

A GUIDE TO THE FAMOUS TREES OF
GIGIRI



UNON

The United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) is the UN's African headquarters, providing UNEP, UN-HABITAT as well as other key agencies with vital administrative and technical support services. UNON serves as the official headquarters of the broader UN community in Kenya. The present 140-acre grounds are home to 2,167 trees of which 754 are indigenous trees, largely located in the Nature Trail Area.

UNEP

Nairobi has been home to UNEP since 1973 and the organisation moved to Gigiri - the site of a former coffee farm - in 1975. Over the intervening years, these beautifully landscaped gardens and nature sites have also become home to over 100 'famous' trees planted by Royalty, Presidents, environmental heroes, athletes, UN staff and children. We hope that visitors to our HQ will enjoy this guide while walking among trees which provide a glimpse into UNEP's 40 year history in Kenya.

CHILDREN'S TREE

A glorious *Acacia xanthophloea* of the *Mimosaceae* family, known in English as the Fever Tree, and in Kiswahili as *Mgunga* was gifted by Klaus Töpfer, a former Executive Director of UNEP, to the children of the world in September 2001. The tree is known as 'The Children's Meeting Place'.

NATURE TRAIL

The Nature Trail (NT) was established in 1994 and inaugurated in December 1997. The NT is approximately 14 acres and was covered by the invasive weed - *Lantana camara*. The weed has since been cleared in 90% of the trail and sites planted with various indigenous tree species. There are 230 different indigenous tree species and over 700 indigenous trees. It is home to over 240 bird species and animals such as monkeys, squirrels, dik-diks, snakes, mongooses, tortoises etc.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

This Memorial Garden is planted in memory of all those who lost their lives in the tragic Bomb Blast in Nairobi on 7 August 1998. The Memorial Garden was inaugurated on 4 February 2000 by Klaus Töpfer, Director General of UNON and Executive Director of UNEP.

Coffea arabica coffee shrubs and *Camellia sinensis* tea shrubs were planted. Today tea and coffee is produced from there and is on sale at the Nature Trail shop and at the UN Gift shop.

FAMOUS TREES

- Indigenous trees planted by children
- Indigenous trees planted by dignitaries
- Non-indigenous trees planted by dignitaries
- Indigenous tree groups planted by dignitaries
- Indigenous trees planted by others
- Memorial trees
- Children's Tree
- Burnt trees art installation
- Memorial garden

KEY

- Buildings
- Ponds
- Roads
- Walkways
- Toilets
- Restaurants
- Benches
- Solar installations
- The 6000m² of solar panels generate 750,000Kwh, enough electricity for the new office buildings
- Prefabricated buildings
- Location of Helipad
- Markings for helicopter made in lawn with different types of grass e.g. yellow variegated paspalum grass

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TREE INDEX

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|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| <p>George Bush
Vice President of the USA
21 November 1982
<i>Spotted albizia</i> - African tulip tree</p> <p>H.H. The Crown Prince Akihiko of Japan
22 March 1983
<i>Prunus serrulata</i> - Black cherry</p> <p>H.E. Daniel T. Arap Moi
President of the Republic of Kenya
26th February 1979
<i>Ficus capensis</i> - Common wild fig</p> <p>H.E. Jiang Zemin
The President of the Peoples Republic of China
10 May 1996
<i>Prunus africana</i> - Wild olive/brown olive</p> <p>H.E. Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Peoples Congress of the Republic of China and Mrs. U Peng
24 November 1999
<i>Machonia lutea</i> - Yellow bell bean tree</p> <p>H.E. Wu Bangqiao
Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Peoples Congress of the Republic of China
30 October 2004
<i>Prunus africana</i> - Red stinkwood</p> <p>Nase Anan and Secretary General Kofi Annan
4 May 1998
<i>Melia volkensii</i> - Melia</p> <p>H.E. Gerhard Schröder
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
21 January 2004
<i>Spotted albizia</i> - African tulip tree</p> <p>H.E. Jia Qinglin
Chairman of Chinese National Committee of the People's Political Consultative Conference
20 April 2007
<i>Pyrus pirtilla</i> - Pear tree</p> <p>The Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Takamado of Japan
9 December 1999
<i>Warburgia ugandensis</i> - Pepper bark tree</p> <p>H.R.H. The Princess Royal
Princess Anne of Great Britain
30 September 1998
<i>Syzgium guineense</i> - Forest waterberry</p> <p>H.E. Hu Jintao
President of the People's Republic of China
28 April 2006
<i>Cassia siamea</i> - Cassia tree</p> <p>H.E. Michel Rocard
Prime Minister of the Republic of France
27 April 1989
<i>Prunus serotina</i> - Birch bark cherry tree</p> <p>Dr. Włodzimierz Cimoszowicz
Foreign Minister, Republic of Poland
12 March 2004
<i>Cedrus simplicifolia</i> - Vardoran</p> <p>Klaus Töpfer
Executive Director of UNEP and Director General of UNON on his last day in office
31 March 2006
<i>Juniperus procera</i> - African pencil cedar</p> <p>Prof. Wangari Maathai
2004 Nobel Peace Prize Recipient and Natural Resources & Wildlife Minister of Kenya
17 October 2004
<i>Prunus africana</i> - Red stinkwood</p> <p>Representatives of 15 member states United Nations Security Council
in commemoration of the meeting held at the United Nations office in Nairobi on 18, 19 November 2004
<i>Falcatium decipiens</i> (15) <i>Thiba palm</i></p> <p>Planted in Memory of Kjell Larsson
Minister of the Environment, Sweden
24 March 1983 - 21 December 2002
<i>Platanus orientalis</i> - Platanus</p> <p>H.E. Kjell Magne Bondevik
Prime Minister of Norway
12 October 2006
<i>Elaeagnus argentea</i> - Cassine</p> <p>Rt. Hon. Jim Bolger
The Prime Minister of New Zealand
25 October 1991
<i>Vitex kennia</i> - Meru oak</p> <p>His Imperial Highness Prince Fumihito of Japan
11 April 1980
<i>Pococarpus latifolius</i> - Broad-leaved yellow wood</p> <p>Planted in memory of H.E. Michael Kijana Wangalwa
The late Vice President of Kenya
5 May 2003
<i>Olea sylvatica</i> - Elgon teak</p> <p>His Majesty Carl Gustaf XVI of Sweden and Queen Silvia
16 March 2005
<i>Ocotea usambarensis</i> - Campherwood</p> <p>Planted in honor of the women of the world by H.E. Maria Teresa Fernandez De La Vega
Deputy Prime Minister of Spain
6 March 2005
<i>Spotted albizia</i> - African tulip tree</p> <p>H.E. Francisco Santos Calderon
Vice President of Colombia in commemoration of the Nairobi Summit on Mine-Free World
3 December 2004
<i>Olea africana</i> - Wild olive</p> <p>Jody Williams
Nobel Peace Prize 1997
2 December 2004
<i>Trichilia emetica</i> - Natal mahogany</p> <p>Dr. Asha - Rose Migiro
Deputy Secretary General United Nations
5th July 2007
<i>Schreberia alata</i> - Wild jassmine</p> <p>Rajinder Kaur Sain
A tribute to Prof. Wangari Maathai
14 June 2010
<i>Vitex kennia</i> - Meru oak</p> <p>Planted on the occasion of the 100th meeting of FR to UNEP
12 September 2007
<i>8 Scolopia zeyheri</i> - Thorn pear
<i>1 Eurythyrion swageri</i> - Ironwood</p> <p>Uta Ringler
December 2004
<i>Adansonia digitata</i> - Baobab tree</p> <p>Samuel Okuku
1 October 2008
<i>Ficus sycamore</i> - Sycamore mulberry</p> <p>Boniface Gituru
1 October 2008
<i>Machonia lutea</i> - Nile tulip tree</p> <p>Abadi Khan
10 March 2004
<i>Pachira aquatica</i> - Malabar chestnut</p> <p>This grove of trees was planted to mark the occasion of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, 2nd Summit of Heads of State and Government, Planted by Presidents Mwai Kibaki, Jakaya Kikwete, Yoweri Museveni, Joseph Kabila, Paul Kagame, Pierre Nkurunziza, Levi Mwanzapaswa, Alpha Konan accompanied by Prof. Wangari Maathai
15 December 2006
<i>Colubia aurea</i> (12) - Natal laburnum</p> | <p>NATURE TRAIL AREA</p> <p>Olgin Nature Trail
Inaugurated by Executive Director of UNEP
Ms. Elizabeth Dowdell
on the occasion of 25th Anniversary
15 December 1997
<i>Vitex kennia</i> - Meru oak</p> <p>Planted on the occasion of the 5th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
15 May 2000
<i>Cordia alliodora</i> - Large-leaved cordia</p> <p>Prof. Wangari Maathai
16th May 2000
<i>Prunus africana</i> - Red stinkwood</p> <p>Maria Luiza Biebarstein
Kochwasser DG
On the occasion of the 5th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
16 May 2000
<i>Prunus africana</i> - Red stinkwood</p> <p>Pekko Kangas, Finland
24 May 2000
<i>Tectaria nobile</i> - Small tuiled teardrop</p> <p>David Brackett, Canada
24 May 2000
<i>Cedrela odorata</i> - African pencil cedar</p> <p>Planted in Memory of Bert Konrad
<i>Encephalartos lehmannii</i> - Cycad</p> <p>Gelis H. Faber
State Secretary for Agriculture, Netherlands
CBD - COP - 5
24 May 2000
<i>Ficus sycamore</i> - Sycamore fig</p> <p>Gila Altmann, Germany
24 May 2000
<i>Warburgia ugandensis</i> - Pepper bark tree</p> <p>Planted in Memory of Tom Heaton
1928 - 2004
25 May 2004
<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> - Redhat poker tree</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples Forum
CBD - COP - 5 Meeting
25 May 2000
<i>Colodendrum capense</i> - Cape chestnut</p> <p>Vitex kennia - Meru oak</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples Forum
CBD - COP - 5 Meeting
25 May 2000
<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> - Redhat poker tree</p> <p>Malikia lutea - Yellow bell bean tree</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples Forum
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25 May 2000
<i>Colodendrum capense</i> - Cape chestnut</p> <p>Vitex kennia - Meru oak</p> <p>Christoph Ball
26 May 2000
<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> - Redhat poker tree</p> <p>10 trees contributed by Dr. R. Patzsch
<i>Melicope excelsa</i> - Rock-elm</p> <p>In memory of Dave MacDevette
1953 - 2006
<i>Vitex kennia</i> - Meru oak</p> | <p>RECREATION CENTRE</p> <p>These trees were planted on the occasion of International Day of Biological Diversity
11 November 2005
Achim Steiner - UNEP Executive Director
Bernard Kariuki - UNEP Director
Ahmed Doghali - CBD Director
James Mwangi - UN/CEO Equity Bank
Hon. Prof. George Saitoti - Minister for Education
Hon. Prof. Wangari Maathai, MP - 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Hon. Prof. K. Kibwana - Minister for Environment
22 May 2007
<i>Dodonaea angustifolia</i> - Sand olive</p> <p>Planted in memory of Tom Heaton
1928 - 2004
25 May 2004
<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> - Redhat poker tree</p> <p>Malikia lutea - Yellow bell bean tree</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples Forum
CBD - COP - 5 Meeting
25 May 2000
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Presented to the United Nations Environment Programme by Philippe Pastor
31 March 2006</p> |
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