

*Taxus*

## Taxus, Yew (Taxaceae)



### **baccata**, Common Yew

Origin: Europe, from north Africa to Iran. Conifer with main horizontal branches and secondary branches short and weeping. If left to grow freely and if it has enough space it will become a broadly conical tree with spreading, horizontal branches. Male cones are yellow in spring, followed by beautiful red fruit. Grows well in fertile, well drained soil including chalky and acid soil. Withstands being covered by old trees. Used a lot for hedges because it tolerates severe, repeated pruning and it is also for this reason that this plant is used for creating geometric shapes and Giant Garden Bonsai.

### **baccata "Fastigiata"** **(T. baccata stricta),** Irish Yew

Origin: Ireland. Conifer with columnar habit and numerous upright, short branches which are also well-branched and covered in dark green needles. Usually it is the female clone which produces very decorative red berries. Growing requirements: the same as T. baccata. Suitable for all sized gardens, parks and cemeteries, as a free standing specimen or in small groups.



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**baccata "Fastigiata Aurea",**  
Golden Irish yew

Origin: Great Britain. Similar to the previous, but slower growing and narrower when young. Later it spreads out but keeps its columnar shape. The needles have golden yellow margins which become less vivid as the plant ages. Growing requirements and use: the same as previous.

**baccata "Semperaurea"**

Variety that forms a low, broad, erect and thick bush. Bright golden-yellow needles in spring, then yellowish-green, even in winter. Excellent for rock gardens or low hedges. Growing requirements: like *Taxus baccata*.





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**x media "Hicksii"**

Broad, upright, columnar. Long ascending branches. Bright green, needle-like foliage, 2-3cm long. Female cultivar which produces abundant fruits. Extremely hardy, very resistant to city pollution. Makes excellent hedging but is also creates an effect as a specimen or in groups. Same growing requirements as *Taxus baccata*.

**x media "Hilli"**

Variety with conical-shrubby habit and very dense, upright branches. Pale green, pointed needles 2cm long. Very tolerant of pollution in towns. Growing requirements: same as *T. baccata*. Use: as a free standing specimen or in groups, hedges. Also grows well in pots and containers.

