This tree occurs naturally in practically the whole of Europe. It has a broad ovoid crown. In its early years the crown is fairly narrow but broadens out later. Because of its abundant fruit the branches bend, eventually making the crown almost rounded. The smooth trunk is light grey and flakes off somewhat at a later stage. The young twigs are light brown and carry many lenticels. The imparipinnate leaves consist of 9 - 17 (21) elongated leaflets with a roughly serrated edge. The autumn colour is yellow to orange-red. The orange-red to red fruits appear simultaneously with the autumnal colour. Because it makes few demands of the soils this tree occurs in a variety of places, especially in woodland and on wooded banks, where its fruit attracts many birds. Also grows on dry poor soils.