

Ancient Tree Hunt Goes to London town

A borough by borough guide to some of the biggest and most ancient trees in London.

The links below take you to the trees' very own web site on the Ancient Tree Hunt www.ancienttreehunt.org.uk

If you visit one of these trees, please go to the "I have visited this tree" link on that tree's page and record your visit, to help highlight support for ancient, veteran and notable trees in London.

If you discover or know of bigger, older or more interesting trees in your borough, please record them on the Ancient Tree Hunt map, or report them to us at ancienttreehunt@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Barking and Dagenham

A much un-recorded borough. The hunt is on to find its oldest trees.



One of the largest Weeping willows in London can be found in Pondfield Park, east Dagenham.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=886d47a5-4f4f-4bb5-873d-8179edf2ea69>

Barnet

Possibly the oldest tree in London is the ancient yew at Totteridge church.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=69210BCF-2C1D-47F5-81E9-604EFB39EC14>



Ancient oak trees can be found in Golders Hill Park and Friary Park, Friern Barnet.

Bexley

A huge ancient Sweet chestnut called "Big Bill" is at Foots Cray Place

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=106aafda-da00-44fd-a14f-865accf6b4d3>



Also, look for "The Charter Oak" in Danson Park.

Brent

Currently the largest oak recorded is one of six veterans in Gladstone Park.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=147ddeec-7f6e-4a30-884a-1bf417f7349f>



Look also for trees in Woodcock Park, Kenton

Bromley

This is the borough for ancient yew trees.

Cudham parish church, where there are two

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=07fdc271-1bb1-4c12-9f43-3863e679757a>



and at Downe parish church, the parish of Charles Darwin.

Amazing ancient oaks can be seen on West Wickham Common.



Camden

Next to a path on Hampstead Heath is one of London's largest oak trees.
<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=1c4f2ff6-e440-4dc6-a78a-ac671160d8df>

For magnificent London plane trees Lincoln's Inn Fields in Holburn are hard to beat



City of London

An old Indian Bean tree can be seen in the Inner Temple Garden. On the same site there is also the largest London plane recorded to date in the City borough.

In a small public park in West Smithfield is an old fig tree
<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=d53ba80f-357c-4728-b282-e6e51f12b255>

Croydon

The largest recorded oak with public access is in Lloyd Park, and an ancient yew can be found in Addington parish church.

Ealing

A fine oak can be seen by the river in Brent Lodge Park, Hanwell.
<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=f5c47002-c4a9-453f-ba8d-5f00f0234b30>

The biggest London plane in this borough recorded to date is on Ealing Green, near the BBC film studios. And another has become a roundabout in Carlton Road.



Enfield

The "Chandos Oak" or "Michenden Oak" is an historically recorded tree, now looked after as part of the Michenden Oak Garden. It is accessed off Waterfall Road, Southgate.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=b6ef6dd7-a258-4c83-b6f6-eba09ff2d324>

Trent Park has some fine ancient oaks.



Greenwich

Greenwich Park has many magnificent ancient Sweet chestnut trees. The oldest ones among them were planted in 1664 but a few may even pre-date these.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=cdfdacde-9555-4bcc-a697-9a933b889f4a>

A large oak stands within the pavement of Shrewsbury Lane in Shooters Hill. Fragments of an old mulberry in Charlton Park are said to originate from a 1608 planting.





Hackney

The largest recorded tree is a London plane in Clissold Park, where the council is managing its veteran trees.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=2qBwWmGKdU6MOfw24VqLIQ>

Hackney Marshes can boast the largest number of our native Wild Black poplar.

Hammersmith and Fulham

An ancient Holm oak in Fulham Palace is possibly one of the oldest in Britain.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=3056b100-a64c-4908-b82d-a15debc7f574>

Ravenscourt Park, Hammersmith boasts a huge pot-bellied London plane.



Haringey

At the rear of Muswell Hill Methodist church can be found the largest Horse chestnut tree in London.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=5cb2e1e7-23d8-480e-ac76-f0e7b99f4ed0>

The oldest oak in the borough is said to be a 300 year old one in Bruce Castle Park. Other veteran oaks can be seen in Alexandra Park.



Harrow

At Bentley Priory, Stanmore, in a local nature reserve, stands an oak tree called "The Master".

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=fd25c3c6-bb7f-413c-acd6-a0612dd4eca8>

There is a fine oak in Pinner Memorial Park, once the site of a medieval deer park.



Havering

Large oaks can be found on private land near Manor Farm, Ockendon and in St Neot's Road, Harold Hill, Romford – whose hollow trunk has been filled with concrete.

Hillingdon

A famous ancient yew which for many years was clipped as topiary can be seen in Harlington parish churchyard.

The "Domesday Oak" is in the ornamental garden at Cranford Park.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=41610ac9-be60-4ada-bf7b-531b4649bef1>



Hounslow

The largest cedar of Lebanon in London is on the house lawn in Osterley Park.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=885cca32-f41c-4d61-98fc-43aa82eeb608>

In the Great Meadow at Osterley stands the biggest oak for this borough.





Syon Park has many fine specimen trees including London's largest Horse chestnut from the plantings of Capability Brown.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=a312abea-cd32-4a6a-81c9-61c93bacdeb6>

Islington

In Madras Place behind St Mary Magdalene churchyard, Lower Holloway is a very fine London plane.



A row of fig trees in Margery Street by Clerkenwell Parochial School look particularly old.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=57fa47ce-d416-41af-9d2c-6501aa0e9e94>

Kensington and Chelsea

Amongst the rare trees in the Chelsea Physic Garden is an old yew tree.



Ladbroke Square (private and gated for residents only but can be seen) currently has the largest London plane recorded. (NB most of the big trees in Kensington Gardens are within the borough of Westminster).

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=5e9f089b-d5f9-4f9a-9de3-88a1e15a3549>

Kingston upon Thames

The largest oak is currently recorded in the Chessington World of Adventures.

Lambeth

In Brockwell Park is a very fine oak which was used in publicity to launch the Ancient Tree Hunt.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=f2e7754f-a794-4ac1-982c-2a7d049041de>



Lewisham

Beckenham Place Park is the place to head for to find this borough's largest oak and London plane trees.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=11c79d57-9e22-4684-b6ee-9e0ccd139aa3>



Merton

Ravensbury Park is home to a number of monster London plane trees.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=33f0aa10-6ba5-42f3-bd6d-955b6fb2d501>



The largest oak is thought to be in Winterfield Close on the Ackroyden Estate.

Newham

The City of London Cemetery in Manor Park is the place to head for to find this borough's largest oak and London plane trees.



Redbridge

Includes part of Hainault Forest with its ancient pollarded Hornbeam trees.

The biggest tree in girth is currently one of the Sweet chestnut trees on George Green, Wanstead, which was once part of a much bigger avenue.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=e4c661d3-3c1a-4f34-9ef6-144011c70568>

Richmond upon Thames

London's largest trees in girth are to be found in this borough, with Richmond Park boasting the largest concentration of ancient oak trees in Greater London. A plaque by a huge Sweet chestnut tree near Bushy Park claims the tree was planted in 1365.

Remains of the "Medieval Oak" in Hampton Court may be 1,000 years old.



"Barney", the biggest London plane in all of Greater London, is at Barn Elms, partially hidden but with public access.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=e40200fc-9cd0-4a15-bf32-ea4e55a91358>

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew have five original trees planted in 1762 called the "Old Lions" and several Sweet chestnut that pre-date these.

Southwark

The biggest Common oak is an old boundary tree in Dulwich Park (by the toilets).

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=c6542df0-9cde-4446-bbfe-56b928a19740>



Sutton

Ancient and very impressive Sweet chestnut can be found in Carshalton Park, a couple with doors!

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=aeae8683-ff87-420b-9a3a-814a0b7bf59e>

The largest London plane in this borough is currently at the Sutton Ecology Centre, Carshalton.





Tower Hamlets

Two old burry native Wild Black poplar can be found in Meath Gardens, Globe Town.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=96f9b6cc-610a-48fb-a6ae-03d3b87273c2>

The largest London plane currently recorded is at St Dunstan's church, Stepney.

Waltham Forest

A much un-recorded borough. The hunt is on to find its oldest trees.

The largest London Plane in this borough is currently in Lloyd Park, Walthamstow.

Wandsworth

The specimen Hybrid strawberry tree in Battersea Park is one of the "Great Trees of London". The largest London Plane in this borough is also in Battersea Park.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=8870f53c-4d0d-4a81-b1a4-c1f769ce18e3>

One of the largest oak trees is on the south edge of Clapham Common, in the car park behind St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College, Nightingale Lane.



Westminster

A row of six ancient Indian Bean trees in the Palace Yard, Westminster can be seen clearly through the railings.

<http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording/tree.htm?tree=fd570c83-3ee4-421c-a99e-a5248108332b>

St. James Park currently has the largest recorded London Plane. Most of Kensington Gardens is included in this borough which along with Hyde Park once made up a much bigger Royal deer park. Ancient Sweet chestnut trees can be found in Kensington Gardens.



The Ancient Tree Hunt



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www.ancientreehunt.org.uk

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