

Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum

Family: Aceraceae

Native to Eastern North America.

This tree is deciduous and wind pollinated.

This is a stately tree which grows along river banks in its native country.

The bark is an attractive grey. The leaves are green with silvery undersides and are five-lobed, finely-cut. The flowers are red to green in early spring. In autumn the leaves turn yellow, followed by two-winged fruits. This tree is widely used in urban areas as it is very tolerant of atmospheric pollution.

Did you know?

The sap from this tree contains sugar that is sometimes used as a drink, and can be concentrated into a syrup by boiling off the water. The syrup is used as a sweetener in many foods.

Look out for

Roe deer

Native to the UK and larger than the muntjac deer. Roe deer are mainly solitary animals, sometimes seen in family groups. You can often see them grazing in the arboretum.



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American Buttonwood

Platanus occidentalis

Family: Platanaceae

This tree is deciduous and wind pollinated.

Native to Eastern North America where it grows along riverbanks, most notably east of the Mississippi.

This tree has a lovely mottled flaky bark. The leaves are palmate-like and the leaf lobes are wider than they are long, whereas in *Platanus orientalis* the leaf lobes tend to be longer. Small red flowers in spring are followed by brown, ball-like fruits which contain many seeds, called achenes, in autumn. In maturity this tree can reach up to 50 metres.

This tree has many uses: the Native Americans used it to make canoes and used the bark and leaves to treat cuts and wounds. European settlers discovered that the wood was strong so they used it to make chopping blocks, wagon wheels, crates and boxes.

Did you know?

This tree has an important place in history: '24 gentlemen' met under a Buttonwood tree at 68 Wall Street on 17 May 1792 to negotiate the terms of the brand new New York Stock Exchange. The document that they signed is known as the Buttonwood agreement.

Its common name is derived from the fact that the wood is most famous for its use in the manufacture of buttons.

Look out for

Grey heron

Standing at up to one metre tall this distinctive bird can often be seen by the small arboretum pond.



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Indian Horse Chestnut

Aesculus indica

Family: Sapindaceae

This tree is deciduous and bee pollinated.

Native to the Himalayas from Afghanistan, western Pakistan and Kashmir to Nepal, this tree has peeling grey bark which produces pink-white flowers in early July. The leaves are more slender than the common Horse chestnut and its fruits are not as big and spiny. It was introduced to the UK in 1851 by Colonel Henry Bunbury who planted seeds in his garden in Suffolk.

Did you know?

The leaves of this magnificent tree are used as cattle fodder in parts of Northern India. The wood is easily worked and in India it is used to carve boxes, spoons and pots. In Nepal the seed oil is used in traditional medicine to treat skin diseases.

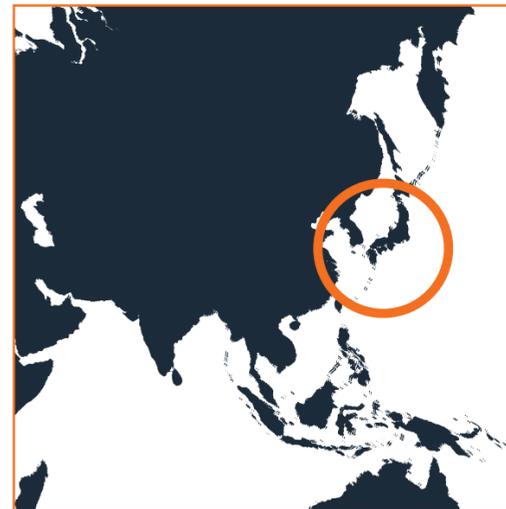
Look out for

Speckled wood butterfly

Prefers the dappled sunlight of the more shaded parts of the arboretum. They feed mainly on aphid honeydew in the tree tops, however can occasionally be seen feeding on flowers in the early or later part of the year.



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Japanese Elm

Zelkova serrata

Family: Ulmaceae

This tree is deciduous and wind pollinated.

This tree is native to Japan, where it is named Keaki, which means elm.

The tree has attractive grey smooth bark and the leaves are green with serrated margins. In autumn, the leaves turn, yellow, orange and such a vibrant red that the tree almost looks like it is on fire.

Did you know?

The trunk of the tree is traditionally used to make taiko drums in Japan. The texture of the carved wood affects the tone of the drum.

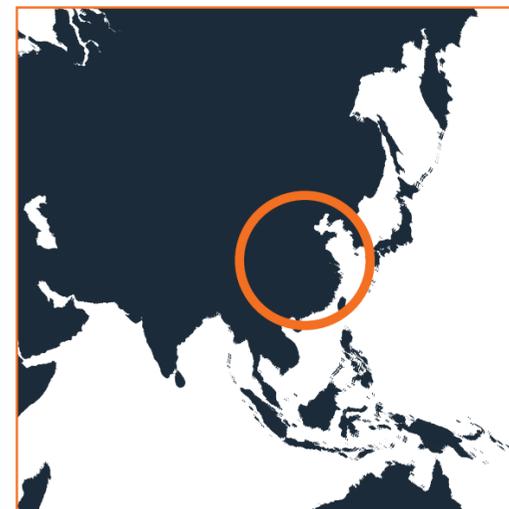
Look out for

Muntjac

Introduced to the UK in the early 20th century, the muntjac is smaller than the roe deer. They are often called 'barking deer' as they make a sound similar to that of a dog.



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Chinese Fir

Cunninghamia lanceolata

Family: Cupressaceae

This tree is evergreen and wind pollinated.

Native to China, Northern Vietnam and Laos, this conifer is one of two species, and despite its name it is not a true fir.

This tree derived its name from Dr James Cunningham, who discovered the species in 1702, and is considered to be the first person to document it, but it was not brought to England until a century later.

The general shape of the tree is conical with an attractive red bark. The leaves are narrow and lance-shaped, dark green and pale underneath and its cones are spherical. In its native habitat it can grow up to 50 metres high and up to 5.5 metres in diameter.

Did you know?

The soft wood is prized in China due to its scent and durability, which is why it is often used in the manufacture of temple buildings and for coffins.

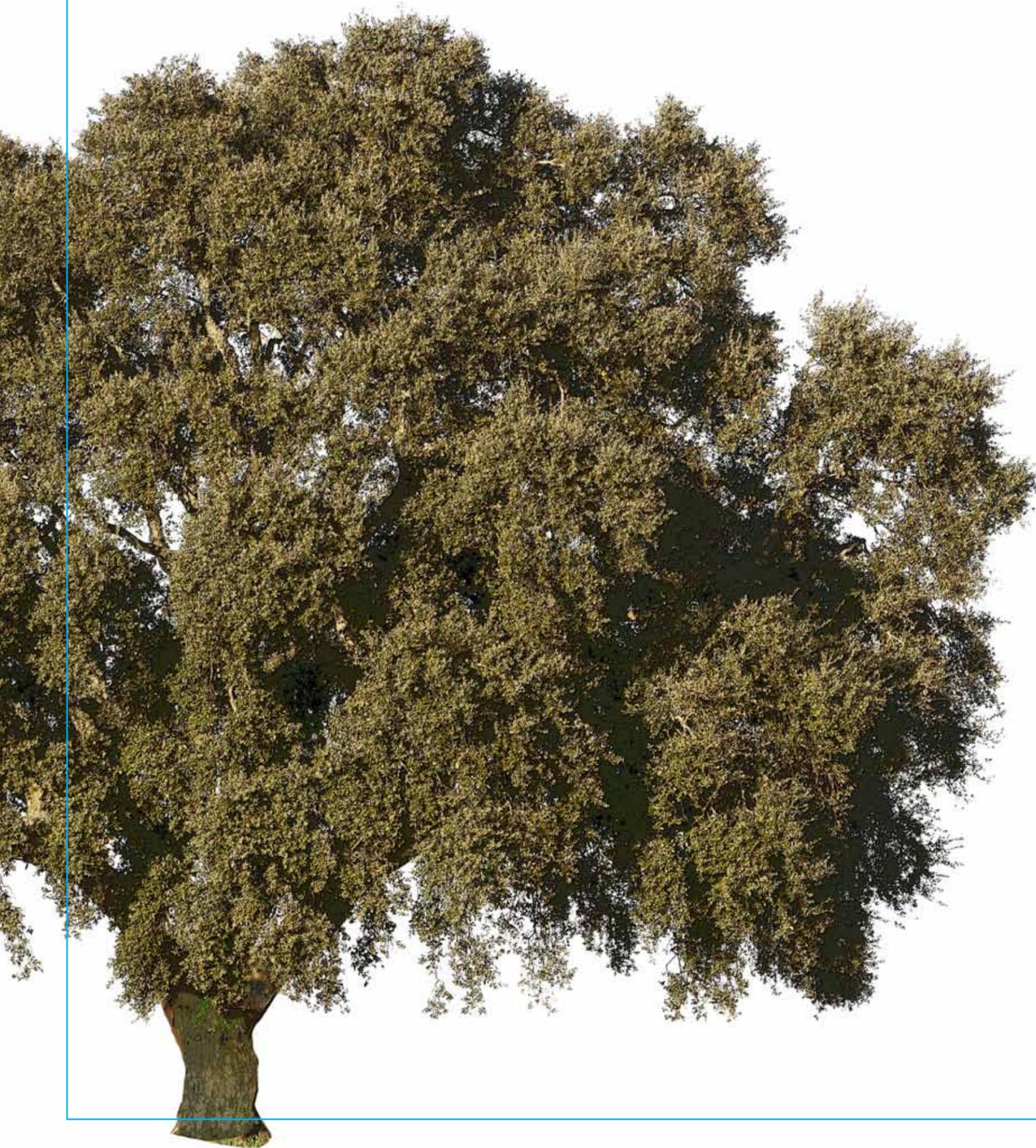
Look out for

Fox

The red fox can be seen passing through the arboretum. A member of the dog family, these foxes have acute hearing and can hear a watch tick from 40 yards away.



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Cork Oak

Quercus suber

Family: Fagaceae

This tree is evergreen and wind pollinated.

This is a magnificent tree that is not widely grown in the UK, instead native to the Mediterranean. A wonderful feature of this tree is its gnarled bark. The leaves slightly resemble holly, as they have spiny tips, are dark green and pale underneath. The tree produces egg shaped acorns in autumn.

Cork is harvested from the tree for wine bottle corks, but this practice is now in decline due to the more common use of screw tops. The cork from this tree has been used since Roman times when it was used for fishing net buoys.

Did you know?

One cubic centimetre of cork contains 40 million air cells. It is warm to touch, durable, light and bouncy.

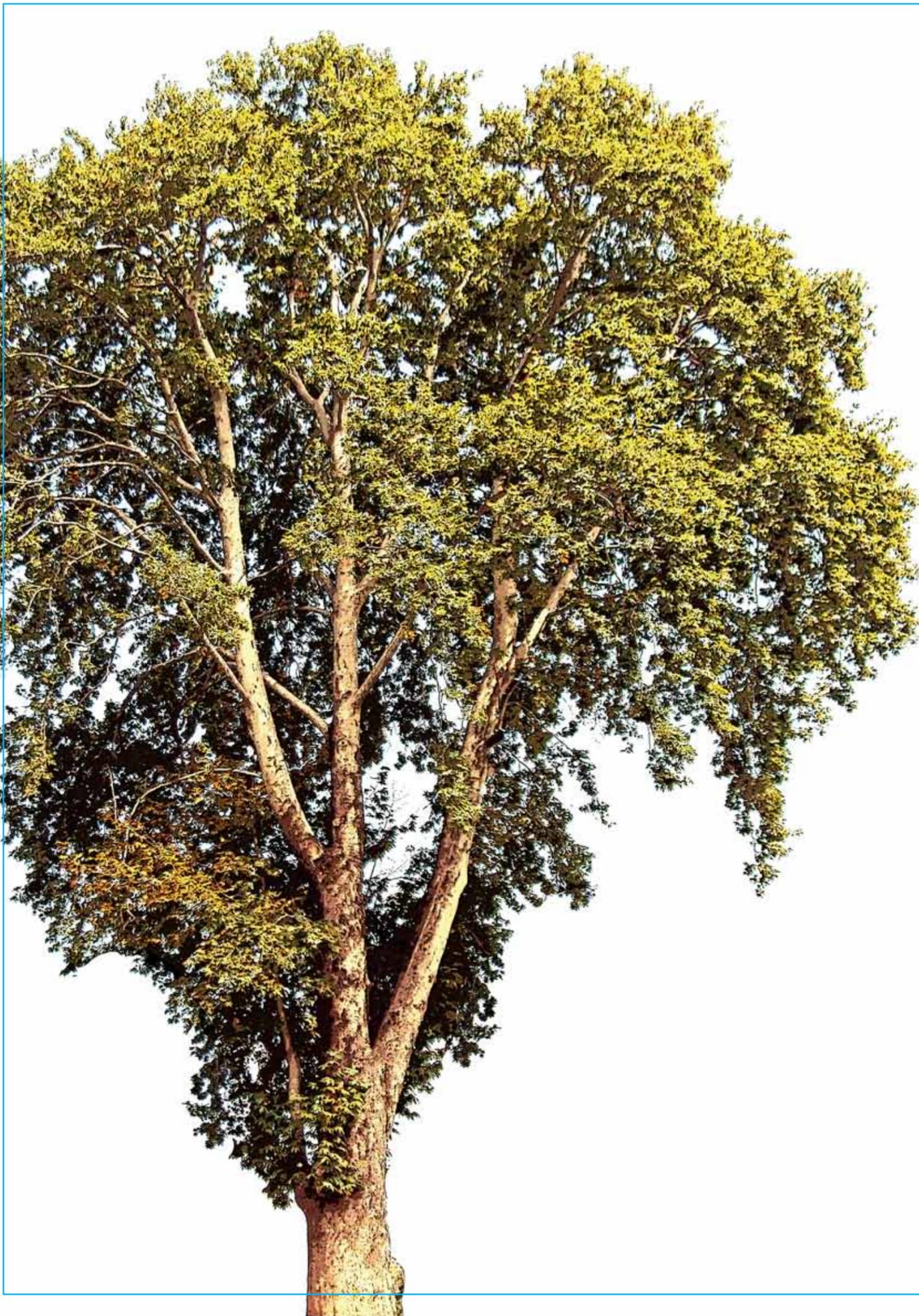
Look out for

Green woodpecker

Look out for their distinctive red crown in the grass areas as they spend most of their time feeding on insects on the ground.



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Oriental Plane

Platanus orientalis

Family: Platanaceae

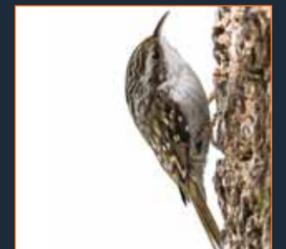
This tree is deciduous and wind pollinated. It is reputed that this tree is the tree of the ancient Greek physician, Hippocrates, as it is said that he taught medicine at Kos under an Oriental Plane. The tree's bark is attractively flaky and it has lovely maple like leaves which are five-lobed. The flowers are very small, borne in dense, round clusters that hang down and are followed by ball-like fruits in autumn. It is native to Asia. In its natural habitat it tends to spread, and in India is planted as shade tree.

Did you know?

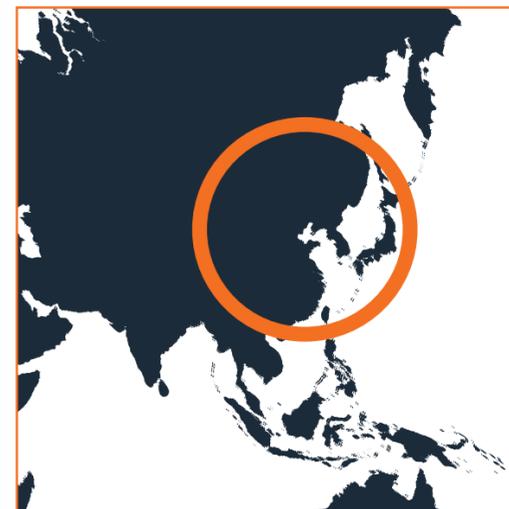
The wood is used in commercial furniture-making which has included the manufacture of barrels and crates. Oriental Plane veneer is also sold as 'lacewood'.

Look out for

Tree creeper
You may have to look quite hard as these birds are very well-camouflaged against the tree bark. Unlike the nut hatch this bird works its way up the tree trunk in a spiral.



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Amur Cork Tree

Phellodendron amurense

Family: Rutaceae

This tree is deciduous and bee pollinated.

This tree is native to Eastern Asia which includes North China, Korea and Japan. The leaves are large, green and turn a lovely lemon-yellow colour in autumn, followed by small deep purple-red fruits.

Flowers of this tree are dioecious which means the male and female flowers are on different plants. The tree gets its name from the Amur River in Northern China, where it naturally grows.

Did you know?

Bark extracts are used in traditional herbal medicine by the Chinese to treat dysentery, meningitis, urinary tract and liver problems. Oil pressed from the fruits has similar properties to the insecticide, pyrethrum, and can be used to control plant pests such as thrips and aphids.

Look out for

Nut hatch

This agile bird resembles a small woodpecker and unlike the tree creeper is the only bird you will see scuttling *down* tree trunks looking for insects.



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