

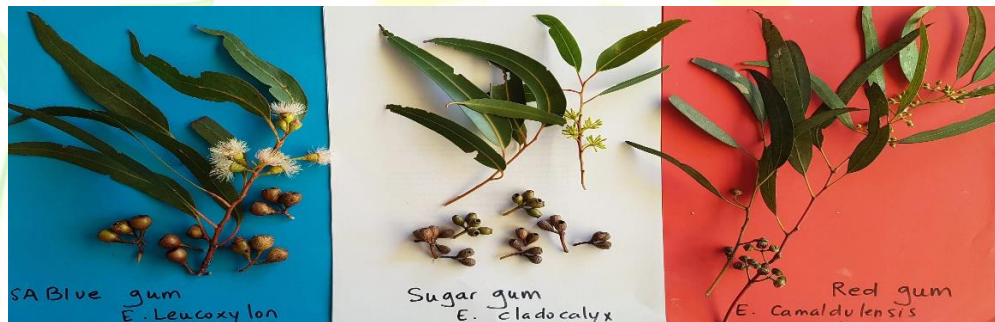
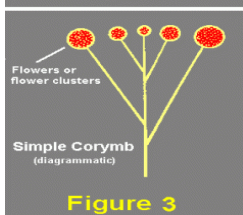
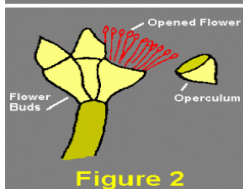
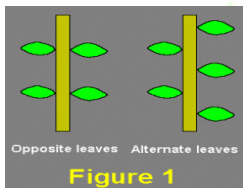
The primary tree families native in South Australia

The primary tree families native to South Australia are dominated by highly adapted, drought-resistant species. The most widespread families include the Myrtle (*Myrtaceae*), Wattle (*Fabaceae*), and Sheoak (*Casuarinaceae*) families. These trees shape the local landscapes from the Adelaide Plains to the Flinders Ranges.

1. Myrtaceae (Myrtle Family)

This is the most dominant and iconic tree family in Australia, covering the vast majority of native forests.

- **Eucalypts (*Eucalyptus*), (*Corymbia*), and (*Angophora*):** Widely known as gum trees, mallees (multi-stemmed), boxes, and stringybarks. They define South Australia's woodlands.



Eucalyptus: Alternate leaves, operculum-covered flowers, simple umbels, smooth or rough bark, largest genus.

Corymbia: Alternate leaves, operculum-covered flowers in corymbs, often rough bark, medium-sized genus.

Angophora: Opposite leaves, flowers with visible petals, cup-shaped fruits, small genus.

- **Tea Trees and Paperbarks (*Melaleuca*), (*Leptospermum*):** Commonly found in swamps, along waterways, and in coastal or mallee areas.



- **Bottlebrushes (Callistemon):** Known for their striking, brush-like flowers, they are highly prominent in local bushlands and urban gardens.



2. Fabaceae (Legume / Pea Family)

This is a massive and incredibly diverse family in the region.



Acacia cheelii - Motherumbah



Leguminosae -Broom (Cytisus scoparius)

Wattles (Acacia): Wattles are a defining feature of the Australian bush. In South Australia, they range from small shrubs to large trees (e.g., Golden Wattle, which is Australia's national

Casuarinaceae (Sheoak Family)

- floral emblem They are well-adapted to the state's dry climate.



Casuarina equisetifolia



Allocasuarina littoralis

Sheoaks (*Allocasuarina*) and (*Casuarina*): Recognizable by their pine-like, needle-like branchlets and woody, cone-like fruits. They are frequently found in coastal areas, the Adelaide foothills, and dry mallee scrub.

4. Proteaceae (Protea Family)



Old Man Banksia (Banksia serrata), Rusty Banksia (Banksia oblongifolia), Silver Banksia (Banksia marginata) and Heath Banksia (Banksia ericifolia)



Caley's grevillea inflorescence

- **Banksias, Hakeas, and Grevilleas:** These species thrive in the poorer, sandy soils of the state (such as the Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island). They are known for their spectacular, cone-like flower spikes and woody seed pods, serving as a vital food source for native nectar-feeding birds and insects.

5. Other Notable Native Families

- **Cupressaceae (Cypress Family):** Represented locally by the Southern Cypress Pine (*Callitris*), which features needle-like foliage and rounded, woody cones. They are common in the state's semi-arid regions



- **Pittosporaceae (Pittosporum Family):** Trees such as the Sweet Pittosporum (*Pittosporum*) or the Native Apricot (*Pittosporum angustifolium*) are common in woodland understories.



- **Myoporaceae (Myoporum Family):** Includes resilient trees and large shrubs like the Boobialla (*Myoporum montanum*), often found in coastal and arid regions.



We Do Tree - favourites you can spot around South Australia

Well, though not all native, here's some of our favourite trees you'll likely spot around Adelaide and South Australia



Grey box tree, *Eucalyptus microcarpa*, photo: Peter Watton

1. Eucalyptus trees

These towering natives, known as gum trees, are incredibly resilient and beautiful.

The term 'eucalypt' includes about 800 species in the 3 genera (in other words, species that have been classified together based on phylogenetic relatedness or common features) of **Angophora**, **Corymbia** and **Eucalyptus**. Almost all eucalypt species are native to Australia.

Gum trees are recognised for their fast growth and their smooth, flaking bark. Plus, having an iconic Australian smell.



Bottlebrush trees have a weeping tendency, photo: [Mokkie, Wikimedia Commons](#)

2. Bottlebrush trees

Bottlebrush trees (*Callistemon*) are extremely hardy.

You will recognise them by their distinctive flowers – commonly red, but they also come in white, pink, or yellow and attract a range of birds, bees and butterflies.

The tree has a weeping tendency (drooped branches) which makes it a great screening plant.

You can see bottlebrush trees in all over



Ornamental pear trees on Leigh Street (*Pyrus calleryana*)

3. Ornamental pear trees

You'll know these exotic trees from their fiery red and bronze leaves that emerge in autumn and then striking white blossoms in spring.

Ornamental pear trees (*Pyrus calleryana*) have narrow growth of between 2 to 3 metres from slender trunks. Their straight and tight growth provides a perfect privacy screen and is why they are often planted in rows lining properties.

These trees are often seen along streets, parks or the exterior of gardens. You'll spot them on Leigh Street and other streets around Adelaide's CBD.



Raywood ash (*Fraxinus Raywood*), photo: Peter Howell

4. Raywood ash trees

Raywood ash trees (*Fraxinus Raywood*) are also known as the claret ash. They are fast growing trees.

They can reach more than 40 feet tall, or around 12 metres, and have a rounded canopy.

They are a perfect tree to create light shade in the summer sun. During autumn their usually glossy green leaves turn burgundy before falling for the winter.

You can spot Raywood ash trees in the south-eastern suburbs, particularly around Mitcham and ANZAC Highway.



Golden elm (*Ulmus glabra* 'Lutescens'), photo: Andy Kazie

5. Golden elm trees

Elm trees (*Ulmus glabra* 'Lutescens') are some of the most important trees in the world.

Populations in Europe and North America were decimated by the Dutch elm disease from 1910, but elm trees in South Australia are going well with modern day treatment programs like direct tree injection. You can enjoy elms around Adelaide that date back over a century. You'll spot big golden elms in the Adelaide Park Lands and along historical streets and will recognise their signature yellowing of leaves during autumn.



Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), photo: [Misochan2, Wikimedia Commons](#)

6. Jacaranda tree

These famous street trees are renowned for their distinct purple flowers, carpeting streets and putting on a bright display during spring.

They originate from south-central South America, and are a hardy tree. Jacarandas (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) are popular with councils and large family gardens because of their minimal maintenance once established.

These purple beauties are all around Adelaide, but you can be sure to find them on L'Estrange Street in Glenside, Trevelyan Street in Unley, Chamberlain Avenue in Clarence Gardens, Byron Road in Black Forest, and Main Avenue in Frewville.



White cedar (*Melia azedarach*), photo: [Juan Carlos Fonseca Mata, Wikimedia Commons](#)

7. White cedar

White cedars (*Melia azedarach*) are extremely drought tolerant.

They are native to Australia and winter deciduous (meaning they lose their leaves in cooler months).

Australia has lots of trees that are evergreen (retain their leaves throughout the year), and even a variety of summer deciduous trees which lose leaves when water is scarce in warmer months, but few trees are native and winter deciduous.



Crepe myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*), photo: [Amada 44, Wikimedia Commons](#)

8. Crepe myrtle

Crepe myrtle trees (*Lagerstroemia indica*) provide year-round colour.

They showcase red and orange colourful leaves in autumn, then shed their brown and grey bark to reveal pinks and reds in their trunks during winter before then flowering in white, pink, purple or red during spring and summer.

After the flowers fall, small round seed balls form. These can be cut off to stimulate new flower growth.



Grevillea tree (*Grevillea robusta*), photo: [Alvesgaspar, Wikimedia Commons](#)

9. Grevillea trees

These skyline trees are also known as silky oaks because of the texture of their freshly split oak.

Grevillea trees (*Grevillea robusta*) are fast growing and can live up to 65 years.

Their bright flowers resemble small hair brushes and attract birds and butterflies. While they commonly bloom between winter and early spring, they can flower sporadically throughout the year.



London plane tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*), photo: [NobbiP, Wikimedia Commons](#)

10. London planes

Named because of their popularity in the British capital of London, the London plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) is commonly found around metropolitan Australia.

The London plane tree produces small fuzzy rounded balls, called a fruit or seed pod, which ripens from green to brown before breaking up and falling for seed dispersion.