

AROUND THE WORLD

SWISS GARDEN TRAIL

Take a trip around the world of plants as you explore Swiss Garden.
Spot the flags hanging by the plants.



1. Which flag did you find with the same colours as our Union Jack Flag?
2. Which flag has the most stars on it?
3. How many flags have a cross on them?

1. Blue Spanish Fir

The Spanish fir is considered the Andalusian National Tree. Despite the best conservation and reforestation efforts that have greatly increased its abundance, still has several threats such as fires, urban projects, erosion, excessive visitors and tourists, etc.



Write your answers below!

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Trails at Shuttleworth

www.shuttleworth.org/trails



2. English Oak

The mighty oak supports more life than any other native tree species in the UK; even its fallen leaves support biodiversity. In England, the oak is a national symbol of strength. Couples were wed under ancient oaks in Oliver Cromwell's time. Oak is the emblem of many environmental groups, including the Woodland Trust.

3. Japanese Maple

In the eighteenth century, when Swedish doctor-botanist Carl Peter Thunberg travelled in Japan, he secreted out drawings of a small tree that would eventually become synonymous with the high art of oriental gardens. He gave it the species name *Palmatum* after the hand-like shape of its leaves.



4. Swiss Pine

Swiss Pine is a popular ornamental tree in parks and large gardens, giving steady though not fast growth on a wide range of sites where the climate is cold. It is very tolerant of severe winter cold, hardy down to at least -50°C (-58°F), and of wind exposure. The seeds are also harvested and sold as pine nuts. It is also a species that is often used in bonsai.



5. China Rose

Rose breeding as we know it today began in the late 18th Century. *Rosa x odorata* 'Pallida', or the old blush rose, was brought back from China by the East India Trading Company in 1781. The Ongley family, who created the Swiss Garden, were heavily involved with, and got most of their fortune from, East India Company trading.



6. Cedar of Lebanon

Cedar wood is used as an insect repellent in its native Lebanon and is used in clothes drawers and wardrobes in the UK and around the world as a clothes-moth repellent. The ancient Egyptians used to import the oil from Lebanon for embalming the dead. Keep an eye out for the giant cedar of Lebanon tree towards the end of your trail.



7. Portuguese Laurel

Rare in the wild, found mainly along mountain streams, preferring sunshine and moist but well drained soils, it is moderately drought-tolerant. The Portuguese Laurel is one of 2500 species of laurel. It's a very good plant to have in the Swiss Garden as deer don't like it – we have a lot of problems with Muntjac deer eating our plants...



8. Indian Bean Tree

Despite its common name, this tree neither comes from India nor produces beans! Its origin is in the Southeastern United States. Its leaves can be as big as 30cm. Panicles of white exotic bell-shaped flowers splashed with orange and purple appear in late summer, followed by distinctive long, thin bean shaped fruits in autumn.

9. Mexican Orange Blossom

A drought tolerant plant, the Mexican Orange Blossom prefers well drained soils and is widely grown as an ornamental shrub in suitable climates. Its leaves have three leaflets and are aromatic. The white flowers are scented, appearing in spring (sometimes with limited repeat flowering in autumn).



10. New Zealand Ferns

According to Māori legend, the silver fern once lived in the sea. It was asked to come and live in the forest to play a significant role in guiding the Māori people. Māori hunters and warriors used the silver underside of the fern leaves to find their way home. When bent over, the fronds would catch the moonlight and illuminate a path through the forest.

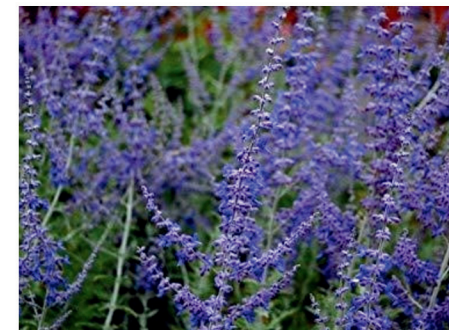
11. Scots Pine

Scots pine timber is one of the strongest softwoods available and is widely used in the construction industry and in joinery. The tree can also be tapped for resin to make turpentine. Other uses include rope made from the inner bark, tar from the roots and a dye from the cones. Dry cones can be used as kindling for fires.



12. Russian Sage

This plant is not actually native to Russia. It was named after V.A. Perovski, a Russian general who was famous for leading his army into Afghanistan during 1837, where he probably saw it growing on his campaign trail. His soldiers may well have used this plant as a medicine to treat fevers as local people still do today.



13. Norway Spruce

Since the 1800s, it has been grown to produce timber for joists, rafters and flooring, furniture and boxes, and to make paper. Norway spruce is also grown widely and used as a decorative Christmas tree. The first known Christmas tree in England was set up at Queens Lodge in Windsor in December of 1800 by the "Good Queen Charlotte", the German wife of King George III.

