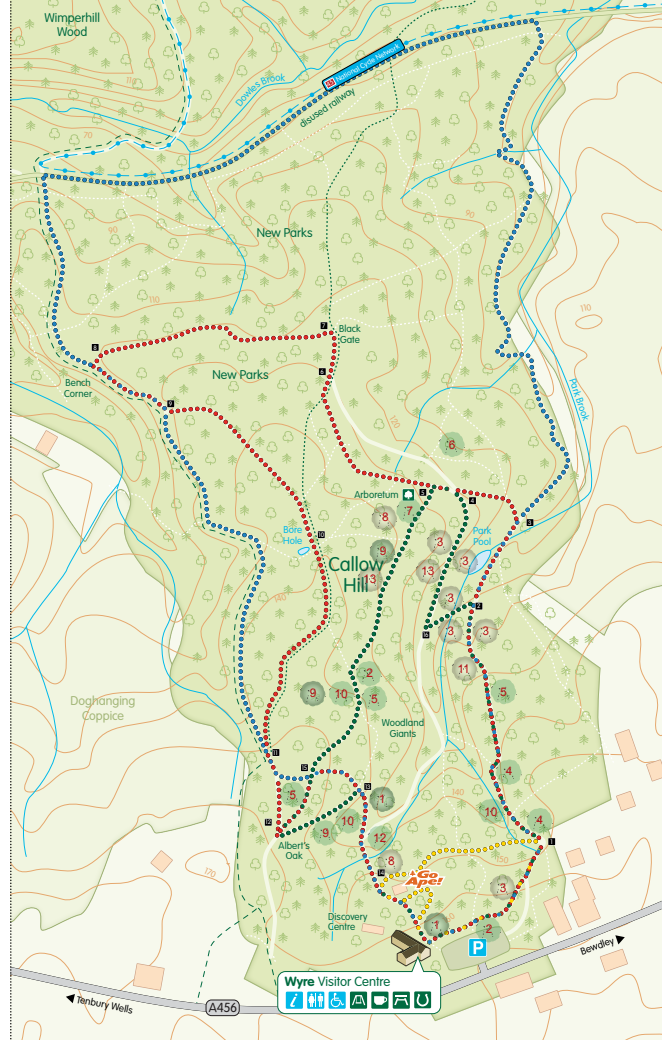


Wyre Forest Callow Hill area

Key

- Parking
- Information
- Toilets
- All access
- Cafe
- Play area
- Picnic area
- Horse riding
- Buzzard Trail
- Woodpecker Trail
- Wren Trail
- Family Mountain Bike Trail
- National Cycle Route
- Public footpaths
- Public bridleways
- Emergency numbered posts

0 100 200m



Key to trees

- 1 European Larch
- 2 Holly
- 3 Douglas Fir
- 4 Oak
- 5 Silver Birch
- 6 Wild Service
- 7 True Service (Whitty Pear)
- 8 Ash
- 9 Scots Pine
- 10 Corsican Pine
- 11 Alder Buckthorn
- 12 Hazel
- 13 Hawthorn

NB: Some numbers relate to individual trees and some to plantations of a single species.

As you learn the trees see if you can spot them at other locations around the route. (Eg silver birch is very common just about everywhere!)

You will also come across different tree species on this route - look at their leaves, buds and bark and see if you can identify what they are by using a book or the internet.



Scots Pine

Use this map to find an example of this tree when you next visit Wyre.

Alternatively, to print a bigger version click [here](#).



Scots Pine - Pinus sylvestris

Folklore

What's in a name?

Some writers such as Wordsworth described it as one of the most attractive trees and there is some history of spiritual significance which can be traced back to Celtic times. It is thought that in England, Scots Pines were planted around farmsteads as windbreaks, whilst clusters of pines situated along the old droveways provided a means of navigation in inclement weather. Near Bewdley, many of the farms have 2 or 3 Scots Pines near the buildings.



The Caledonian Pine Forest, in the Highlands of Scotland, is the only true native pine forest in Britain and the Scots Pine is the dominant tree. It is a hardy evergreen conifer and is also found across northern Europe and Asia.

Now restricted mainly to parts of Scotland although it does regenerate from seed across most of the UK and natural stands of Scots Pine can also be found in the heath lands of Southern England. In Wyre it is an important timber tree.



Size

12 - 36m tall.

[www.foresteducation.org/
search/learning.results/](http://www.foresteducation.org/search/learning.results/)



Age

250 - 300 years old.
Oldest tree 520 years old



Scots Pine - identification

Easily recognised by the orange colouring of the bark.

★ Seeds

The small pointed hanging cones are greyish-brown with woody scales and produce winged seeds when the scales open up, to be dispersed by the wind. You can see cones in various stages on the branches.



★ Leaves

The thick slightly twisted needles are in pairs. The blue-green needles are longer on young plants (around 9cm long) and shorter on older ones.



★ Flowers

Male and female flowers are found on the same tree. Male flowers are clusters of yellow anthers growing at the base of shoots. Crimson female flowers grow at the tips of new shoots.

★ Bark

The upper bark has characteristic warm orange brown scales when young. The lower bark is distinctively deeply fissured with age.





Scots Pine - associated fungi and lichens

★ *Lactarius deliciosus*



★ *Suillus luteus*



★ Tinder fungus - good for firelighting

★ *Lactarius hepaticus*





Scots Pine - associated wildlife (insects)

★ Wood Ants - look for large piles of needles (nests). The ants protect the trees by feeding on aphids and caterpillars which otherwise would damage them.



Wildlife Spotter

To download an insect spotter chart click [here](#)

★ Longhorn Beetle -
Rhagium mordax



★ Pine Beauty Moth



Scots Pine - associated wildlife (birds)



★ Siskin
They enjoy feeding on the seeds.

Wildlife Spotter

To download a bird spotter chart click [here](#)

★ Goshawks
Prefer tall trees to nest in.



★ Crossbill
They enjoy feeding on the seeds.



Scots Pine - timber properties

The timber of Scots pine is also known as "red deal". Although it is a soft wood, it is strong and easy to work. These qualities have made it a popular choice for a great variety of uses. When untreated it is not naturally durable wood, but it takes preservatives very well.



Scots Pine - uses past and present



Due to its strength Scots Pine is widely used in the construction industry and for joinery.



It is used for telegraph poles, pit props, gate posts, fencing, decking, cladding and paper pulp etc.



The tree can also be tapped for its resin, from which turpentine is made.



During the two world wars it was used to make ammunition boxes.



Other products from pine have been rope from the inner bark, tar from the roots and a reddish-brown dye from the cones. The dry cones are also a good kindling for fires.