

Fraxinus ornus
Manna ash, South European flowering ash



Fraxinus ornus (manna ash) is native to South-East Europe and Turkey, where it grows on dry and exposed rocky cliffs in dry shrubby forests. *Fraxinus ornus* is a small to medium-sized tree but on nutrient-poor, shallow, rocky soils it tends to make a large shrub rather than a tree. This tree can develop as a single-stem but characteristic multi-stem forms also occur. The manna ash develops a round, slightly conical and irregular crown shape approximately eight to fifteen metres tall and wide.

The white scented flowers bloom in panicles in May and wonderfully adorn the entire tree. The flowers of *Fraxinus ornus* provide nectar for insects, whilst the tree itself provides nesting and shelter to many birds and smaller mammals. The composite leaves are pinnate with 5-9 leaflets which are matt green and somewhat glossy. The autumn foliage has various hues, from yellow to crimson or orange. The fruits are 2-3 cm long samaras which are spread by the wind later on in the winter. The bark is smooth, greyish and peels of in small sections as the tree matures.

Fraxinus ornus is a future-proof tree. It grows on various soils and craggy rocks, from alkaline to slightly acidic. Once established it does not require water and can survive the hottest months without any problem. Wind and road salt do not pose a problem either. On rich, deep soils it can reach a substantial size if placed in full sun to allow the new shoots to ripen and in order to obtain the best autumn colour. The manna ash is used in medium-sized to larger gardens and parks but also in more challenging sites in paving.

SEASONAL COLOURS

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

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, characteristic trees, woodland planting stock | **Topiary on stem**: multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: avenue, square, car park / parking lot, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, coastal area | **Pavement**: none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts**: Eco planting, Solid planting, urban planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: rounded, wide oval | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 8 - 15 m | **Width**: 6 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 7A - 9B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind, slightly tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level**: low in nutrients, moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: very dry, dry, moist | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: bees, birds, small mammals | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to salt spray, tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat, not susceptible to ash dieback

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: panicle, striking, big, flower-scented | **Flower colour**: cream-white | **Flowering period**: May - May | **Leaf colour**: matt green, buds bright green | **Leaves**: deciduous, ovoid, lanceolate, serrate, pinnate, composite | **Autumn colour**: yellow-orange, orange, orange-red, red-violet | **Fruits**: striking, rich fruit yield, winged, raceme | **Fruit colour**: red-brown | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: smooth, later on rough | **Twig colour**: grey | **Twigs**: bare | **Root system**: shallow, extensive, highly branched

EBBEN trees since 1862

TreeEbb