

## Pittosporum tobira

### (Japanese Pittosporum, Japanese Cheese Wood)

Pittosporum is an evergreen shrub with fragrant creamy-white flowers grouped in clusters that bloom from April to June. It grows well in all types of soil, even in dry and sandy soils, and it is one of the most salt resistant shrubs. The plant can tolerate urban pollution and has been a popular shrub in the Mediterranean coast, often used in landscaping as hedges and screens in patios, balconies, and also in troughs outside restaurants and shops.



© Photo by Sarah Meouche

Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Pittospore du Japon

**Pronunciation:** pit-tuss-SPOR-rum toe-BYE-ruh

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** Japan, china

**Heat Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

**Hardiness Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11

**Uses:** Screen, Hedge, Container, Wildlife, Pollution Tolerant / Urban

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Tree Shape:** Vase

**Canopy Symmetry:** Symmetrical

**Canopy Density:** Dense

**Canopy Texture:** Medium

**Height at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 20 to 50 Years

#### Notes

It requires frequent pruning (only after blooming) but growth slows down with age.

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Flower Image

© Photo by Sarah Meouche

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## Botanical Description

### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 5 - 10 cm

**Leaf Shape:** Obovate

**Leaf Margins:** Entire

**Leaf Textures:** Leathery

**Leaf Scent:** Unpleasant

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Green

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### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Scent:** Pleasant

**Flower Color:** White

**Seasons:** Spring

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### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

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### Fruit

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5

**Fruit Colors:** Green

**Seasons:** Spring

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Leaf Image

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## Horticulture Management

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### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Moderate

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### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Full, Part

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### Management

**Invasive Potential:** Yes

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Diseases:** Powdery Mildew

**Edible Parts:**

**Pests:** Scales, Aphids

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image