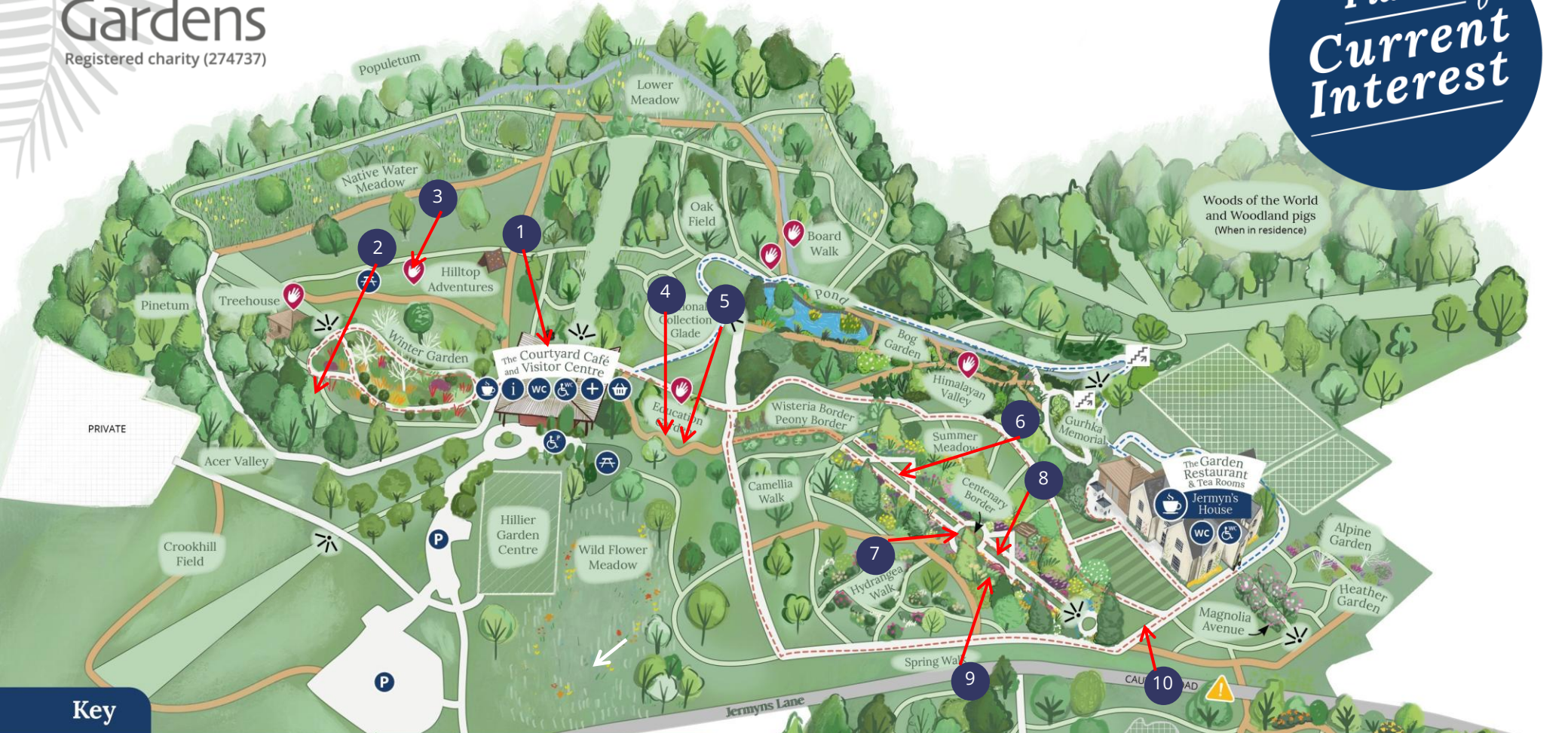


Plants of Current Interest



Key


- Great for kids!
- Discover**
The Treehouse, Hilltop Adventures, Board Walk, Sound Garden, Wobbly Bridge and more!
- Information & tickets
- Refreshments
- Shop
- Toilets
- Picnic Area
- Accessible toilets
- First aid
- Viewpoint
- Parking
- Accessible parking

- Accessible trails**
- Flat with little gradient
- A slight gradient
- Terrain not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs**
- Mixed surface paths
- Grass path
- Gravel paths
- Steps
- Main road



Welcome to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, one of the largest collections of hardy trees and shrubs in the world. Also listed as having the biggest collection of Champion Trees in the whole of Britain and Ireland - with 611 Champions! Use the map to guide yourself around the Gardens. The ten plants highlighted here are just a taster of what can be seen on your walk.

We hope you enjoy your visit.

 = RHS Award of Garden Merit

4 *Arbutus unedo* 'Compacta' (ah-BEAU-tus)
This plant native to the Mediterranean, is sometime known as the strawberry tree. It was brought to the UK by the Romans and was said to be a source of food. However, the fruits are not good tasting and can cause stomach problems, so are best left for the birds. It is, however, an attractive small tree that seem to have either the white bell-like flowers or fruits, or both all year.

8 *Sorbus* 'Glowing Pink' (SOR-bus)
This is a wonderful variety of our native 'Rowan' or 'Mountain Ash'. A small tree with big impact. A long season of interest is gained from this tree with profuse flowering in spring, persistent fruits from mid summer to early winter and beautiful autumn colour. It is also a very easy tree to grow and is tolerant of most soil types.

1 *Acer rubrum* 'Brandywine' (AY-ser)
Not many trees say autumn more spectacularly than the 'Maple'. This is the north American red maple, common in New England and the east coast States. Its colour is outstanding among ornamental trees. There are many selections of this small to medium sized, deciduous tree. This one is praised for its deep, almost purple autumn colour. *Acer rubrum* requires acidic soils to thrive.

5 *Eriobotrya japonica* (air-ree-oh-BOT-tree-ah)
This is a rare site in the UK! The Loquat is a subtropical plant native to Southern China and grown for its edible fruits. Here, it is not particularly rare to see this evergreen shrub, but it very seldom flowers here and is a sign of a hot summer. Sadly, it is unlikely to fruit outside here. Gives a tropical look to a garden. An unusual member of the rose family.

9 *Magnolia* 'Big Dude' (mag-NOH-lee-ah)
A pretty comical name, but well deserving! Both flowers and now, fruits are huge on this cultivar magnolia. The strange, alien looking fruits start pale green and eventually darken to deep pink. They are full of bright orange seeds that are exposed as the fruits dry. The orange flesh is toxic and covers the hard black seeds. Seeds germinate easily, but can take 20 years or more to flower!!

2 *Hippophae rhamnoides* (HIP-poh-fay)
Known as the 'Sea Buckthorn', this is a plant that can reach tree proportions or stay a messy, multi-stemmed shrub. They are often found growing by the coast and are resistant to salt winds. There are separate male and female trees. The females bear bright orange fruits in late summer and early autumn. These are edible and high in vitamins.

6 *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Stared' (LIK-wid-am-bah)
This is a beautiful form of the North American 'Sweetgum'. They are often mistaken for Maples due to the similar shaped leaf. However, they are much easier to grow than maples and will grow in almost any soil, their autumn colour is outstanding and generally remains longer than a maple. The Gardens has a large collection of varieties.

10 *Cyclamen hederifolium* (SIK-klah-men)
This is the Autumn cyclamen or 'Ivy-Leaf Cyclamen'. They are a beautiful and very easy bulbous perennial to grow. Plants often drop lots of seed and can build big colonies, fast. They are very successful underneath deciduous trees, forming an autumn flowering carpet. If summers are dry, they may not produce a lot of flower and will store their energy in the bulb for the next year.

3 *Parrotia persica* 'Felicie' (pah-ROT-ee-ah)
The 'Persian Ironwood' is a relative of the 'Witch Hazel' and requires an acidic to neutral soil to thrive. Their red flowers in spring are pretty, but small. However, it is for the stunning autumn colour that this shrub is most admired. There are many varieties available and here in the Gardens we have a particularly good selection. Felicie, has the most spectacular colour, red to deep purple.

7 *Kniphofia* 'Happy Halloween' (niff-FOH-fee-ah)
This is a glorious form of the 'Red Hot Poker'. There are approximately 70 species of this well-known perennial, the majority native to South Africa. For anyone who loves these plants, there are varieties that flower at different times through the year, from spring to Autumn. True to its name, this variety always flowers around Halloween.

Membership starts from £47.50
Join today and claim back today's admission fee

Help support the Sir Harold Hillier Garden charity and become a member visit <https://shop.hants.gov.uk/>

For the latest updates find us @HillierGardens

