

Godden Green/Knole - Nature's Own Sculpture Trail Trees

Trees that inspired artworks are shown in **green**, seen at www.jackiegwyther.com/knoletreegallery

1 The Sculptor's Tree ///shade.shock.colleague Just beyond the path, this gnarled, hollowed tree resembles a forgotten sculpture. It seems like a form moulded from clay by hands pressing, squeezing and sculpting its surface. The impressions of fingers and palms seem almost visible in its weathered bark, blurring the boundary between nature and art.	2 Pixie Seat ///soda.staple.rop This rustic stool is a woodworker's gift. Possessing the charm of woodland folklore, as if it were fashioned for elves and pixies to rest upon. It is a celebration of how nature's gifts can be transformed through imagination and craftsmanship allowing both beauty and function to endure in a new form.	3 Tornado Tree ///voice.universally.goat Deep furrows in the bark spiral upwards around the trunk creating the sensation of a tree twisting, rising and straining to break free from the earth. At its base, the outer bark appears to have been lifted as if the force of a tornado has exposed the bare wood beneath.
4 Charred Cathedral ///quest.rang.pretty #charredcathedral Though charred by fire and diminished by decay, a hollow tree stump stands with cathedral-like elegance against a cobalt sky. Natural windows frame the intense monochrome sky and spire-like shapes reach upwards. The intricate patterns and detailing admired in cathedrals are in this case created by nature's hand.	5 The Root Guardians ///deck.resort.bank Emerging from the earth, the extraordinary roots of this beech tree resemble stone-like shapes. Their sculptural forms invite the imagination to see hidden woodland beings gathering to worship or protect the tree. A reminder that nature shares its own magic for those who take the time to look.	6 Where Light Was Held ///stick.army.pans #where_light_was_held The reflection of an overhanging hawthorn is mirrored in the surface of a pond. Water, light, sky, branches and wind become interactive participants. Wind fractures the reflection into shifting distortions and abstracted forms. In the heat, the reflective surface disappears entirely, leaving only dry earth where light and sky were once held.
7 Split ///follow.begin.love A dead tree stands as a striking silhouette; its trunk divided by a dramatic split that creates a bold V-shaped form. Stark against the landscape, its angular geometry possesses an austere beauty, shaped by time and weather.	8 Hidden Architecture /// issue.wiring.figure #knole_hidden_architecture The exposed roots of this fallen tree reveal the hidden architecture beneath the woodland floor. They create a dynamic composition of radiating forms, fractured spaces and richly textured surfaces. The painting celebrates the beauty of what is ordinarily hidden, revealing the intricate structures that support life.	9 Knole Shard ///shift.crib.keen #knole_shard In contrast to the iconic man-made structure, this shard-like standing deadwood will decay. The painting imagines three stages of the tree's gradual transformation over time, returning nutrients to the soil and supporting new life. It is an elegant example of nature's interconnected cycles of decay, renewal and regeneration.

Follow the countryside code, dogs on leads, do not feed deer, give space to horses and deer, check for ticks. Participation in this country walk is entirely at your own risk. Jackie Gwyther accepts no legal liability for any accidents, injuries, public liability, or loss/damage to personal property incurred during the walk. Participants are responsible for their own safety and the safety of their guests. ©JackieGwyther2026