



WEST LODGE PARK
YOUR COUNTRY RETREAT



Beale Arboretum News ~ Autumn 2015



With consistently high temperatures this autumn of up to 20°C, the trees have taken their time to shed their leaves; this has given us a prolonged colour splash in the Beale Arboretum and what a splash of colour it's been!

This stunning but small **Acer** provides fantastic colour and a very deeply lobed and toothed leaf.

Acer Shirasawanum 'aconitifolium'

The Acers are well known for their autumn colour. Not so well known are the **Liquidambars** or sweet gums, which are native to Central North America. These provide us with fabulous reliable colour, whatever the weather.



Liquidambar



We have quite a few planted around the arboretum, but be aware they do grow into a large tree. They are easily distinguished from the Acers by their alternate, rather than opposite, leaves.

It's worth looking not just upwards, but also along the floor as the leaves start to form **colourful carpets underfoot**.



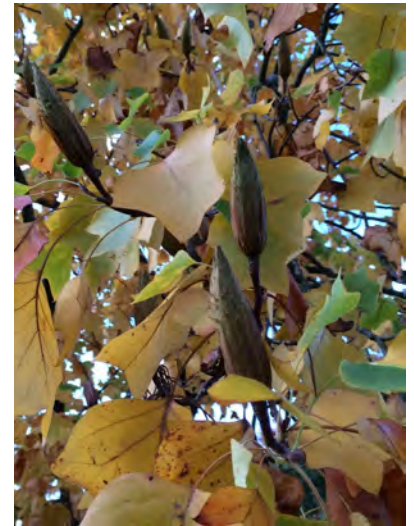
Quercus suber

Also look out for various fruits, seed pods and interesting bark.

The oak **Quercus suber** (cork oak) has thick corky bark which is used for wine corks.



Spiked seed pods of Liquidambar



**Upright seed pods of
Liriodendron (tuliptree)**

The Beale Arboretum is well worth a walk round at any time of the year - there is always something of interest to see - then back into the hotel for Afternoon Tea... bliss!

If you are interested in **planting a commemorative tree** in the grounds this autumn, perhaps to celebrate the life of a loved one, or for a special occasion, please contact Grant Cook, Estates Manager on grantcook@bealeshotels.co.uk or 07973 538254

If you are interested in putting together a group for a **guided tour** of the Beale Arboretum, please contact Jane Gray - headoffice@bealeshotels.co.uk or 0208 216 3904 - Tours are free of charge midweek and £3.50 per person at the weekend.

If you are interested in **volunteering** for work in the Beale Arboretum, in exchange for a range of benefits at West Lodge Park Hotel, please contact Grant Cook, Estates Manager on grantcook@bealeshotels.co.uk or 07973 538254.

The Beale Arboretum - West Lodge Park - Cockfosters Road - Hadley Wood - Herts EN4 0PY

<http://www.bealeshotels.co.uk/westlodgepark/gardens/>

Grant Cook ~ Estates Manager