

Carpinus betulus
Hornbeam, European hornbeam, Common hornbeam



Carpinus betulus (hornbeam) has a large natural distribution area. It grows practically all over Europe, but also in Turkey, Iran, and Poland. The species is also common along the Baltic Sea. It is a medium-sized to large tree, which in cultivation is often limited to 20 metres in height with a wide, egg-shaped, dense crown. The hornbeam is suitable for a wide range of topiary and is perfect for use as a solid climbing tree with its sturdy branches.

The hornbeam blooms with yellow-green hanging catkins in April, before the leaves start to sprout. The egg-shaped, doubly serrate leaves are bright green and turn brown-yellow in the autumn. The fruits are small, winged, brown-green nuts, which hang from the tree in racemes. *Carpinus betulus* keeps a dense crown for a long time and then offers solid protection from the wind.

The hornbeam is well able to tolerate heat, drought, wind and air pollution. With 5A winterhardiness, it's a fantastic climate tree that can be used in a wide variety of locations. These could include lanes, parks, central reservations and (roof) gardens. But the hornbeam also does well in cemeteries, industrial locations and as a windbreak. The tree has a preference for nutrient-rich, moist soil. But *Carpinus betulus* also thrives in lesser environments.

SEASONAL COLOURS

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

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees, multi-stemmed trees, climate trees, trees for climbing, shade trees, characteristic trees, woodland planting stock | **Topiary on stem**: beehive, block, cylinder, trapezium, pyramid, cone, roof-trained, level, pollard, multi-stem umbrella, multi-stem roof-trained, espalier, pleached | **Topiary**: beehive, globe, bowl, egg-shaped, cylinder, block, column, pyramid, cone, hedge, hedge element, archway, pleached, bonsai

USE

Location: avenue, park, central reservation, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, ecological zone, windbreak | **Pavement**: none | **Planting concepts**: Climate planting, Landscape planting, shade-tolerant

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure**: dense | **Height**: 15 - 20 m | **Width**: 12 - 15 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 5A - 8B

ASPECTS

Wind: 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**: very dry, dry, moist | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade, shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: butterflies, birds, small mammals | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to dryness, tolerates heat

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: catkins, pendulous | **Flower colour**: yellow-green | **Flowering period**: April - May | **Leaf colour**: green, buds bright green | **Leaves**: deciduous, ovate, doubly serrate | **Autumn colour**: yellow-brown | **Fruits**: winged, small, nut | **Fruit colour**: brown, green | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: deeply furrowed, spiral | **Twig colour**: grey-brown | **Twigs**: bare, finely branched | **Root system**: shallow, moderately branched, central root

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