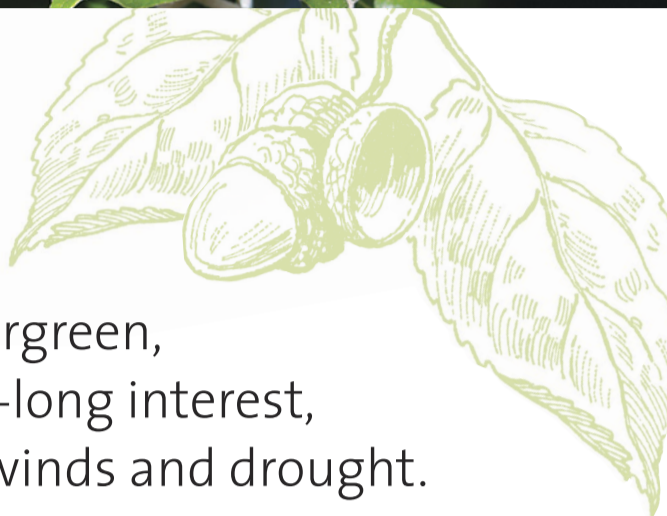




# Holm Oak

*Quercus ilex*

A dense, easy to maintain evergreen, boasting magnificent season-long interest, tolerant of salt spray, strong winds and drought.



## Description

The Holm Oak takes its name from Holm – an ancient name for holly – due to the shape of its leaves. Ideal for providing year-round interest, especially in the winter months. It supports plenty of wildlife with its dense foliage creating an ideal shelter for birds.

## Appearance

Glossy, dark green, ovate leaves, are contrasted in spring by silvery new growth, which becomes darker green and leathery as the foliage matures. A stunning display of golden catkins adorn the hedge in early summer, followed by green acorns that turn brown in autumn before falling.

## Placement

Mediterranean in origin, the Holm Oak thrives in sunnier situations and any soil, provided it is well-drained. Suitable for exposed and coastal sites, although inland frost pockets are best avoided.

## Uses

A stunning addition to traditional and contemporary planting schemes, clipped into formal lines or topiary. The robust nature and dense habit provides excellent privacy screening and a barrier against pollution. The wood can also be used for smoking foods – slow burning with an even glow, it adds a fine, nutty aroma, ideal for barbeques.



*The Holm Oak, with its dense habit, provides birds and small mammals protection from predators. The acorns are a particular favourite of the Jay.*



*Holm Oak provides an ideal backdrop and privacy screen in an urban setting.*

## Case Study

*“This was an unusual project as you can see – it required a hedge for privacy, but also something that would complement the tiered planting and remain low maintenance due to access issues. We were very pleased with the service and the prompt and efficient delivery from Elveden. This was not the first time we have used Elveden Hedges, we have also used them at another property for a hornbeam hedge and the quality of the hedge has surpassed any other we have had before.”*

**Nikki Andrews – Retail Customer**



### SOIL

Well-drained  
Chalk, Clay,  
Sand, Loam



### SUNLIGHT

Full sun  
Partial shade



### GROWTH

Moderate  
20–30cm/yr  
approximately



### PRUNING

August



### USES

Formal hedging  
Privacy screening  
Pollution barrier  
Windbreak



### SUITABILITY

Not suitable  
for livestock  
or horses