

Wildflower Guides

Park & Garden



A park is an area of grass and plant land which is set aside for human enjoyment. Gardens are planted spaces, usually next to a home. Both of these areas are usually maintained by humans, which means biodiversity is often low, but many wildflowers and plants can still thrive in these places.

Local spots: Brynmill park, Rosehill quarry, Primrose park, Morriston park, Baglan Park, Gnoll Park

Red Clover

Trifolium pratense

Flower: June - September



Habitat: Common plant found in most types of grassland. Roadsides and meadows.

Appearance: Recognisable 3 leaflet leaf cluster. Leaves are rounded and usually have a white banded marking. Flowers grow in rounded head clusters.

Dandelion

Taraxacum spp

Flower: March - October



Habitat: Widespread growing in various grasslands. Roadsides, verges and meadows.

Appearance: Long 'toothy' leaves, flowerheads are a bright golden yellow of closely packed florets. When the flower fruits the seeds develop into fluffy umbrellas surrounding the dandelion.

Ivy Leaved Toadflax

Cymbalaria muralis

Flower: April - September



Habitat: Walls, pavements and rocky places.

Appearance: Trailing plant with reddish stems & small lobed leaves similar in shape to ivy leaves. Flowers are small, with two spurs and a lip, and are lilac in colour

Daisy

Bellis perennis

Flower: All year round



Habitat: Common everywhere and often found in garden lawns.

Appearance: Leaves are long & rounded in a rosette around the stem. The flowers are a composite of tiny individual flowers. The yellow floret in the centre is surrounded by white 'petals'.

Bird's Foot Trefoil

Lotus corniculatus

Flower: June – September



Habitat: Widespread in grassland. Roadside verges, parks and wasteland.

Appearance: A member of the pea family, it has 3 main leaflets. The flowers are bright yellow and slipper shaped. Often has a seed pod that looks like a bird claw.

Ragwort

Senecio jacobaea

Flower: June - October



Habitat: Pastures, wasteland and gardens.

Appearance: A tall, yellow plant, a favourite of cinnabar moth caterpillars. The flowers are flat-topped with fine, toothed leaves. It is a weed in grazing lands due to it being poisonous to cattle.

Creeping Buttercup

Ranunculus repens

Flower: March - August



Habitat: Often found in damp grasslands, meadows, pastures and roadsides.

Appearance: Leaves and stems are slightly hairy. Leaves are divided in 3 toothed leaflets. Glossy yellow flowers. Low laying and spreads through runners.

Wild Strawberry

Fragaria vesca

Flower: April - July



Habitat: Woodlands, scrublands and clearings.

Appearance: White flowers, with 5 petals that slightly overlap. Toothed leaves with hairs underneath.

Bindweed

Convolvulus arvensis

Flower: June - September



Habitat: Hedges, roadsides and farmland.

Appearance: Trumpet shaped flowers that are either white or pink. Leaves are larger and heart shaped.

Ground Ivy

Glechoma hederacea

Flower: March - May



Habitat: Grassland, woodlands and wasteland.

Appearance: Small plant with rounded, hairy leaves. The flowers are violet & funnel shaped, with spots on the lower lip.

Gorse

Ulex europaeus

Flower: All year round



Habitat: Widespread, from heaths to grasslands to coastal areas.

Appearance: Common shrub with bright yellow flowers and large needle-like leaves. Can often be a large growing shrub.

Germander Speedwell

Veronica chamaedrys

Flower: March - July



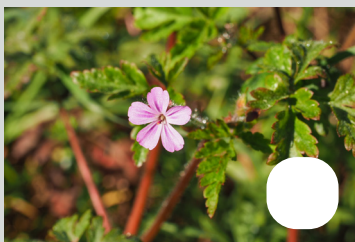
Habitat: Woodlands, hedges and grasslands.

Appearance: Four petalled, bright blue flowers with a white centre. Heart shaped, hairy leaves with toothed edges.

Herb Robert

Geranium robertianum

Flower: May - September



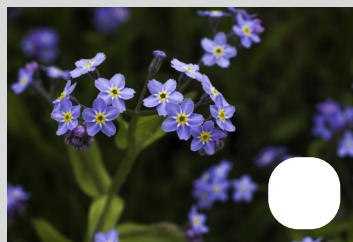
Habitat: Common everywhere and often found in garden lawns.

Appearance: Pretty pink flower with five rounded end petals. Leaves are five-lobed and stem is reddish.

Alpine forget-me-not

Myosotis sylvatica

Flower: April - June



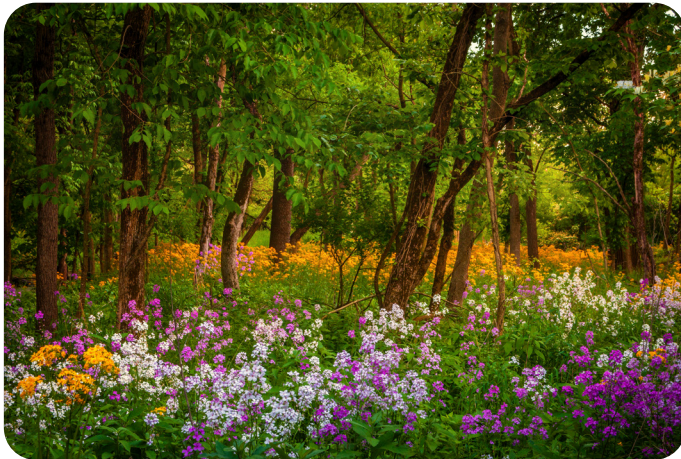
Habitat: Grasslands, gardens and woodlands

Appearance: Stems are hairy and leaves are narrow & oval. The pretty flowers are bright blue with an orange centre.

Plant Notes

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Woodland



Woodlands are habitats where trees are the dominant plant. There are different types of woodland all around the world and all have different types of trees. Woodlands are important places for plant and animal life, providing food and shelter. In Wales, our native woodlands are made up of deciduous trees – these are trees with flat, broad leaves that change colour and are shed each year.

Local spots: Clyne wood, Bishop's wood, Penllergare valley wood, Margam forest, Afan Forest

Ivy

Hedera helix

Flower: September - November



Evergreen so can be seen all year round.

Habitat: Woodland, urban areas, parks and gardens.

Appearance: Dark green, glossy leaves with light green veins. Leaves are heart shaped.

Foxglove

Digitalis purpurea

Flower: June - September



Habitat: Open woodland, hedgerows and moorland.

Appearance: Tall plant with a spike of purple, tube-shaped flowers. Leaves are oval and hairy.

Common Dog Violet

Viola riviniana

Flower: April - June



Habitat: Woodlands, grasslands, heathland, gardens.

Appearance: Small heart shaped leaves, flowers are bluish purple and scentless, they resemble pansies.

Cow parsley

Anthriscus sylvestris

Flower: April - June



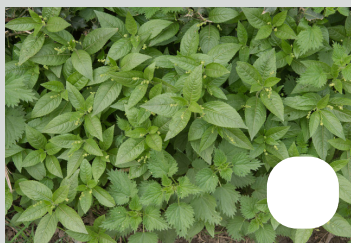
Habitat: Woodland, grassland, urban areas, gardens and roadsides.

Appearance: Feathery leaves, flowers are white and in an umbel - clusters of flowers with stalks which come from a common centre.

Dog's mercury

Mercurialis perennis

Flower: Feb - April



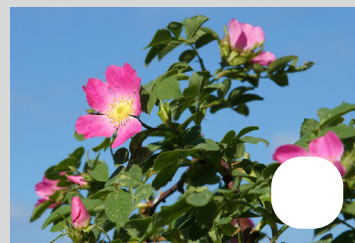
Habitat: Ancient woodland, broadleaf woodland, hedgerows and parks.

Appearance: Large, bright green, oval shaped leaves. They are toothed at edges and hairy. Flowers are small and green.

Dog Rose

Rosa canina

Flower: May - August



Habitat: Hedgerows, woodland and grassland.

Appearance: A thorny climber, leaves occur on alternate sides of stem. Divided into 2-3 pairs of tooth leaflets. Flower is large white or pink with 5 petals.

Meadowsweet

Filipendula ulmaria

Flower: June - September



Habitat: Woodland, grassland, moorlands and wetlands.

Appearance: Creamy-white flowers arranged in messy clusters. Leaves are dark green & divided into paired leaflets with silver underside

Ivy-Leafed Speedwell

Veronica hederifolia

Flower: March - August



Habitat: Woodland, gardens and parks.

Appearance: Leaves are ivy-shaped, they are hairy & serrated. Flowers are small & either pale blue or white.

Ramsoms

Allium ursinum

Flower: April - June



Habitat: Woodland, roadsides and parkland.

Appearance: Shade loving plant. Leaves are broad & pointed with a garlic smell and taste. White star shaped flowers that grow in clusters.

Red Campion

Silene dioica

Flower: May - September



Habitat: Woodland, grassland and urban areas.

Appearance: A tall plant with hairy leaves that grow in opposite pairs. Pretty pink-red flowers with five petals, fused at the base to form a tube surrounded by a purple-brown calyx (protective sheath).

Wood Anemone

Anemone nemorosa

Flower: March - May



Habitat: Woodland, hedges and banks.

Appearance: Star shaped, 6-petaled flowers which are either white or pink. Leaves are dark green with 3 lobes.

Bluebell

Hyacinthoides non-scripta

Flower: April – June



Habitat: Woodland, hedges, banks and parks.

Appearance: Long, narrow leaves sprouting from base of stem. Flowers are bright blue and bell-shaped.

Plant Notes & Doodles

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Coastal



vulgarCoastal habitats are ones found close to the sea, this includes dunes, cliffs, grasslands, saltmarshes and wooded dunes. Despite being wet and windy, these habitats support a large range of life and are very important ecosystems. Our coastal habitats play a very important part in coastal defence, and in helping regulate our climate.

Local spots: Rhossili, Oxwich, Southgate, Kenfig

Sea Holly

Eryngium maritimum

Flower: All year round



Evergreen so can be seen all year round.

Habitat: Coastal.

Appearance: Has rounded blue flower heads, similar in look to thistle. Silvery blue leave with spiked edges.

Sea Bindweed

Calystegia soldanella

Flower: June - August



Habitat: Coasts and dunes.

Appearance: Spreads along runners through sand. Leaves are rounded and heart shaped. The flowers are large rounded trumpets that are pink with 5 pale stripes.

Vipers Bugloss

Echium vulgare

Flower: May - September



Habitat: Coasts, moorland and heathland.

Appearance: Upright spikes of blue flowers in clusters. Stems are hairy and spotted, leaves are narrow and pointed.

Common Rest Harrow

Ononis repens

Flower: July - September



Habitat: Coastland, grassland, moorland and heathland.

Appearance: Leaves have a greasy feel & are divided into 3 oval leaflets. Stems are hairy & flowers are pink, pea-like clusters.

Sea Sandwort

Honkenya peploides

Flower: May - August



Habitat: Dunes.

Appearance: Small plant with dark, fleshy leaves. Stems grow close together forming tight clumps on dunes. Flowers are yellowish white.

Sea Lavender

Limonium vulgare

Flower: July - October



Habitat: Coastal.

Appearance: Stiff, long stems with clusters of purplish flowers. Small oval leaves found at the bottom of the stem.

Rock Samphire

Crithmum maritimum

Flower: July - October



Habitat: Cliffs and rocks along coast.

Appearance: Grows in tight clumps. Flower heads are greenish yellow & grow in umbels. Leaves are thick & succulent.

Pyramidal Orchid

Anacamptis pyramidalis

Flower: June - July



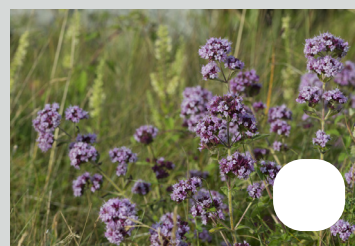
Habitat: Dunes and grasslands.

Appearance: Bright pink flowers in a dense, pyramid-shaped cluster at the top of its stem. Has long, narrow and pointed leaves.

Majoram

Origanum vulgare

Flower: June - August



Habitat: Cliffs and rocks mostly by the sea. Can be found growing from walls in parks and gardens in coastal areas.

Appearance: Inflorescences are tiny white-pink flowers, leaves are spade-shaped, being wider at the base. They are smooth with fine hairs and arranged opposite each other on the stem.



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