

Olives



- Olives were one of the first fruit trees to be domesticated and were valued by ancient civilisations for their oil which was used as fuel, for cooking and in medicines and cosmetics. In many cultures they are a symbol of peace and prosperity, as well as an important part of the local economy.
- Olive trees can live for hundreds, even thousands, of years. They thrive in poor, rocky soil where nothing else can grow, and can survive fire, drought, disease and even being chopped down.
- Their gnarled trunks reflect their history. Each knot tells a story of what they have survived and also adds to their character.
- As long as an olive tree has a strong root system, it can withstand all kinds of adversity, growing to maturity and blessing those who harvest its fruit.
- Do you have firm roots that keep you anchored in life's difficulties? What keeps you resilient and enables you to keep reaching out to those around you? What do you draw on to maintain an open-handed, generous attitude to life?