

### 1. English/Persian Walnut *Juglans regia*

Large, deciduous tree attaining heights of 25–35 m, and a trunk up to 2 m diameter, commonly with a short trunk and broad crown, though taller and narrower in dense forest competition. It is a light-demanding species, requiring full sun to grow well. The seed is large, with a relatively thin shell.

They are edible with a rich flavour. Insects do not like the walnut so it provides refreshing shade for livestock. Scattered around the house, they help keep flies away.



### 2. Crab apple *Malus sylvestris*

Medium-sized trees with coarse, oval leaves with fruit. Bark is gray, scaly, cracked. Leaves are oval, pointed, slightly toothed, fuzzy underneath, 2 to 3-1/2 inches long. Flowers are pink to white, 5-petaled, radially-symmetric. Sized 3/4 inches across. They are fragrant in early spring. Fruits are familiar apple or smaller crabapple, ready for harvesting in early autumn. Pollinated by insects such as bumble and honey bees.



### 3. Rowan / Mountain ash *Sorbus aucuparia edulis*

Mostly small deciduous trees, 10–20 m tall, though a few are shrubs. The leaves are arranged alternately, and are pinnate, with 11–35 leaflets; a terminal leaflet is always present.

The flowers are borne in dense corymbs; each flower is creamy white, and 5–10 mm across with five petals.

Rowan berries appear in early autumn. The fruit are soft and juicy, which makes them a very good food for birds.



### 4. Damson *Prunus insititia*

The tree blossoms in early April and fruit is harvested in late August or early September. White flowers are borne in umbel-like clusters of 2–3 on short spurs, and solitary. The fruit is identified by its oval shape (though slightly pointed at one end), smooth-textured yellow-green flesh, and skin from dark blue to indigo. The damson is an edible drupaceous fruit, a subspecies of the plum tree.



### 5. Juneberry *Amelanchier*

The amelanchier is a highly variable shrub, 1–7 m tall with smooth dark gray to reddish bark. The thin leaves are round to oval-shaped (2–5 cm) with toothed edges, mostly on the upper half. The flowers are white, showy and fragrant with linear petals that narrow toward the base. The flowers occur in leafy clusters at the tips of the branches. The fruits are purple to nearly black, berry-like pomes (applelike), with a white bloom (white powdery coating). The "berries" are sweet and edible but sometimes quite seedy.

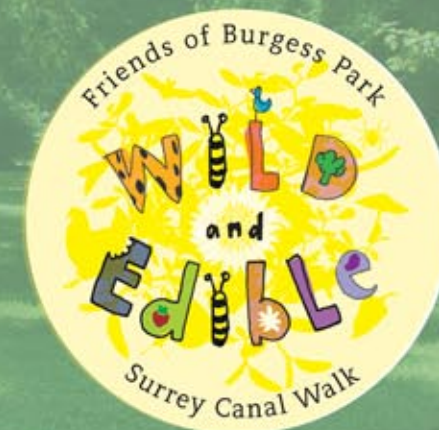


### 6. Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*

Medium to large deciduous tree attaining heights of 20–35 m, trunk to 2 m diameter. The oblong-lanceolate, boldly toothed leaves are 16–28 cm long and 5–9 cm broad. The flowers of both sexes are borne in 10–20 cm long, upright catkins, the male flowers in the upper part and female flowers in the lower part. The raw nuts, with their pithy skin around the seed, are somewhat astringent. The cooked nuts can be used by confectioners, puddings, desserts and cakes or eaten roasted.



# Surrey Canal Tree Trail Walk



LOTTERY FUNDED

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## Wild and Edible Surrey Canal Walk Tree Trail Walk

Surrey Canal Walk is a delightful green route from Peckham Square to Burgess Park. The path follows the line of the old Surrey Canal, under two canal bridges and up to Glengall Wharf. Here the walk joins the main Burgess Park or continues towards the Old Kent Road.

Wild and edible plants, good for both wildlife and people, are abundant along the Surrey Canal Walk. The Surrey Canal Tree Trail shows the location of trees with edible berries and nuts and overleaf more facts about their uses. Follow the route and find an amazing array of edible plants, berries and nuts, changing throughout the seasons. More recipes are on the Friends of Burgess Park website.

Please forage and try some of these wild and edible goodies but remember to leave some for other people and not damage the trees. At Glengall Wharf you will also find the community garden.

Friends of Burgess Park welcomes new members. We aim to protect, promote and enhance the park and undertake a range of projects, like this one which is funded by The Big Lottery. We meet on the first Tuesday each month at the Sports Centre, Cobourg Road, SE5.

Trail information were given by Sue Amos, Susan Crisp and Jenny Morgan. Design by Michiko Nitta

Further information about Surrey Canal Walk and the Wild and Edible project is on the website, [www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk](http://www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk)



Following Edible plants are found throughout the Surrey Canal Walk.

### Blackberry

These are aggressive colonisers of empty space, thorny stems that root quickly where they touch the ground. Pale pinkish white flowers appear in spring followed by deep reddish and black fruits. Pick berries above knee level to avoid contamination by passing dogs.



### Elder

Look for a scruffy tree with a greyish, rough and spongy bark. Crush the leaves - they have a 'mousy' stale smell. The delicate blossom in spring has a sweet, light scent followed by dark purple berries hanging in thick clusters from the branches in summer.



### Chickweed

Easily missed, this tiny herb carpets the ground in sunny places.



### Rocket

You can spot it by its finely divided pinnate leaves, reddish stem and creamy white flowers with purple veins. Flowers and leaves can be added to salads.



See overleaf for further information about each numbered trees.

Have you spotted...



House Sparrow

