

Silver Birch (Betula Pendula)

The silver birch is a striking looking native tree. It can grow to around 30m tall. It is recognisable all year round with its creamy coloured and fissured bark.



- **Silver birch is monoecious, meaning both male and female flowers (catkins) are found on the same tree.**
- **Could be confused with Downy Birch and the two types easily hybridise.**
- **It's light airy canopy allow lots of other plants too grow in the ground below it like, Bluebells and Wood Sorrell etc.**
- **The Birch is associated with several types of Fungai, like Fly Agaric, Chanterelle and the bracket fungus Birch Polypore.**
- **In early Celtic Mythology the tree was associated with purity. It was planted in gardens because it's deep root structure was supposed to purify the ground.**
- **Useful Link:**
<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-z-of-british-trees/silver-birch/>

Silver Birch

(The Peeley Tree)

How to identify the correct type of Silver Birch in order to collect tinder on the go.

There are 2 main stages for the Birch tree to offer tinder

Pic 1 Hard



Pic 2 Soft (peeley)



- **Pic1 shows the tree when the bark is hard. It is best to take this bark from a dead tree where possible.**
- **Pic2 to is what we call the “Peeley Tree”. This is when the tree is younger and the bark is very soft and is easy to take off, put it in your pocket and use it later to help start safe, responsible fires.**