

Typical lifespan for common trees in the British Isles

Genus	Common name		Typical lifespan
<i>Alnus</i>	Alder	Hardwood	Up to 100 years
<i>Betula</i>	Birch	Hardwood	Up to 100 years
<i>Carpinus</i>	Hornbeam	Hardwood	Over 100 years
<i>Corylus</i>	Hazel	Hardwood	50-60 years
<i>Crataegus</i>	Hawthorn	Hardwood	Probably >100
<i>Fraxinus</i>	Ash	Hardwood	200 years +
<i>Fagus</i>	Beech	Hardwood	Usually <200 years
<i>Ilex</i>	Holly	Hardwood	over 100
<i>Pomoideae</i>	Apples/pears	Hardwood	Over 100
<i>Populus</i>	Poplar	Hardwood	Over 100
<i>Prunus</i>	Cherry, plum, blackthorn	Hardwood	Up to 100
<i>Pinus</i>	Pine	Softwood	Up to 500 years
<i>Quercus</i>	oak	Hardwood	Average 250, up to 500
<i>Salix</i>	Willow	Hardwood	Up to 100 years
<i>Sorbus</i>	Rowan	Hardwood	100 years +
<i>Taxus</i>	Yew	Softwood	Can be very long lived
<i>Tilia</i>	Linden (Lime)	Hardwood	Over 100
<i>Ulmus</i>	Elm	Hardwood	<200 years

Note: many trees will attain greater ages than indicated here if they are coppiced.

Pines commonly live 250-300 years but up to 400 for *P. sylvestris* and over 5000 for *P. aristata* and *P. longaeva*!

The maximum recorded age, based on ring counts not estimates, is given for some species of trees. Data from the Rocky Mountain Tree Ring Research database <http://www.rmtrr.org/oldlist.htm>

Quercus robur: 930 (Switzerland)

Quercus petraea: 866

Fagus: 503 (Italy)

Betula sp: 387 (E. USA)

Fraxinus nigra: 319 (E. USA)

Betula papyfera: 240 (E. USA)

Ulmus alata: 186 (E. USA)

Ulmus sp: 267 (Canada)

Betula sp: 240 (Canada)

Betula sp: >387 (Canada)