



Magnolia × loebneri 'Merrill'



Height	circa 3 - 5 (7) m
Crown	vase-shaped, spreading, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	smooth, greenish grey
Leaf	oval, bright green, 10 - 15 cm
Flowers	star-shaped, pure white, April, fragrant flowers
Fruits	rare
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	airy, well permeating
Paving	tolerates partial paving
Winter hardness zone	6a (-23,3 to -20,6 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for bees (honey plant)
Application	avenues and broad streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, large gardens, small gardens, patio gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, feathered tree, multi-stem tree
Origin	Arnold Arboretum, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, 1952

This hybrid is a crossing between *M. kobus* and *M. stellata*. It has the upright habit of *M. kobus* and the star-shaped flowers of *M. stellata*. Usually grown as a shrub but can grow into a small tree, sometimes multiple-stemmed. Young specimen grow straight upright but with age the habit becomes spreading because the branches start bending. The eventual spread often exceeds its height. The flowers appear before the leaves. The flowering is rich with star-shaped flowers that are 10 - 15 cm across. The fragrant flowers are white but the outer petals have a pink to light violet stripe, giving the impression at a distance that they are pink. Both the flowers and the flower buds are less susceptible to late night frost than the other Magnolias. *Magnolia loebneri 'Merrill'* is a highly recommended cultivar with exceptionally abundant flowers. Of all the cultivars 'Merrill' has the largest flowers.