



9 Dew pond and Hawthorn (Paul O’Prey)
Our 2025 Tree Festival photo competition winner!

How to find me
This lovely Hawthorn and Dew pond can be found on the South Downs Way between Ditchling Beacon and Jack and Jill windmills.
///notifying.shepherdess.passports

10 The oldest tree in Brighton!

There’s a creature lurking in the shadows of Stanmer churchyard. Is a 500 year old tree or a crustaceous creature bursting out of its shell? Clamber inside and find out!
How to find me
Stanmer churchyard lies within Stanmer Park. There are two (ticketed) car parks a short walk away and a bus stop opposite (number 78).
///burn.thanks.monkey

1 The tallest tree in Sussex!

Native to California, a Redwood is always a surprise to spot in Sussex and this is the tallest in the county! The perfect tree to make you feel small and give you an aching neck looking up!
How to find me
Entering (on foot) from the B2114 follow the public footpath sign (by the Handcross village sign) and head straight down into Pookchurch Wood (part of the Nymans estate). Keep following the path straight down and after about half a mile you will come into ‘Conifer Avenue’. Follow the path up to the right and you will see the tallest tree in Sussex! Charges apply in the National Trust car park or park for free in Handcross village.
///sensitive.cheerful.good

2 Beauty in imperfection

Come see this Oak and consider the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi; appreciating the beauty in imperfection. We don’t know why this old Oak lost it’s limb a century or so ago but we can marvel at how the bark has regrown over it, all cracked, beautiful and imperfect.
How to find me
This beautiful old Oak is situated a short walk from the Knepp Wilding Kitchen & Shop. Follow the orange route round to the right and you will find this tree.
///ants.unloaded.bumps



4 Come and sit awhile

High up, along the edge of an Iron-age hill fort lies a beautiful, lonesome tree. A perfect perching spot for looking out across the Downs, pull up a seat and enjoy the view!



3 The big roots tree!

(Zach Cuthbert, 7)
Trees provide the best climbing frames! This tree with its amazing exposed roots offers plenty of places to hide, climb and discover - perfect for little explorers!
How to find me
Free parking is available at Chanctonbury Ring car park. From there, follow the track up the hill, past a metal gate and up into the woodland where the path winds round to the right. Further up, where the path splits take a sharp left, pass a den (or two) and you will find me!
///slack.coasters.supposes

How to find me

Cissbury Ring is located above Findon. Free parking is available in the car park on Storrington Rise (///stoops.foggy.juror) as well as in the surrounding residential streets.
///forks.power.tasks

12 The fairy gate tree

(G.Duque Adao)
Embrace your inner child and go on a hunt to find this twisty, twirly tree! What caused it to wind its way like this? And is it a gate to somewhere special?
How to find me
Enter the woods through the metal gate on Moulsecocomb Way, parking is free (residential) and the number 49 stops nearby. Follow the path as it branches round to the left, ending at a stile. Take care climbing over - it is rickety! Continue on the path as it goes out into the field and snakes up the hill. Take the right track into the woods (by a gorse bush) and soon you will find the fairy gate tree!
///frogs.monday.scale

13 All that’s broken is not lost

(Ryan Busuttill & Veronica Toth)
Our 2024 Tree Competition Winner!
How to find me
Coming in the main entrance to Stanmer Park this tree is in the second field on the left (before you get to Stanmer House). The nearest car park is Lower Lodges West (charges apply) and the number 78 and 25 stop close by.
///cross.wash.hurt



5 The Magic Tree

(Jane Waters) We like to imagine this lumpy, bumpy tree as an all-knowing face - full of secrets! This 300 year-old Chestnut is all that remains of the avenue that led up to Buckingham House.

14 Waves in the wood

(Evy Finney-Chokey, 12)
Step behind the Georgian manor house and it’s like you’ve entered into Giant Country! Do these towering Cedars come alive at night, walk around then return to their positions for morning? Want to feel part of their kingdom? Climb up their shortest neighbour and enjoy the wavy bark that is smooth to touch.
How to find me
The Cedars of Lebanon are located directly behind Stanmer House. There are two (ticketed) car parks a short walk away and a bus stop opposite the church (number 78).
///detail.linked.awake



6 Survivor

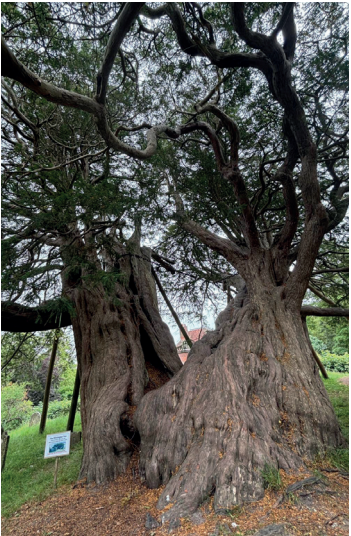
(Derek Winsor)
Not many trees would survive strong winds on top of the Downs - but this Hawthorn has! This tenacious tree is a symbol of resilience and looks beautiful in its wind-blown shape.
How to find me
Come to the west side of Devil’s Dyke and find me near the “bomb house” ruin! Parking charges apply at Devil’s Dyke, free parking (lay-bys) available on Devil’s Dyke Road and the number 77 goes to Devil’s Dyke from Brighton.
///jubilant.solo.incisions

How to find me: Buckingham Park is located on Upper Shoreham Road in Shoreham, a short walk from the high street, bus stops and train station. Parking is free on roads around the park.
///repay.lentil.conjured



15 Wintry Winterbourne Willows

(Suzanne Olivante)
Come see the water-loving Willows that line the Winterbourne, a valuable chalk stream that travels through Lewes. In winter these willows look like dancing dryads with their tiny heads, outstretched arms and bouffant hair!
How to find me
Lewes Railway Land Nature Reserve is free to access and is easily walkable from Lewes High Street. There are multiple entrance points to the reserve but the main entrance is by the Linklater Pavilion (///badge.mercy.cadet).
///string.thinks.escalated



17 The Defiant Ash

In a time when so many Ash trees have been lost to disease it’s really exciting to see a healthy Ash! This tall friend hangs playfully over the Cuckoo Trail, a car-free walker and cyclist-friendly path that runs for 12 miles between Polegate and Heathfield.
How to find me
The Cuckoo Trail has multiple entry points; this tree is closest to the Upper Horsebridge Road entrance. Free parking can be found in the residential streets nearby and the number 28 stops close by (Horsebridge Mill stop).
///habits.settled.flamingo

7 Flying High

(Buckley Henderson, 11)
Come and take a swing under the trees! Our favourite tree swing is big enough for the young and young at heart so this is a perfect spot for the whole family to come and play!
How to find me
Henfield Common has multiple entry points. Parking can be found just off the A281 (///curls.wanted.regal) or at Swain’s farm shop. From this side enter the woodland by the sign, follow the woods round to the left and you will find this tree-swing tucked away in the wood’s south-west corner.
///nicknames.goggles.windows

8 The Otters tree

Deep in the heart of Lag Wood lives a family of otters! Carved beautifully into a fallen tree these playful creatures are a local legend and well worth the hunt to find them!
How to find me: The quickest way to Lag Wood is by the public footpath marked ‘South Downs’ on Keymer Road (///lifeguard.forwarded.shiny). Follow this path for 0.8 miles, past the two entrances to Butcher’s Wood, a stile and a bench. Climb over the next stile to your left and take a sharp right into Lag Wood. Follow this path straight as it winds down then to the left and watch out for otters!
///shape.woodstove.ambition

16 The biggest tree to hug!

How many of you and your family/friends do you think it would take to give this tree a hug? At 1600 years old and with a girth of 23 feet we love going to visit this magnificent, ancient Yew.
How to find me
The Wilmington Yew is located in the churchyard of St Mary and St Peter’s church on The Street in Wilmington. Parking (free) is available on the street and in the Long Man car park.
///spicy.equal.blocks





Sussex Tree map



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To become a member please go to
cpresussex.org.uk

CPRE Sussex is a branch of the
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- Best trees for views
- Best trees for climbing and/or playing around
- Most unique tree shapes
- Best trees for a family tree hunt
- Trees close to public transport