

OLIVE TREE



The olive tree is mentioned right through the Old Testament and was an early source of food, light, hygiene and healing during Biblical times. It is a hardy plant and can survive a wide range of climatic conditions including warm summers and cool winters. It tends to hibernate each winter before flowering and producing fruit in the warmer months. Olive Trees can be planted in large tubs or in the garden. 20 years later, they should still be growing and producing fruit provided they are looked after with water and occasional fertiliser. If you are trying to create a Mediterranean look, place a couple of half wine barrels planted with an olive tree near the swimming pool.

Care: Olive Trees thrive in hot, dry climate. Plant in full sun and away from paved areas to avoid stains from fallen ripe fruit. The trees need a good amount of water during the winter season to push the olive tree into vigorous growth for Spring flowering.

Trees that are grown in tubs or pots need to be watered like a normal pot plant, but not as often.

Flowering: The trees produce small, white, fragrant flowers, which form in clusters on a single stem. Only a few olives develop on each flowering stem regardless of the number of flowers. The olives are picked when green or after they have started to turn black.