



# Tree Species 2023

# Tree Species



## Metasequoia Glyptostrobooides

This large and interesting Dawn Redwood tree can grow to great heights, reaching around 60 metres, over many years, and is often called a "living fossil" due to its incredible age. In Chinese folk medicine, the leaves and bark of metasequoia are used as antimicrobial, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory drug for dermatic diseases. The world's first trees of this kind had been found as fossils in Japan and thought to be extinct, but in 1945 populations were found growing naturally in Sichuan and Hubei Provinces in China, surprising the world. Redwoods are used as part of the sci-fi setting during the Battle of Endor in Star Wars.

# Tree Species



## Sophora Japonica

Sophora Japonica, better known as the Japanese Pagoda Tree, is an ornamental deciduous tree, prized for its attractive looks and exceptional hardiness. It has pinnate (feather-like) leaves up to 30 cm long and clusters of pea-shaped white flowers after a hot summer. An herbal medicine, kushen, is obtained from the roots of Sophora japonica and is used as an anti-inflammatory and bitter-tasting stomachic. There is an old Chinese folktale that tells on an evil tree spirit or yokai that lived within a pagoda, and was dispensed of by a hero.

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## Liquidambar Styraciflua

This large Worplesdon 'sweet gum' tree is a great choice for gardens and parks, offering fantastic architectural structure from its uniform shape and unrivalled autumn colour. The leaves are aromatic when crushed, exuding a scented resin from the inner bark when the trunk is damaged. Trees were tapped by the Cherokee, Choctaw, Houma, Koasati and Rappahannock tribes, and the gum was used medicinally, also chewed, and it still used in products today. The first formal appearance of the tree in botanical literature was in the first Spanish-language Mexican herbal, in the late 16th Century.

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## Koelreuteria Paniculata

The Pride of India (not actually from India) Tree or Golden Rain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) is an attractive, large canopy tree, with reddish leaves in spring, turning to dark green, then brilliant yellow in autumn. Larger panicles of small yellow flowers bloom in July to August, followed by bronze-pink 'bladder' fruits. The flowers are ophthalmic, and they are used in the treatment of conjunctivitis and epiphora. In China, the trees are known as 'Luan' or 'Luan-hua', and the flowers are also used to make a yellow dye. Legend has it that in Japan, they were planted over the graves of scholars, that's why it's known as the 'Chinese Scholar Tree'.

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## Gleditsia Triacanthos

Fast-growing and long-lived, *Gleditsia triacanthos* (Honey Locust) is a large, thorny, deciduous tree of a graceful habit with a spreading rounded crown, with soft feathery foliage that turns a magnificent deep yellow in the autumn. Honey Locust had some medicinal uses: the pods were used as an adjuvant, anthelmintic, and antiseptic. These pods and the bark were also used for treating indigestion, smallpox, and measles. It's the unique, twisted pods that give this tree its name, due to a substance that tastes like a combination of honey and castor oil!

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## Ginkgo Biloba

Ginkgo biloba, commonly known as ginkgo or gingko, also known as the maidenhair tree, is a species of gymnosperm tree native to East Asia. Ginkgo has a long history of use in treating blood disorders and memory issues; studies have shown that ginkgo improves blood circulation by opening blood vessels and making blood less sticky and keeps your memory sharp. Now known as a common street tree, ginkgo biloba lays claim to a history that vastly predates humans, a living fossil, unchanged for more than 200 million years.

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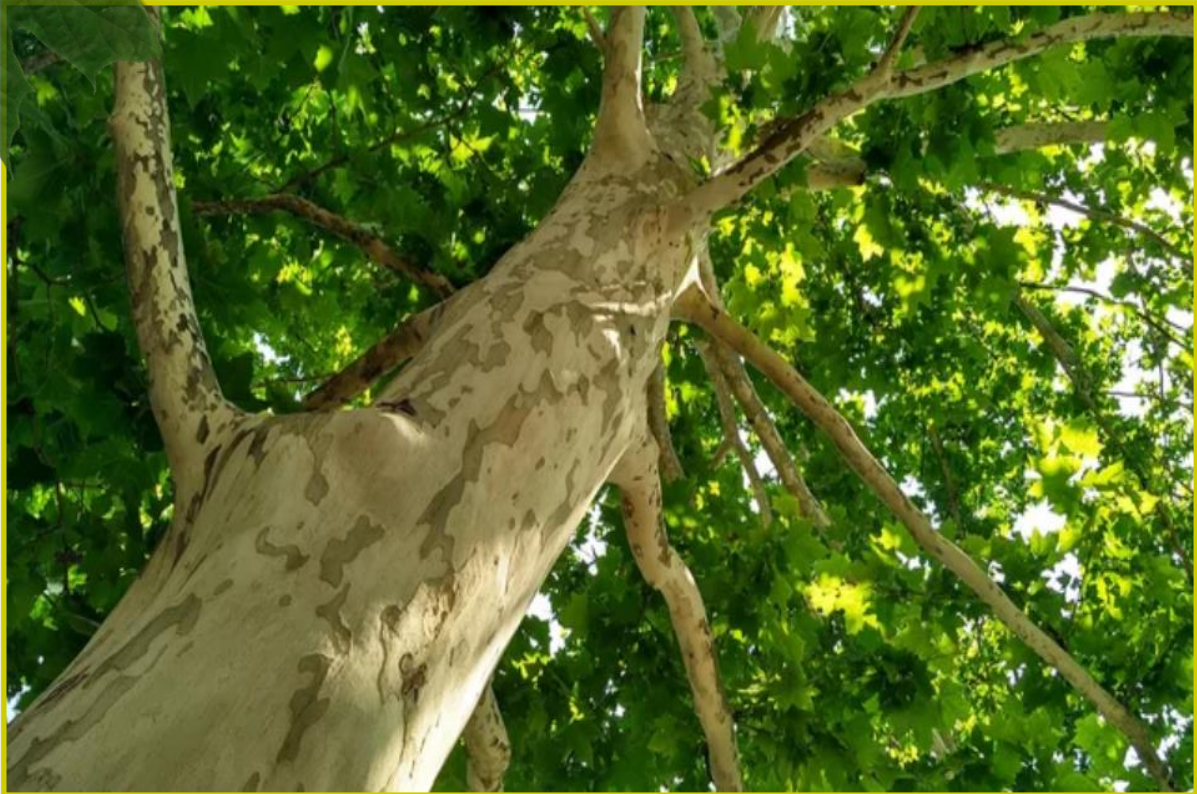


## Ostrya Carpinifolia

The Hop Hornbeam is a slow-growing tree, with a funnel-shaped crown when young and hop-shaped flowers. As it grows, the main trunk splits, allowing side branches to grow out so that the crown becomes rounded. A decoction of the bark is used to bathe sore muscles, and an infusion of the bark can be held in the mouth to relieve the pain of toothache. One way to remember the shape of the tree leaves is by comparing them to a McCoy's crisp!



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## Platanus Orientalis Minaret

This cultivar of Oriental Plane has very deeply dissected, large, bright green leaves, which have 5 lobes. In autumn they turn yellow and brown before falling, and the tree has decorative fruits that dangle in branchlets of 3 to 5 round, spikey clusters. It is also a healing and medicinal tree used in Iranian folklore and traditional medicine, as a pain and inflammation reliever, and the fresh leaves can be used as a treatment of Ophthalmia. They symbolise peace, because their large, hand-shaped (palmate) leaves appeared to reach out towards humans.

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## Fraxinus Americana

'Autumn Purple' White Ash is a broad-conical male clone that typically grows 45-60' tall. As the cultivar name suggests, it is particularly noted for its excellent, long-lasting, reddish-purple to deep mahogany-purple fall color. The juice from leaves relieves the swelling and itching of mosquito bites and has a folkloric use as a prophylactic measure for snake bites. In many cultures and mythology, the ash tree is often associated with the concepts of death and rebirth, as well as the underworld. It is also seen as a symbol of protection, and ash wood is believed to have magical properties that is used to make magic wands and staffs.