

# Mangrove Tree Facts

1. *Worldwide there are more than 35 mangrove tree species.*
2. *There are four common names for mangrove trees: white mangroves, black mangroves, red mangroves, and buttonwood mangroves.*
3. *Many different types of animals—including birds and fish—depend on mangrove trees for food and shelter.*
4. *Mangroves are unique because unlike other trees, they can tolerate saltwater. This means they can grow near, or even in, salty water.*
5. *Nitrogen and phosphorous are two of the key elements needed for mangrove trees to be able to grow.*
6. *Early Spanish settlers in the New World used the salty leaves of mangrove trees to flavor their foods. Later settlers ground up mangrove bark and used it to brew medicinal teas.*
7. *Some types of insects have evolved over time to look like mangrove twigs and leaves. This camouflage provides protection from birds and spiders.*
8. *The flowers of black and white mangrove trees produce nectar that can be used to make honey.*
9. *Laws in the United States protect mangrove trees from being destroyed, and developers are required to create new mangrove wetlands for any that are destroyed during construction projects.*
10. *Mangrove trees are critical to coastal ecosystems, helping both plants and animals to survive. To learn more about what you can do to protect mangrove trees and prevent their destruction, visit <http://mangroveactionproject.org/>.*

"Mangroves." Queensland Government Parks and Wildlife Service, June 28, 2011.  
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"Mangroves: Florida's Walking Trees." Sea Stats: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (May 2006): 1–4.

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<http://www.tamu.edu/faculty/ccbn/dewitt/manzanar/images/satowetlands07.pdf>.