



WEST LODGE PARK
YOUR COUNTRY RETREAT



Beale Arboretum Autumn News ~ November 2017



At West Lodge Park we consider the months of autumn a very pleasant time of year, so why not spend a few moments to read on to discover some of the treasures creating nature's paint box for another year.

Many of the maples look as if they are literally alight, particularly **Acer griseum** (*pictured left*), with not only its coloured foliage, but its cinnamon peeling bark too.

Also of note are several other species nearby, notably **Acer cappadocicum** (*pictured right*), **Acer davidii** and **Acer saccharinum**.



Although not noted for their autumn foliage, magnolias are well worth a place in any garden, whatever its size. **Magnolia grandiflora** (*pictured below*) is fast becoming very popular and has the ability



to produce blooms well into the autumn, sometimes as large as 20cm across, producing a perfume resembling lemon grass.

Just nearby in the perimeter border is an unusual shrub which has only recently been planted. We call it the Blue Sausage Bush - take a look and you'll see why! It comes from west China and is botanically known as **Decaisnea fargesii**. (*picture right*)

A few yards along the path, in the direction of the entrance, you'll see a varied selection of **crab apples** nearly all bearing fruit in a range of sizes, colours and quantities.



Malus 'Evereste'



Malus 'Golden Hornet'





**Metasequoia glyptostroboides
'Matthaei Broom'**

You should not depart until you have spent some time admiring the truly splendid eye catching display performed by the **Metasequoia glyptostroboides 'Matthaei Broom'** and **Ginkgo**. All trees fairly close together make a fabulous picture for posterity and to remind you of your visit.



Ginkgo biloba

We are pleased to announce that West Lodge Park now contains fifteen **Champion Trees** nominated by the **Tree Register of Britain & Ireland**. Each specimen will bear a bespoke blue label containing useful information.

Our collection of **European hornbeam, Carpinus** and **Swamp Cypress Taxodium** became **National Plant Heritage Collections** some years ago, and we have now submitted a case for our **Catalpa** collection.

A comprehensive **arboretum mapping exercise** commenced recently, it being 21 years since the last one was undertaken. Once completed we will be able to find out detailed information about every tree at the touch of a button.

Paul Akers ~ Consultant to the Beale Arboretum

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 020 8216 3904 - Tours are free of charge midweek and £3.50 per person at the weekend.

The Beale Arboretum
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<http://www.bealeshotels.co.uk/westlodgepark/the-hotel/arboretum/>