

Parrotia persica

Persian ironwood, Ironwood



Parrotia persica (Persian ironwood) was discovered in the first half of the nineteenth century by the German botanist F.W. Parrot in Persia. It is a unique member of the witch hazel family, with the same early blossom in the winter and spectacular autumn colouring. The characteristic tree has a flattened round, dense crown and can reach a height of up to 10 metres with a width of 10 to 12 metres. The species is known for the numerous possibilities when it comes to topiary, from espaliers to hedges and even special bonsai forms.

Parrotia persica blossoms early, in February, with small, red flowers. The heart-shaped leaves follow in the spring and are bronze-violet when they emerge, turning glossy green in the summer. The autumn colour is spectacular with yellow, orange, red and violet tints. Once the leaves have fallen, a decorative tree remains, with whimsical branches and an attractive bark, which peels off in pieces as the tree ages, creating a beautiful camouflage pattern in green, grey, brown-pink and yellow.

The Persian ironwood tolerates drought and heat and has a winter hardiness of 5A. This makes the species an excellent, future-proof climate tree. Urban conditions such as wind, road salt and air pollution are tolerated well. *Parrotia persica* thrives in parks and (roof) gardens, but also in containers and at industrial locations. Plant the tree in a damp, nutrient-rich soil, with a neutral to acidic pH value and ideally in a sunny position for the best autumn colouring.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, half-stem trees, feathered trees, multi-stemmed trees, climate trees, shade trees, characteristic trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** beehive, block, cylinder, pyramid, cone, roof-trained, vase, multi-stem umbrella, espalier, pleached | **Topiary:** beehive, cylinder, column, hedge, hedge element, espalier, pleached, bonsai

USE

Location: park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones | **Pavement:** none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts:** Climate planting, Solid planting, Prairie planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: flattened spherical | **Crown structure:** dense | **Height:** 6 - 10 m | **Width:** 10 - 12 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:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to salt spray, tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: heads, discrete, singular, small | **Flower colour:** red | **Flowering period:** February - March | **Leaf colour:** green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, leathery, polished, undulate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, orange-red, red, red-violet, violet | **Fruits:** discrete, capsule | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** yellow-green, grey | **Bark:** peeling | **Twig colour:** olive green | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** shallow, slightly branched