



Quercus 'Bukserake Mystery'



Height	20-25 m
Crown	pyramidal
Bark and branches	light grey-brown bark, peeling
Leaf	evergreen, 3-5 cm, shallow serrated
Flowers	inconspicuous
Fruits	No acorns, empty cupules, light blue-green scales.
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	7 (-17,7 to -12,3 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	can withstand wind
Application	avenues and broad streets, industrial areas
Shape	clearstem tree
Origin	North Africa, Middle East

'Bukserake Mystery' is a strong-growing evergreen tree with a pyramidal crown. Its final height is unknown, but the oldest specimens were over 15 m tall in 2014. An eventual height of 25 m is therefore not inconceivable. The light grey-brown bark peels off in sheets and becomes deeply grooved in later life. The ovoid leaves are 3-5 cm long and have a shallow coarsely serrated leaf margin. They are slightly glossy dark green on top and blue-green hairy on the underside. After the inconspicuous flowering, no acorns are formed, only empty cupules. These are covered with light blue-green adjacent scales.

'Bukserake Mystery' arose from seeds collected by Jef van Meulder, Arboretum Bokrijk, Belgium, in the South African Arboretum Paarl at Drakenstein. The exact parents of this hybrid are not known, but a clear influence of *Q. ilex* can be seen in the tree. Bukserake is the old name Bokrijk, where the tree was raised from seed. Hardiness zone 7.