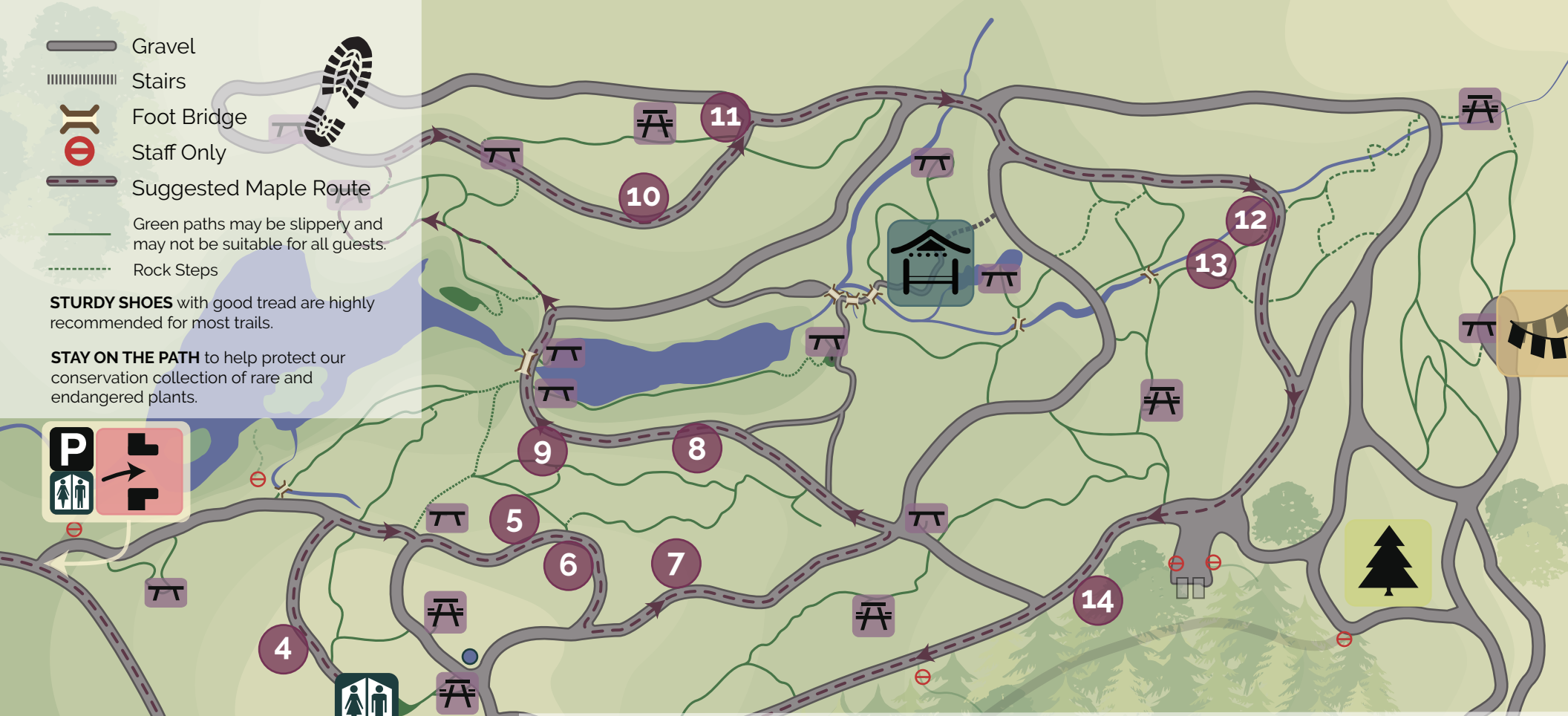


1 **Five-Lobed Maple** (*Acer pentaphyllum*)
2 **Evergreen Maple** (*Acer albopurpurascens*)
3 **Paperbark Maple** (*Acer griseum*)
4 **Kawakami Maple** (*Acer caudatifolium*)
5 **Full Moon Maple** (*Acer japonicum*)
6 **Redvein Maple** (*Acer rufinerve*)
7 **Trident Maple** (*Acer buergerianum*)
8 **Henry's Maple** (*Acer henryi*)
9 **Miyabe Maple** (*Acer miyabei*)
10 **Siebold Maple** (*Acer sieboldianum*)
11 **Snake Bark Maple** (*Acer morrisonense*)
12 **Coliseum Maple** (*Acer cappadocicum* subsp. *sinicum*)
13 **Japanese Maple** (*Acer palmatum*)
14 **Broad Maple** (*Acer amplum* subsp. *catalpifolium*)

Sonoma
BOTANICAL GARDEN

Sexually Diverse MAPLES

Self-Guided Tour

Sex, it's not that simple.

sonomabg.org

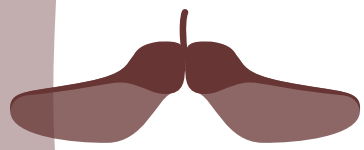
Plant Sex

Most plants are **hermaphrodites** (a single flower has both male and female reproductive parts, aka **perfect flowers** ⚥). Other plants will have male flowers (**staminate** ♂) and/or female (**pistillate** ♀) flowers.

Plants with male and female flowers are **monoecious** ♀+♂ (think of one of your arms being female and the other male). If an entire individual has only one flower sex, it is **dioecious** ♀|♂. Some plants will only have perfect flowers and male flowers on the same plant (no female flowers), these are **andromonoecious** ⚥+♂. Rarely, plants can be **androdioecious** ⚥|♂ some male plants and some hermaphrodites. There are even plants that will change sex as they age or depending on growing conditions.

Maples Run the Gamut

Maples (*Acer* spp.) have it all when it comes to sexual forms. They can be male one year and female the next, a little bit of both, or anything in between. The only consistency is maples have winged fruits, like whirly-gigs, called samaras.



1. **Five-Lobed Maple** — LC NT VU EN **CR** EW
   Acer pentaphyllum
   Native to Sichuan Province, China — ♀+♂
   Considered one of the rarest maples in the wild.

2. **Evergreen Maple** — LC NT **VU** EN CR EW
   Acer albopurpurascens
   Native to Taiwan — ♀+♂
   Evergreen unlike most maples. Bark is dark.

3. **Paperbark Maple** — LC NT VU **EN** CR EW
   Acer griseum
   Native to central, eastern China — ♀+♂
   Often produces non-viable seeds.

4. **Kawakami Maple** — LC **NT** VU EN CR EW
   Acer caudatifolium
   Native to Taiwan — ♀+♂
   A snake bark maple. Reddish samaras turn tan when ripe.

5. **Full Moon Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
   Acer japonicum
   Native to Japan, Kuril Islands — ♀+♂
   Name for its full moon shaped leaves. Dark purple, drooping flower clusters in mid-spring.

6. **Redvein Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
   Acer rufinerve
   Native to Japan — ♀+♂
   Japanese name translates to melon-skin maple. Leaves have veins with red-rust colored hairs.

7. **Trident Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
   Acer buergerianum
   Native to China, Japan, Taiwan — ♀+♂
   Popular for bonsai and a good choice for home gardens as it tolerates drought.

8. **Henry's Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
   Acer henryi
   Native to China — ♀+♂
   Long drooping flower clusters. Great fall color and winter interest resembling bamboo.

9. **Miyabe Maple** — LC NT **VU** EN CR EW
   Acer miyabei
   Native to Japan — ♀
   Several cultivars in Europe, but wild habitat (along streams) fragmented.

10. **Siebold Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
    Acer sieboldianum
    Native to Japan — ♀+♂
    Similar to *A. palmatum*, but underside of leaves are hairy. Rare in cultivation outside Japan.

11. **Snake Bark Maple** — LC NT **VU** EN CR EW
    Acer morrisonense
    Native to Taiwan — ♂
    One of several species of maples known for their snakeskin-like bark.

12. **Coliseum Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
    Acer cappadocicum subsp. *sinicum*
    Native to southwestern China — ♀+♂ / ♀+♂
    Samaras can create a red halo around trees in late spring, unusual for maples.

13. **Japanese Maple** — **LC** NT VU EN CR EW
    Acer palmatum
    Native to Korea, Japan, Taiwan — ♀+♂
    Hundreds of cultivars bred for spectacular fall colors. Huge variation in leaf and tree shape.

14. **Broad Maple** — LC NT **VU** EN CR EW
    Acer amplum subsp. *catalpifolium*
    Native to China, Vietnam — ♀+♂
    SBG has one of the only specimens in cultivation in North America.

IUCN Red List

- LC Least Concern
- NT Near Threatened
- VU Vulnerable
- EN Endangered
- CR Critically Endangered
- EW Extinct in the Wild