**Norway maple**

**A commonly planted street tree with leaves that looks much like the maple that is pictured on the Canadian flag.**

**What other names does it have?**

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| --- | --- |
| **Generic name** | Maple |
| **Latin name** | *Acer platanoides* |
| **Family name** | Maple |
| **Latin family name** | Aceraceae |

**What type of tree is it?**

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| **Is it a broadleaf or conifer?** | It is a broadleaf |
| **Does it lose its leaves in autumn?** | Yes, it is deciduous |

**Species description:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Average height** | 12-25m |

**Leaf**

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| --- | --- |
| **Description** | Each of the five main lobes has a few distinctly pointed teeth/serrations. Giving the leaf a spiky look |
| **Shape** | Palmate |
| **Size** | Around 15cm long and wide |
| **Colour** | Dark green |
| **Colour of leaves in autumn** | Often yellow and occasionally red |
| **Leaf bud** | Large and red-brown with a distinct point |
| **Leaf stalk** | Long stalk |
| **Leaf arrangement** | Opposite |

**Flower, seed, and fruit**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of flower** | Clustered/grouped flowers |
| **Fruit colour** | Greenish yellow ripening to brown |
| **Type of seed body** | Large winged seed/key |
| **Seeds dispersed by** | * Wind |

***Acer tataricum*** (**Tatar Maple** or **Tatarian Maple**) is a species of [maple](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maple) native to central and southeastern [Europe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europe) and southwestern [Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia), from [Austria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austria) east to southwestern [Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia) and the [Caucasus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caucasus), and south to [Turkey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkey). The species is named after the [Tatar peoples](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tatars) of southern Russia; the tree's name is similarly commonly also spelled "Tartar" in English.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_tataricum#cite_note-rushforth-0)[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_tataricum#cite_note-ecosystema-1)

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Acer_tataricum1.jpg)

[http://bits.wikimedia.org/static-1.20wmf8/skins/common/images/magnify-clip.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Acer_tataricum1.jpg)

Foliage

It is a [deciduous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deciduous) spreading [shrub](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrub) or small [tree](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tree) growing to 4-12 m tall, with a short trunk up to 20-50 cm diameter and slender branches. The [bark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bark) is thin, pale brown, and smooth at first but becoming shallowly fissured on old plants. The [leaves](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaf) are opposite and simple, broadly ovate, 4.5-10 cm long and 3-7 cm broad, unlobed or with three or five shallow lobes, and matt green above; the leaf margin is coarsely and irregularly toothed; the leaf petiole is slender, often pink-tinged, 2-5 cm long. The [flowers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower) are whitish-green, 5-8 mm diameter, produced in spreading panicles in spring as the leaves open. The [fruit](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fruit) is a paired reddish [samara](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samara_(fruit)), 10-12 mm long with a 2-3 cm wing, maturing in late summer to early autumn.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_tataricum#cite_note-rushforth-0)[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_tataricum#cite_note-ecosystema-1)

It is related to [*Acer ginnala*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_ginnala) (Amur Maple) from northeastern Asia; this is treated as a [subspecies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subspecies) of Tatar Maple (*Acer tataricum* subsp. *ginnala*) by some botanists. They differ conspicuously in the glossy, deeply lobed leaves of *A. ginnala*, compared to the matt, unlobed or only shallowly lobed leaves of *A. tataricum*.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_tataricum#cite_note-rushforth-0)