



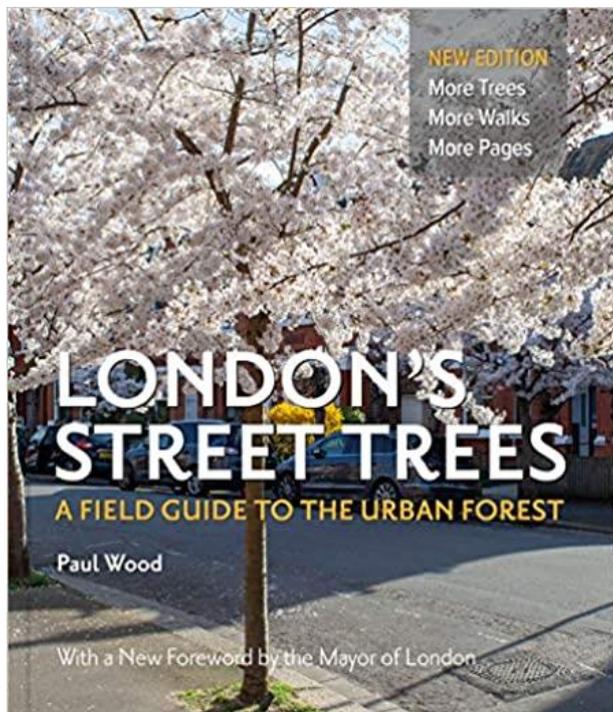
Suntrap Book Review

London's Street Trees: A Field Guide to the Urban Forest

Written by Paul Wood

Published by Safe Haven Books p/b £14.99

Age range: Adult



Description

Everyone knows that the trees on London's streets are London Planes, aren't they? In fact, these days over 300 different species and cultivars grace the capital's magnificently green streets, from fabulous avenues of flowering cherries in Herne Hill and Chiswick to a magnolia in front of the Cheesegrater.

There are indeed Plane trees that go back to the nineteenth century, but also new species that reflect this modern world city's multicultural vibrancy.

Do you know how there come to be Australian Bottlebrush trees on a street in Pimlico? Now, Paul Wood's endlessly fascinating, beautifully illustrated guide tells you where to find Giant Redwoods in London, why you don't see many Beeches on our streets, and which London street trees were painted by Monet. It will make everyone who lives in this amazing city look at their own street in a new way.

Reviews

'For someone like me who is not a natural naturalist, the book reveals a previously unconsidered world situated just outside the front door, or at most only a bus ride away.' --*Ian Jack, Guardian*

'A paean to London's street trees ... an urban safari of the capital's diverse tree life.' *Hampstead & Highgate Express*

'An easy to follow, thoroughly researched and detailed book, with enough depth for the tree enthusiasts among us as well as the casual observer. A worthwhile addition to any bookshelf.' *Natural History Museum magazine*

'[A] brilliant book that will appeal to everyone. Paul Wood's handy guide is packed with insights ... including photos ... historical perspectives, messages about the vital role of street trees in promoting diversity. Moreover, the ongoing conflict in Sheffield gives this book an urgent topicality. This book gave me insights both into trees and into their place in the London scene. It is very definitely a worthy celebration of the urban forest.' --*British Wildlife magazine*

'It really makes you want to get out there and experience London through its vegetation. The whole thing captures your imagination . . . If you got this little book out of your satchel you'd feel yourself on an adventure, and that's what I really love about it.' *RHS Christmas books of the year*

'If I were a doctor, I would prescribe everyone a tree - to plant, to tend, to water, to clean the air, the summon birds and bees, to bring people together, to give time to stand and stare, to fall in love with. Because I can't do that, then I would advise them to read London's Street Trees ... a love song to the author's favourite trees currently gracing the streets of London.' --*Jonathan Tulloch*