



Ginkgo

Object No. 10 | Petrov

Our little tree is located on Biskupská street near Hotel Barcelo Brno Palace. If you ascend Biskupská street a few hundred meters above, you will see the landmark of the city of Brno - Petrov. Cathedral of Peter and Paul was last rebuilt in the 20th century in neo-Gothic style. The bells ring at eleven o'clock in honor of the successful defense of the city from the Swedes during the Thirty Years War. This cathedral is also displayed on the 10 crown coin.

Ginkgo is often called by its Latin name, ginkgo biloba. Over the last 150 million years stazed unchanged and is therefore called "living fossil". During the Mesozoic occupied the entire northern hemisphere, but until now preserved only in a small area in southeast China, where always been considered a sacred tree. In Europe was re-introduced in the 18th century. Jinan was first planted in the botanical garden in the Dutch city Utrecht in 1762.

Ginkgo grows to a height of about 35 meters. Its growth is relatively slow - about 30 centimeters per year. It hates permanent shade or waterlogged soil. It is resistant to industrial exhalants, therefore, is commonly used as an ornamental tree in heavy industrial pollution. It can reach a few hundred years old - the oldest ginkgo in the world has 1200 years. In the Czech Republic the oldest tree is in the Abbey grounds at Mendel square in Brno.

Although at first glance looks like a deciduous tree, is classified into class conifers. It has a wedge-shaped flat fan-shaped leaves with veins that have a structure closer to the needles. Therefore, they are considered as a transitional type between conifers and deciduous trees.

Ginkgo is known primarily for its pharmaceutical use. Substances contained in its leaves has a positive effect on the vascular system. Preventive effect against myocardial infarction, hypoperfusion legs or impotence. For its beneficial effects is referred to as the "tree of life".