Sorbus domestica

Height: 10 - 15 (20) m
Crown: ovoid to spherical, half-open crown
Bark and branches: grey, deeply grooved, twigs glossy brown
Leaf: imparipinnate, approx. 20 cm, 11 - 21 leaf segments, dark green, feathered leaf
Autumn colour: yellow, orange
Flowers: white, in umbels with felt-like hairs, Ø 12 cm, May/June
Fruits: apple- or pear-shaped, 2.5 - 3 cm long, yellowish-green, red on the sunny side, edible fruits
Spines/thorns: None
Toxicity: usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type: makes few demands, suitable for extremely hard soils
Soil moisture: suitable for dry soil
Paving: tolerates partial paving
Winter hardness zone: 5b (-26,0 to -23,4 °C)
Wind resistance: good
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
Shape: clearstem tree, multi-stem treem
Origin: Southern Europe, North Africa, Asia Minor

Slow grower with an undulating ovoid crown. Later the branches bend making the tree broader to spherical. S. domestica has low branches, a fact that causes the trunk to be short and the tree to end up as broad as it is tall. After some years the grey bark develops deep grooves. The imparipinnate leaves are approx. 20 cm long and have 11 - 21 leaflets. These have a somewhat felt-like underside and a sharply serrated edge: they are oval to ovoid and 3 - 8 cm long. The autumn colour is yellow to yellowish-orange. Flowering is followed by the emergence of apple- or pear-shaped edible fruits. The fruits are yellowish-green in colour and have a red blush on the sunny side. S. domestica can attain a great age but it is very sensitive to canker. The tree produces very hard wood that is used in furniture making. Ideal for natural parks or as a forage tree for bees.