Nothofagus obliqua

The short and somewhat overhanging branches give this tree an ascending oval crown. From being a shrub it often grows to become a tree, usually multi-trunked. It is a fast grower in its home country (Chile) and is an important producer of timber. The reddish-coloured wood resembles oak and is frequently used for furniture. The greyish-brown bark on old trunks remains smooth for a long time but eventually flakes off in long irregular plates. The bare, dark brown twigs have elongated ovoid and glossy leaves with a blue-green underside. They have a serrated leaf edge and turn to red and yellow in the autumn. The tree has a deeply penetrating tap root with many branches. Nothofagus obliqua really loves heat and requires a sheltered site to protect it from cold winters. Despite the risk of frost damage, the tree always emerges vigorously every year.