



AUTUMN ARRIVES AT GOLDEN VALLEY TREE PARK

A visit to Golden Valley Tree Park in autumn is a unique opportunity to experience the beauty of a deciduous landscape in its transition to dormancy. Balingup's Tree Park has been described by Qantas website as one of the best places in Australia to see autumn colour. As March arrives with the cooler nights, the first golden autumn colours are now showing up on the Honey Berries (*Celtis sinensis* at M11).

Many ask when to expect the best autumn display. Well this depends on the year. Generally the prettiest moment is mid April to early May. However the autumn colour is a slow procession that starts in March and continues through to June. As the grasses green up with rain, the colour contrast intensifies.

Photographers will find the view from PEAR TREE LOOK-OUT is inspiring.

The WORLD COLLECTION includes some famous autumn colouring trees; the grove of maples (at K7) includes the Canadian Red Maple, Japanese and Trident Maples and the lovely pink of the Silver Maple. The vivid colours of the avenue of Chinese Pistachio are usually an early stunner, followed by the Tupelos and the American Swamp Cypresses which, unusually, are deciduous conifers. Perhaps the biggest favourite are the large Persimmon. All these are found near to the OAK GROVE WALK TRACK.

The Oaks themselves, as well as the old favourite Liquidambars, take their time whilst the rare Turkish Liquidambars at the Homestead do not turn until late May. The Scarlet, Pin & Red Oaks' blaze of colour is late April, whilst the English Oak are surprisingly lovely in late May and early June when their russet tones warm the wintering scene.

AUTUMN GUIDED WALK Sunday 7th May 10.30am. Start: World Collection car park. \$5 pp. One hour.

*Learn more about the fascinating heritage of Golden Valley and its beautiful trees from Bob Hingston & Chrissy Sharp.
In conjunction with the Festival of Country Gardens*