



# Leaf Peeping... An Aid for The Grimsdyke



## Alder

The purple or grey leaf buds form on long stems and the 3–9cm long dark green leaves are racquet-shaped and leathery, with serrated edges. The leaf tip is never pointed and is often indented.

*Not to be confused with Hazel*

*The rounded leaf shapes are similar however hazel leaves are softly hairy compared to the shiny ones of alder.*



## Hazel

Round to oval, doubly toothed, hairy and pointed at the tip. Leaves turn yellow before falling in autumn.

*Not to be confused with Elm*

*Elm leaves are similar however elm leaves are roughly hairy unlike soft hazel leaves. Elm leaves have an asymmetrical leaf base.*



## Elm

They are round to oval, toothed with a rough, hairy surface. They have a characteristic asymmetrical base and taper to a sudden point at the top.



## Beech

Young leaves are lime green with silky hairs, which become darker green and lose their hairs as they mature. They are 4–9cm long, stalked, oval and pointed at the tip, with a wavy edge.



## Birch

Light green, small and triangular-shaped with a toothed edge, which fade to yellow in autumn.



## Oak

Around 10cm long with 4-5 deep lobes with smooth edges. Leaf-burst occurs mid-May and the leaves have almost no stem and grow in bunches.



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## Lime

The leaves are dark green in colour, heart-shaped and flimsy and measure 6–10cm in length. They have a lopsided, lobed leaf base and tufts of white hairs in vein axils, and fade to a dull yellow before falling in autumn.



## Maple

Small, dark green and shiny, with five lobes and rounded teeth. They fade to a rich golden yellow before falling in autumn.



## Sycamore

Palmate leaves measure 7-16cm and have five lobes. Leaf stalks of younger trees are characteristically red.



## Elder

Pinnate (resembling a feather), with 5-7 oval and toothed leaflets and smell bad when touched.



## Ash

Pinnately compound, typically comprising 3-6 opposite pairs of light green, oval leaflets with long tips, up to 40cm long. There is an additional singular 'terminal' leaflet at the end.



## Rowan

Pinnate (like a feather), comprising 5-8 pairs of leaflets, plus one 'terminal' leaflet at the end. Each leaflet is long, oval and toothed.