

Acer cappadocicum
Caucasian Maple



Acer cappadocicum (Cappadocian Maple) is native to the Caucasus, from Northern Turkey to Iran. Here, it is found growing from sea level up to elevations of as much as 2000 metres. Individual specimens of the Cappadocian Maple can be found growing in forests alongside, amongst others, *Carpinus betulus, Fagus orientalis* and *Quercus castaneifolia*. *Acer cappadocicum* was discovered in 1831 in the Talysh Mountains of Azerbaijan by German botanist Carl Anton von Meyer, and introduced in Europe in 1838. The species can reach a height of between twenty and thirty metres with a wide egg-shaped, semi-open crown up to twelve metres wide. In maturity, the Cappadocian Maple has a low branching, irregular crown with lots of thin twigs at the extremities.

The 5-7 lobed leaf of *Acer cappadocicum*, with its pointed leaf tips, emerges bright green tinged with red and in the summer changes to dark green, ending up a magnificent golden yellow in the autumn. The upright, yellow corymbs bloom at the same time as the budding foliage. After flowering, striking pale green samaras appear. The bark of the twigs and branches is glossy bright green with white stripes, changing to grey-brown with white stripes once the tree is older than three years. Young, fast-growing shoots sometimes have a white, waxy layer which disappears again later in the year. Note that this is not mildew.

In the wild, *Acer cappadocicum* grows alongside streams and on damp, shady mountainsides, which suggests a preference for nutrient-rich, moist soils. Given that the species also occurs on shallow, dry and chalky soils however, it will tolerate a wide range of conditions. Tolerates some wind although a completely exposed site may result in breaking branches. *Acer cappadocicum* is a wonderful park tree that is perfect for spacious sites in large gardens, parks, road verges and cemeteries where the attractive crown shape and spectacular autumn colour are accentuated. Suckers may be produced where any damage is caused to the surface root structure.

SEASONAL COLOURS

jan feb mar apr mei jun jul aug sep okt nov dec

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, shade trees | **Topiary on stem**: block, roof-trained, multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, countryside | **Pavement**: none | **Planting concepts**: Eco planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 20 - 30 m | **Width**: 9 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 6A - 8B

ASPECTS

Wind: slightly tolerant to wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level**: moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: moist | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: bees, butterflies, nectar value 5, pollen value 5 | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to dryness, tolerant to short-term flooding

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: corymbose, discrete, standing | **Flower colour**: yellow | **Flowering period**: May - May | **Leaf colour**: buds red-violet, dark green | **Leaves**: deciduous, palmate, opposite, matt polished, lobate | **Autumn colour**: golden yellow, dark yellow | **Fruits**: striking, winged | **Fruit colour**: pale green | **Bark colour**: grey-brown, grey | **Bark**: smooth, striped | **Twig colour**: green | **Twigs**: striped, polished, frosty | **Root system**: shallow,

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