

# MEET THE TREES

Hoyt Arboretum

a world of trees for all seasons



Welcome! This map highlights three routes. Choose your adventure!

## ROUTE 1

**The Evergreens:** See our world-famous collection of conifers. Journey back through the Redwood Forest, or walk back along the creek past the Root Tree and through the bamboo.

- Noble Fir**  
Pet the needles gently to smell this tree's fragrant aroma.
- Tree Rings**  
Count the rings in these tree trunks to see how old they were when they stopped growing.
- Monkey Puzzle**  
Native to Chile and considered one of the most primitive living conifers, the tree owes its name to the remark of one observer, "It would puzzle a monkey to climb that!"
- Douglas-Fir**  
The Arboretum has many amazing specimens of Oregon's state tree. The Douglas-Fir has been classified as a pine, spruce, hemlock, fir and sequoia, but with its unique cone, it doesn't fit into any of these families, and has a genus of its own—*Pseudotsuga*. What makes its cone unique?
- Grand Fir**  
Native Americans built canoes from grand fir bark and rubbed its pitch on paddles to give them a good finish.
- Ginkgo**  
Once thought to be extinct, ginkgo was discovered in China in the mid-1700s and is now dispersed throughout the world. At 150 million years old, it is a living fossil!
- Root Tree**  
Gaze at amazing patterns in this tree's exposed root system, and how precariously it is perched above the creek!
- Bamboo**  
This woody grass is used to make all kinds of instruments, including flutes, xylophones, wind chimes and whistles.
- Redwood Forest**  
This is where the giants are—giant sequoias and coast redwoods. Look up!
- Jeffrey Pines**  
The bark of this tree is said to smell like buttercotchy, banana, vanilla or pineapple. What do you smell?
- Lightning Tree**  
Walk behind this Douglas-Fir, hit by lightning in 1982, and you will see how long it takes to heal. In the meantime, it is a perfect food chain—the sap attracts flies, which attract spiders, which attract woodpeckers, and so on.
- Fairy Forest**  
We don't know if Fairies really live here, but if you look around it's easy to imagine that they do. Do you see any traces of them?

## 1 THE EVERGREENS

(2 hours)

## 2 OAKS, ELMS AND MAGNOLIAS

(Less than 1 hour)

## ROUTE 2

**Oaks, Elms and Magnolias:** If it's Springtime, don't miss the magnolias. But there's plenty to see here year round!

- Weeping Beech**  
The hanging branches of this tree are so numerous that when it has leaves, you can't even see its trunk! All of the weeping beeches in the USA came from a single tree, brought to New York City in 1847.
- Camper Down Elm Tree**  
This tree looks like a secret clubhouse. To find it, go left where the Oak Trail joins the Wildwood Trail. It's up the hill on your right.
- Climbing Oak**  
This would be a perfect climbing tree but climbing trees can hurt them—especially in places like the Arboretum.
- Western Red Cedar**  
This versatile tree was highly valued by both Native Americans and pioneers, who used it for—everything from baskets to building materials. It was even used for diapers—rub the bark and you will see you don't get any splinters.
- Birch**  
The bark of this tree has been used to make paper, baskets, mats, baby carriers, household utensils and torches.
- Corkscrew Hazel**  
The corkscrew leaves of this tree, also known as Henry Lauder's Walking Stick, slowly turn lemon-yellow in November. The tree is bare in December, though still full of dangling catkins, its winter flowers.
- Magnolias**  
Magnolias evolved before bees and butterflies, so they rely on beetles to transfer pollen from one flower to another.
- Bay Tree**  
The bay tree's leaves do not fall off in the autumn. Rub the leaves and smell them. What do they smell like?
- Big Leaf Cucumber**  
This tree has the largest leaves of any magnolia, from one to three feet long. In its native habitat in the Southeast USA.
- Meadow**  
When you see a meadow—a flattish, grassy area—feel free to get off the trail to run and play!

## ROUTE 3

**The Overlook:** For wide open vistas try this route. You'll also find a house made of live trees and many different kinds of maple leaves, and you can touch the shiny, smooth surface of the birch bark cherry.

## 3 THE OVERLOOK

(1 hour)

- House of Summer**  
Our living house of birch trees. An Arboretum favorite!
- Birch Bark Cherry**  
This tree is known for its polished metallic-red trunk. Touch, but do not peel it!
- Water Tanks**  
These water tanks supply drinking water to Portland neighborhoods. Water is pumped from the reservoir in Washington Park to these tanks so that it can flow downhill to homes. Thirsty? You'll find a drinking fountain at the Visitor Center.
- Sumac**  
This bushy specimen is easily recognized by its large clusters of red "berries"—really just seeds coated with a thin layer of favoring substance and hair. But remember, never eat anything in the Arboretum, because some plants are poisonous!
- Smoke Tree**  
The scarier foliage of this tree is a standout in the Fall.
- Sentry Tree**  
Known for its beautiful Fall colors, this tree looks like it is standing guard over the Arboretum.
- Maple Leaves**  
There are many different kinds of maple trees and they have leaves that vary greatly in shape and color. How many different kinds do you see? Which is your favorite?

