits.

13 3259 Yunnan Poplar

*Populus yunnanensis*  
*POP-u-lus yoo-nan-EN-sis*  
2013, G, 1992/93, W Nelns Snr  
A fast-growing balsam poplar (20/25 m tall) with a conical shape and grey-brown bark. Deep green triangular leaves with red stalks and veins. Catkins up to 15 cm.

14 1804 Highclere Holly

*Ilex x altaclerensis* 'Nigrescens'  
*I-leks x al-ta-cler-EN-sis 'Ny-GRESS-enz'*  
2013, G, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr

This tree typically grows to 10 m tall and has broad glossy leaves with no spines or with a small number of sharp teeth. Male holly produces no fruits.

15 2042 Erman's Birch

*Betula ermanii*  
*BET-yoo-la er-MAN-ee-eye*  
2015, G, 1966/67, W Nelns Snr

Medium-sized tree growing to 22 m tall. Creamy-white or pinkish bark, horizontally peeling. Heart-shaped, toothed leaves, bright green in summer, turning yellow. Catkins in spring.

16 2019 Highclere Holly

*Ilex x altaclerensis* 'Nigrescens'  
*I-leks x al-ta-cler-EN-sis 'Ny-GRESS-enz'*  
2013, H, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr

*Ilex x altaclerensis* 'Nigrescens', Highclere Holly, grows to 10 m and has broad glossy leaves with no spines or with a small number of sharp teeth. Male holly produces no fruits.

17 2118 Birch

*Betula* 'Fetisowii'  
*BET-yoo-la fe-ti-SO-we-eye*  
2015, H & G, 1966/67, W Nelns Snr

*Betula* 'Fetisowii' is a medium-sized, slender tree that grows up to about 20 m tall.

It is especially notable for its peeling chalk-white bark.

18 2249 Japanese Cherry

*Prunus* 'Hokusai'  
*PROO-nus hok-OO-sigh*  
2013, G, 1990/91, M Frazer (donated by Natwest bank)

Hokusai is one of the longest-established Japanese flowering cherry trees found growing in the UK. The blossom is a classic cherry pink, which lasts up to 3 weeks or more.

19 2262 Chinese Sentinel Lime

*Tilia tomentosa* 'Chelsea Sentinel'  
*TIL-e-a toh-men-TOH-suh*  
2011, H & G, 1988-89, M Frazer

Large, elegant, and columnar form with weeping branches. Delicate leaves, silver underneath, are produced on long stems.

20 1971 Marbled Turkey Oak

*Quercus cerris* 'Marmor Star'  
*KWER-kus SER-ris*  
2013, H & G, 1989-90, M Frazer (donated by Sainsbury plc)

This oak tree can be distinguished from native oaks by its 'hairy' acorn cups, which look like they are covered in a dense coating of moss.

21 1907 Siberian Elm

*Ulmus pumila* 'Aurescens'  
*UL-mus PEW-mil-a*  
2013, H & G, 1950-55, W Nelns Snr

Golden leaves on shoots in spring reverting to dark green. There are only two mature specimens known in the UK: this one here in Bute Park Arboretum, and another in a private garden at Seaford, East Sussex.



The park opens 7.30am and closes 30 mins before sunset. Daily closing times are displayed on site and on our website.

[www.bute-park.com](http://www.bute-park.com)

