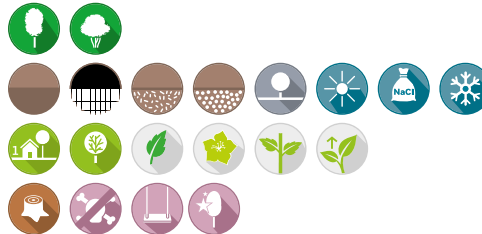


## Platanus occidentalis



<b>Height</b>	20 - 25 (40) m
<b>Crown</b>	round, half-open crown
<b>Bark and branches</b>	light grey, flakes off, later grey-brown
<b>Leaf</b>	palmate lobed, broader than long, green, 10 -22 cm
<b>Flowers</b>	spherical flower heads, yellow-green, May
<b>Fruits</b>	spherical, spiky, brown, usually single
<b>Spines/thorns</b>	None
<b>Toxicity</b>	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
<b>Soil type</b>	rich, preferably humid soil
<b>Paving</b>	tolerates paving
<b>Winter hardiness zone</b>	5b (-26,0 to -23,4 °C)
<b>Wind resistance</b>	moderate to good
<b>Other resistances</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), resistant to de-icing salt
<b>Application</b>	avenues and broad streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, large gardens, windbreaks
<b>Shape</b>	clearstem tree, multi-stem treem
<b>Origin</b>	eastern and central part of the USA

Fast-growing tree showing many similarities to *P. x acerifolia* but is more sensitive to frost when young. Is one of the largest trees in its natural habitat in the central and eastern United States. The bark flakes off in small light grey pieces. Old trunks turn colour to grey-brown. The broad leaf usually has 3 (sometimes 5) serrated lobes. In the autumn the leaves colour to a brownish yellow. Fallen leaves do not rot easily and remain on the ground around the tree. The spherical flower is single and, like the spiky fruit, hangs on a long stem. The fruit remains hanging on the tree until deep into the winter. Plane trees are very resistant to hard surfaces but surface roots can push the surrounding paving upwards. Takes pruning very well, even in old wood. It is important to use a tree stake for support at the sapling stage. *Platanus occidentalis* grows to form an imposing tree with flaking bark as a remarkable characteristic. It sheds many bark plates particularly in dry years.