The ancient yews in the Dioceses of the Church of England - October 2022

In 2022 the Ancient Yew Group updated its classification of yews. Most trees with a girth above 4m are now called Ancient. They are categorised according to their present girth or a known historic girth.

Ancient - E are those exceptional yews with girth above 9m and a likely age above 1000 years.

Ancient 1 have a girth between 7m and 9m and a likely age above 800 years.

Ancient – 5/7m in girth have a likely age above 500 years.

Ancient – 4/5m in girth have a likely age above 400 years.

Notable applies to yews with a girth between 3m and 4m.

Where smaller girthed yews exhibit some of the features found on ancient trees, for example holes, cavities or crevices, they will be classified as Veteran (V-con) because of their condition.

Diocese of Bristol

Site name	Church name	Tree Classification
Abbots Leigh, Somerset	Holy Trinity	1 ancient ¹ - 7/9m
Purton St Mary, Wiltshire	St Mary	1 ancient - 5/7m
West Kington, Wiltshire	St Mary the Virgin	1 ancient - 5/7m