

#Oak

Pedunculated oak
Quercus robur L.



leaf



acorn (fruit)



bark



inflorescence

Characteristics

Mostly found as a tree up to even 50 meters high, rarely as a shrub. **Grows** mostly on heavier soils in more continental climates, in wet lowlands and damp areas by streams and rivers, tolerating periodic flooding.

- ❖ **Leaves** are lobed, deciduous, without stalk (or with stalk of maximum length 1 cm). Leaf dimensions 8-20 cm long, 3-10cm wide.
- ❖ **Flowers** are grouped in green hanging catkins.
- ❖ **Fruit** is acorn, 2-5 cm long, with stalk 2-6 cm long.
- ❖ **Bark** is grey, fissured, forming rectangular elongate blocks.



Distribution

Throughout Europe, except far north (northern Scandinavia) and true Mediterranean.



Don't mistake with

Quercus petraea (Matt.) Liebl, which has leaves on stalk (12 – 40mm), fruit sessile (stalkless – that is how it got the name “sessile oak”). The more drought tolerant *Q. petraea* prefers to grow in more Atlantic climates on light and well-drained, often rocky, soils (hence the specific Latin name *petraea* = of rocky places), generally occurring on slopes and hill tops, and preferring a more acid soil pH.



(source: Jäger, E. J., Müller, F., Ritz, C. M., Welk, E., Wesche, K., 2013: Rothmaler Exkursionsflora von Deutschland, Gefäßpflanzen: Atlasband, 12. Auflage, page 524. Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg.)