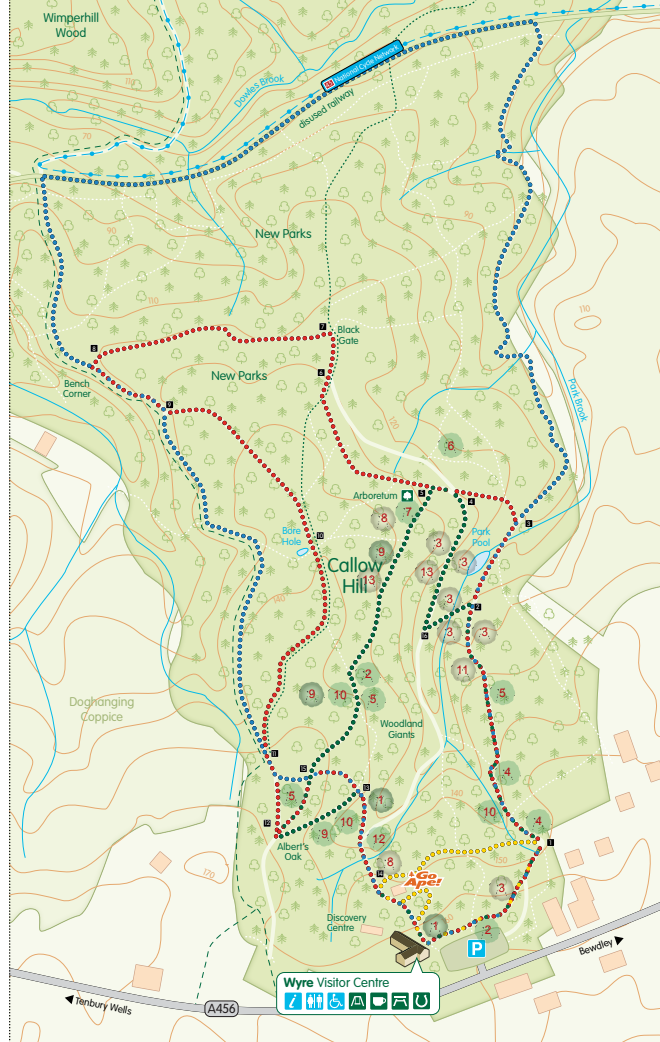


Wyre Forest Callow Hill area

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.



Douglas Fir

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

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



Douglas Fir - *Pseudotsuga menziesii*

These trees are very quick growing. The species is named after David Douglas who introduced the tree to Europe. It is renowned in its natural habitat in America as being one of the tallest trees, reaching heights of 120m.

Folklore

What's in a name?

Ancient Native Canadian legend has it that a Douglas Fir, angered by the invasion of lots of mice eating the cones, snapped all its cones shut, trapping the tiny mice inside.

To this day when you look at a Douglas fir cone you can see the little back legs and tails of the mice sticking out of the cones where they are trapped.



Indeed the world record for the tallest tree felled is held by a Douglas Fir which stood 127m in British Columbia in 1895.



Size
Up to 127m tall!



Age
Up to 750 years old.

www.foresteducation.org/search/learning.results/



Douglas Fir - identification



★ Flowers and seed

Cones are dark brown with distinctive 'bracts' and the seeds are dispersed by the wind after the cones have opened.



★ Leaves

The needles (3cm) are flattened, soft, flexible and distributed around the twig (rather than on one side). If a needle is pulled off a twig it has a characteristic sucker shaped base. The underneath of the needle has white-green stripes. Crush some needles in your hands and sniff!



★ Bark

The thick bark is dark purple-brown and has huge fissures.





Douglas Fir - associated fungi and lichens



★ *Phaeolus schweinitzii*
Occurs on conifers in general



Douglas Fir - associated wildlife (insects)

There are many pests that can attack the Douglas Fir.

★ Tortrix Moth and caterpillar



Wildlife Spotter

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

★ Pine Beauty Moth



★ Spruce Carpet Moth





Douglas Fir - associated wildlife (birds)

Wildlife Spotter

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



★ Ravens
Prefer tall trees to nest in.



★ Goldcrest
Feeds off the seeds of conifers.



★ Goshawks
Prefer tall trees to nest in.



★ Coal Tit
Feeds off the seeds of conifers.



Douglas Fir - timber properties

Originally from British Columbia and the Pacific coast of the US, the Douglas fir adapts well to varying conditions.

It is a valuable timber tree and one of the world's outstanding softwoods.

The wood is pale to medium red-brown, with conspicuous growth ring configuration. It is straight grained and resinous.

It dries quickly and well and is strong. It works readily with hand and machine tools, and is moderately resistant to decay.



Douglas Fir - uses past and present



It's a much used structural timber which can be available in very large sizes. It is used in building for roof trusses, laminated beams and in joinery.



An important wood for railway sleepers and for chemical vats and tanks, flooring, decking.



It is the world's most important source of plywood, used mainly for structural purposes. The timber is also used for wood pulp and chipboard.



Its great height makes it excellent for masts, spars and flagstaffs.