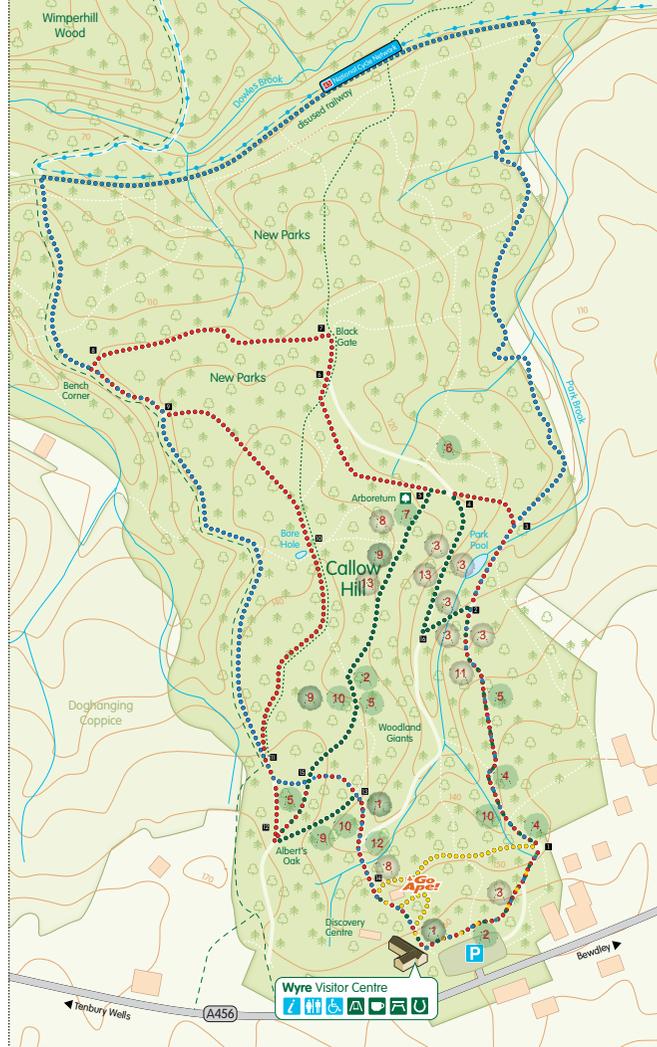


Wyre Forest Callow Hill area

Key

- Parking
  - Information
  - Toilets
  - All access
  - Cafe
  - Play area
  - Picnic area
  - Horse riding
  - Buzzard Trail
  - Woodpecker Trail
  - Wren Trail
  - Family Mountain Bike Trail
  - National Cycle Route
  - Public footpaths
  - Public bridleways
  - Emergency numbered posts
- 0 100 200m



Key to trees

- 1 European Larch
- 2 Holly
- 3 Douglas Fir
- 4 Oak
- 5 Silver Birch
- 6 Wild Service
- 7 True Service (Whitty Pear)
- 8 Ash
- 9 Scots Pine
- 10 Corsican Pine
- 11 Alder Buckthorn
- 12 Hazel
- 13 Hawthorn

NB: Some numbers relate to individual trees and some to plantations of a single species.

As you learn the trees see if you can spot them at other locations around the route. (Eg silver birch is very common just about everywhere!)

You will also come across different tree species on this route - look at their leaves, buds and bark and see if you can identify what they are by using a book or the internet.



# Corsican Pine

Use this map to find an example of this tree when you next visit Wyre.

Alternatively, to print a bigger version click [here](#).



## Corsican Pine - Pinus nigra



Native to Corsica, Sicily and S. Italy, Corsican evergreen Pine is planted for its superior timber. It grows fast when young and has a regular columnar crown, with short side branches and slender, flexible, grey-green needles (12-18cm long).



**Size**  
18 - 45m tall.



**Age**  
Up to 60 years old.



## Corsican Pine - identification

The tree is recognisable by the way its branches grow in whorls around its trunk, one whorl per year, so estimating its age is easy!



### ★ Flowers and seed

Male flowers are yellowish green, the female flower greenish. Male flowers appear predominantly at the base of young, long shoots. Female flowers are solitary or grouped and cone-like. The cones are grey brown when ripe.

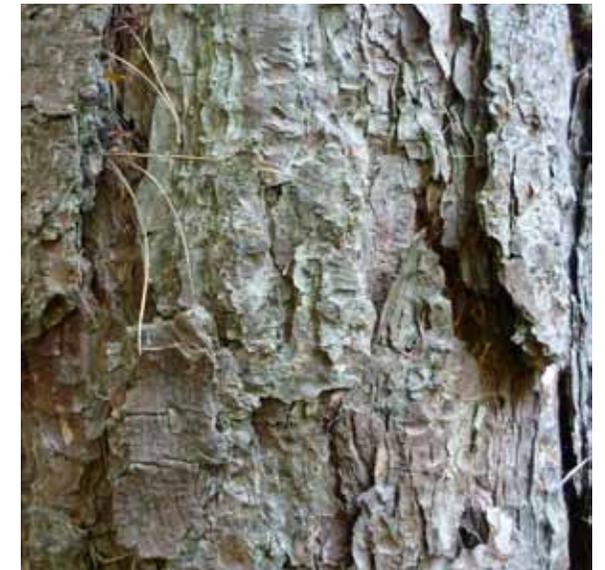


### ★ Leaves

It has pale, flexible, long, twisted needles. The foliage is full of volatile oils, so the danger of forest fires in hot, dry conditions is serious.

### ★ Bark

The bark has scaly plates with large fissures. Grey-mauve in colour





## Corsican Pine - associated fungi and lichens

Red band needle blight is a disease caused by the fungus *Dothistroma septosporum*. Corsican pine is the main species affected, although other pine species are vulnerable. On Corsican pine, symptoms are first seen at the base of the crown on older needles. Infected needles typically develop yellow and tan spots and bands, which soon turn red. The ends of the needles then turn reddish-brown whilst the needle base remains green. Needle symptoms are most apparent in June and July, after which the infected needles are lost and trees can have a typical 'lion's tail' appearance, with only a tuft of the current year's needles remaining at the branch ends. This defoliation can continue year on year and gradually weaken the tree, significantly reducing timber yields. The disease is widespread in England, Wales and Scotland.



★ You will notice red band needle blight on Corsican Pine trees in Wyre.



# Corsican Pine - associated wildlife (insects)

★ Bordered White



★ Pine Ladybird



## Wildlife Spotter

To download an insect  
spotter chart [click here](#)

★ Pine Beauty



★ Tortrix Moth and caterpillar





## Corsican Pine - timber properties

Corsican Pine produces a strong timber and is much used in England for forestry on sandy soils as in Wyre Forest.

The species was predicted to increase in importance with climate change, but its current vulnerability to red band needle blight means that its future role is very uncertain.



## Corsican Pine - uses past and present



Planted for shelter in parks and gardens and on railway banks.



Timber is for telegraph poles, building, packing boxes, fencing, chipboard, railway sleepers and pit props.



The timber absorbs preservatives well and so is now used for general building work and for making plywood.