Tree Identification Guide
This guide can be used for the OPAL Tree Health Survey and OPAL Air Survey.

Oak
Quercus species

Ash
Fraxinus excelsior

Horse chestnut
Aesculus hippocastanum

Sycamore
Acer pseudoplatanus

Rowan
Sorbus aucuparia

Elder
Sambucus nigra

Maple
Acer species

Hawthorn
Crataegus monogyna

London Plane
Platanus x acerifolia

Sweet chestnut
Castanea sativa

Beech
Fagus sylvatica

Whitebeam
Sorbus aucuparia

Cherry
Prunus species

Willow
Salix species

Fir
Abies species

Hornbeam
Carpinus betulus

Crab apple
Malus sylvestris

Birch
Betula species

Poplar
Populus species

Elm
Ulmus species

Hazel
Corylus avellana

Lime
Tilia species

Beech
Fagus sylvatica

Whitebeam
Sorbus aucuparia

Cherry
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Crataegus montana

Hornbeam
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Crab apple
Malus sylvatica

Birch
Betula species

Poplar
Populus species

London Plane
Platanus x acerifolia

Sweet chestnut
Castanea sativa

Hazel
Corylus avellana

Lime
Tilia species

Elm
Ulmus species

Alder
Alnus species
Start here

Conifers
If you have found a conifer, choose another tree for your OPAL survey

Horse chestnut

Elder
Check: Elder leaves release a pungent smell when you rub them

Ash
Check: Ash has black buds

Rowan
Check: Rowan never has black buds like Ash. Rowan leaflets are deeper toothed than Ash. Look out for red berries on Rowan in autumn

Does the tree have needles or scale-like leaves?

Does the tree have simple leaves?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Is the leaf tip a distinct point?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Are the twigs thorny?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Are there fine white hairs on the edge of the leaf?

Is the leaf base asymmetrical?

Is the leaf base asymmetrical?

Is the leaf a distinct point?

Is the leaf base asymmetrical?

Is the leaf a distinct point?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Is the leaf at least twice as long as it is wide?

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?

Are there 2 red spots at the top of the leaf stalk?

Does the tree have simple leaves?

Are there 2 red spots at the top of the leaf stalk?

Does the leaf have two or three pairs of leaflets?

Do all the leaflets grow from the end of the stalk?

Are there 2 red spots at the top of the leaf stalk?

Is the underside of the leaf pale?

Are there fine white hairs on the edge of the leaf?

Is the leaf base asymmetrical?

Is the leaf a distinct point?

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