



*Echinops ritro* 'Veitch's Blue'

A bold and attractive herbaceous perennial, *E.r* 'Veitch's Blue' is a striking plant and engages the attention of bees and humans. Deep-violet spiky floral spheres are held well about the rosette of toothed silvery-green leaves on silvery felted stems. Growing to a height of about one metre, this herbaceous perennial is interesting not only when flowering but the spent flower heads look good well into winter.



*Malus domestica* 'Hunt's Duke of Gloucester'

Apple trees are a staple for a country garden, both beautiful and utilitarian. Creating an atmosphere of familiarity and comfort was vitally important when designing this garden. *M. domestica* encapsulates this intention as people are reminded of their time spent picking apples and making jams and puddings with those they love. Attractive pink-flushed white flowers cover the tree in the spring, and the small russet dessert apples are a deep soft gold flecked with chestnut. The softness and texture of the ochre apples is a beautiful and peaceful sight and they can remain on the tree through until March.



*Rhus typhina* 'Stag's Horn Sumach'

Felty-soft bark alludes to the name for this suckering deciduous shrub. An incredibly dynamic and valuable plant for year round structure, colour and interest, *R. typhina* is a dazzling statement. Green pinnate leaves open upwards creating an elegant and ethereal feel as light-green flowers sit securely atop the branches. Scarlet-red clusters of furry berries take the place of the flowers as the season changes from summer to autumn. Cut back every two or three years, *R. typhina* is an unmistakably unique and showy shrub. Green leaves turn to yellow, orange and red, in one of the most spectacular of autumn displays eventually dropping away and leaving the remarkable steeples of red fruit to remain throughout the darkest winter months. You can't look at the gaunt branches of *R. t.* 'Stag's Horn Sumach' without a strange stirring of atavistic instincts.

