

# Acer platanoides 'Royal Red'

## Royal Red Norway Maple



*Acer platanoides* 'Royal Red' (Royal Red Norway Maple) was brought onto the market in 1963 by the Pacific Coast Nursery of Oregon, USA. In its juvenile state this tree displays the best and most upright habit of all Norway Maple cultivars. *Acer platanoides* 'Royal Red' reaches a height of fifteen metres and develops a densely branched, broadly egg-shaped crown between eight and twelve metres wide.

The glossy, 5-lobed and palmate leaf of cultivar 'Royal Red' is the brightest red-violet of all red-leaved cultivars of *Acer platanoides*. The leaf colour is slightly more pronounced in spring and autumn but the foliage remains a consistent bright red-violet before dropping in winter. In the USA, the colour is even brighter because of the different climatic conditions. Cultivar 'Royal Red' - in addition to its splendid leaf colour - is even more precious because of its terrific blossom with striking red-yellow flowers. They appear in April before the leaf emerges in upright corymbs and are easily found by bees, butterflies and other insects owing to the highest nectar and pollen value. The blossom is followed by the familiar helicopters: seeds in samaras in a straight line. The bark of *Acer platanoides* 'Royal Red' is smooth and grey and only starts to develop fine grooves as it matures.

*Acer platanoides* 'Royal Red' is not very demanding when it comes to planting site and thrives on most types of soil apart from peat soils. This woodland tree tolerates wind, shade, sun and paved areas but does not like stagnant water or extreme dry conditions. As it matures Norway Maple 'Royal Red' casts a deep shadow in which only true woodland plants can thrive as underplanting. For parks and large gardens cultivar 'Royal Red' can be of high decorative value with its dark foliage and early flowering. But also in avenues, green verges or in open paved areas in broad streets the tree makes a beautiful addition. *Acer platanoides* 'Royal Red' is less prone to mildew than *Acer platanoides* 'Crimson King'.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

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

### USE

**Location:** avenue, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones | **Pavement:** none, open | **Planting concepts:** Climate planting, Eco planting, shade-tolerant, Prairie planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure:** dense | **Height:** 12 - 15 m | **Width:** 8 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 4A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade, shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, nectar value 5, pollen value 5 | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, corymbose, striking, standing | **Flower colour:** yellow | **Flowering period:** April - April | **Leaf colour:** dark red, buds red-violet | **Leaves:** deciduous, palmate, opposite, polished, dentate, lobate | **Autumn colour:** red-brown | **Fruits:** winged, capsules | **Fruit colour:** yellow-brown | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** red-brown | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** deep, shallow, fine roots, central root