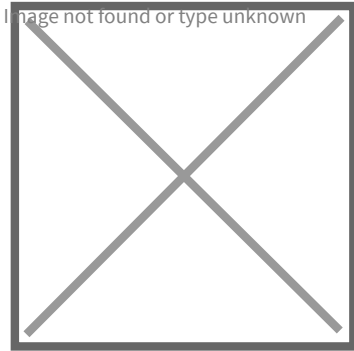




Ficus carica



Height	3 - 10 (15) m
Width	4-6m
Crown	spherical, top oblate, capricious, dark, dense crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	smooth, grey bark, twigs olive green
Leaf	palmately lobed, 3 - 5 lobes, mat green, 25 - 30 cm
Flowers	inconspicuous, turned inwardly
Fruits	pear-shaped fleshy pseudo-fruit, edible, edible fruits
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	well-drained, moisture-retentive
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil
Paving	tolerates paving
Winter hardiness zone	8b (-9,4,5 to -6,7 °C)
Wind resistance	good, in a sheltered site
Other resistances	can withstand wind
Fauna tree	can withstand wind, valuable for bees (honey plant)
Application	roof gardens, patio gardens
Origin	West Asia and has probably run wild in the Mediterranean

This tree has been in culture in its native area since antiquity and grows into a big tree there. In more northern regions it is considerably smaller and can be used as a container plant or as an espalier against a south wall. The young, olive-green twigs are slightly hairy but become brown and bare soon. *F. carica* has very diverse leaf shapes. It is palmately lobed with sometimes 3, usually 5, deeply dissected lobes, sometimes even unlobed. Along the long shoots the leaf is larger and deeper dissected than along the flowering shoots. The inflorescence is inconspicuous, the numerous small flowers are in a compact hollow stem. After the flowering the edible pseudo-fruits appear, which are green on the outside and carmine-red inside. When ripening they turn brown and become soft. They are full of small seeds. At the moment many, richly bearing cultivars are traded.