

London Plane Tree *Platanus x acerifolius*

When to look:

Leaves and flowers appear in early spring, fruits appear after flowering

Similar species:

American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*): its fruiting balls usually appear individually (not in pairs) and its leaf lobes are wider than they are long.

Oriental Plane Tree (*Platanus orientalis*): its fruiting balls appear in groups of 3 - 5 and its leaf lobes are deeply incised and much longer than they are wide.

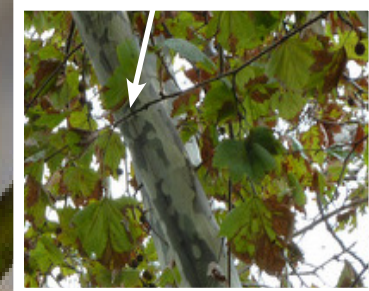
Deciduous tree that grows 15-30 m in height

Mottled grey-brown and creamy white bark

Leaves are 10-25 cm in width with 3-5 lobes and slightly serrated edges

Red or yellow flowers in small rounded clusters

'Fuzzy' round fruiting ball that turn from green to brown when ripe



Images courtesy of Steve Maskell (flowers) and Rich Weatherill (tree branch)