



Quercus suber



Height	6 - 15 (20) m
Width	6-15m
Crown	irregular, more or less rounded, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	light greyish-brown, deep grooves with a great deal of cork
Leaf	oval to ovoid, lobed, dark green, 3 - 9 cm, evergreen
Flowers	yellow catkins
Fruits	ovoid acorn, 1.5 - 3 cm long
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	makes few demands, can take dry conditions
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	8b (-9,4,5 to -6,7 °C)
Wind resistance	fairly
Other resistances	resistant to de-icing salt
Application	tree containers, roof gardens, industrial areas
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem treem
Origin	western Mediterranean, especially Spain and Portugal

A very familiar evergreen oak from the western Mediterranean. Cultivated from antiquity for its cork, the cork being harvested once every seven years. The irregular crown starts off oval but later becomes broader, more or less rounded. The soft bark is greyish-brown and only develops deep grooves after the fourth year. Once the bark has been harvested, the trunk is a fiery red colour. The evergreen serrated leaves are oval to ovoid and glossy dark green. On the underside they are felt-like and greyish-white. The elongated ovoid acorns grow singly or in pairs and are 1.5 - 3 cm in size. They are one-third or half enclosed by the cupule. *Q. suber* can flower practically the entire year, which means that the acorns are visible most of the year. *Quercus suber* is an evergreen oak that has been cultivated from antiquity as a supplier of cork. The corky bark may be harvested only when the trunk has a diameter of approx. 60 cm.