Friends of WOLLATON PARK

The Oak Trees and Oak Avenues of Wollaton Park

Wollaton Park boasts over 500 Oak trees, encompassing at least 10 different species. Among them is an ancient oak that took root around 1460, predating even the construction of Wollaton Hall. These oaks stand as individual giants or form parts of historic avenues, adding to the park's timeless charm.

Oaks belong to the Beech family, they are distinguished by their acorn-bearing fruit.

In 1786 over 13,200 Oak trees were planted in the park.

https://friendsofwollatonpark.org.uk/

English Oaks *Quercus robur.* UK Native.

The National Tree of England. The most common form of Oak in the park. Some are hybrids with the Sessile Oak – it is not easy to tell them apart and are mostly labelled as English Oak on our online map. https://tinyurl.com/fowp-trees

Oak Avenues

There are 7 Oak avenues shown on the map. Digby Avenue has 4 rows of mainly English Oak Trees, planted around 1838 by Digby Willoughby, the 7th Baron Middleton.The avenue to the North-West of the Hall, leading to the car exit was originally planted in 1700, only a few trees from that era have survived.

1. Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*. UK Native.

There are relatively few Sessile Oaks in the park.
Unlike the English Oak, whose acorns are stalked and leaves are not, the Sessile Oak has stalked leaves and acorns that grow directly on the twig.

2. Cypress Oak

Quercus robur forma fastigiata.

Also known as a Pyramid Oak, it is a unique variety of English oak. Its distinctive upright, columnar growth habit resembles a cypress tree, hence the name.

3. Hungarian Oak *Quercus frainetto.*

Described by many as the most magnificent Oak of them all, Introduced to UK in 1837. It boasts large, deeply lobed leaves, often reaching up to 10 inches in length.

Only one specimen in the park.

4. Red Oak *Quercus rubra*.

The leaves are larger than the English / Sessile Oak. Introduced into the UK in 1754 as it is faster growing than the native oaks, reaching maturity for harvesting wood in 80-100 years.

5. Pin Oak *Quercus palustris. Intro 1800*

The leaves of the pin oak are deeply lobed with pointed tips, giving them a distinctive appearance. The lower branches have often died back to the trunk.
Introduced circa 1800.

6. Turkey Oak *Quercus cerris.*

The leaf is similar to the English Oak, but close inspection will see twisting whiskers on the twig where the leaf is joined.
Introduced to the UK in the 1750's.

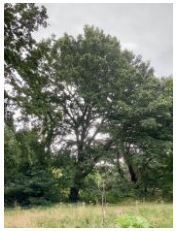
7. Turner's Oak

Quercus x turneri 'Pseodoturneri'.

A hybrid of the English Oak and Holm Oak, giving it evergreen tendencies. Hybridised 1783.

8. Lucombe Oak

Quercus x hispanica 'Lucombena'.



A hybrid of the Turkey Oak and Cork Oak. Opposite Turners Oak. Tree referenced in Country Life Magazine, 1900.

9. Holm Oak *Quercus ilex.*

Holm is an old English word meaning Holly. It is an Evergreen Oak, keeping its leaves for 3 years, before losing them in spring.

10. "Arbour" Oak *Quercus x rosacea.*

The Oak on Arbour Hill is a hybrid between an English Oak and Sessile Oak. It is thought to have started life in the 1460s. The tree was pollarded in the 17th century, which means that its branches were regularly cut back to encourage new growth.