Pyrus communis 'Williams'

Height	4-7 m
Width	3-6m
Crown	broad pyramidal, half-open crown
Bark and branches	brown
Leaf	green
Flowers	white, flowers in April
Fruits	edible fruits, yellow
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil, calcareous soil
Paving	tolerates partial paving
Winter hardiness zone	5b (-26,0 to -23,4 °C)
Wind resistance	good, also on the coast
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, provides food for birds
Application	small gardens, patio gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, clearstem fruit tree, halfstem fruit tree, espalier fruit tree

'Williams' is a moderately strong-growing pear tree with a broad pyramidal, semi-open crown of 4-7 m in height. The stem branches grow quite steeply upwards, but the secondary branches are distinctly arching. The tree flowers around mid-April-end of April with white blossoms. 'Williams' is self-pollinating, which means that no tree of another pear variety needs to be nearby for good fruiting. To promote production, however, it is desirable to ensure cross-pollination by other cultivars. Preferably, 'Beurré Hardy', 'Clapp's Favourite' or 'Doyenné du Comice' are used for this purpose. 'Williams' pears are moderately large and have a greenish-yellow to yellow skin, sometimes with a light red blush. The white-yellow flesh is meltingly soft, very juicy and sweet-tasting. It is characterised by a musky flavour. They are ready for picking in the first half of September. It is a typical hand pear, with a short storage time and therefore mainly suitable for direct consumption and direct processing. For a long time, 'Williams' was the most widely grown pear in the USA for industrial processing.
'Williams' is an old cultivar found at Aldermalston around 1770 by the British teacher Stair of Wheeler. The tree was marketed by the nurseryman Williams, of Turnham Green, who was the founder of the tree. 'Williams' is also known by the erroneous names 'Bartlett' and 'Williams Bon Chrétien'. Hardiness zone 5b.

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