

## Scientific Name:

*Psidium guajava*

## Common Name:

- Guava
- Common Guava
- Apple Guava

## Distinct Features:

- **Growth:** A small to medium-sized evergreen shrub or small tree that typically grows to a height of 3-10 meters. It has a bushy appearance with a rounded canopy.
- **Leaves:** The leaves are opposite, ovate to elliptical, and measure about 5-15 cm long. They are dark green, glossy on the upper surface, and lighter green underneath, with a smooth margin. The leaves release a pleasant aroma when crushed.
- **Flowers:** The flowers are small, typically white or pale pink, with five petals and numerous stamens. They bloom throughout the year, attracting various pollinators like bees and butterflies.
- **Fruits:** The fruit is a round or oval berry that varies in color from green to yellow or pink, typically measuring 4-12 cm in diameter. The flesh is juicy and sweet, containing small edible seeds.
- **Bark:** The bark is thin, smooth, and light brown to gray, often peeling in strips as the tree matures.

## Cultural Importance:

- *Psidium guajava* holds significant cultural importance in tropical regions. It is widely cultivated for its fruit, which is a staple in many diets and used in various culinary applications.
- In traditional medicine, guava leaves and fruit are utilized for their health benefits, including digestive health and anti-inflammatory properties.

## Uses:

- **Culinary:**
  - The fruit is eaten raw, cooked, or processed into jams, jellies, juices, and desserts. Guava is rich in vitamin C and is enjoyed for its sweet flavor.
- **Medicinal:**
  - The leaves are used in traditional medicine for their antibacterial, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory properties. Guava leaves are often brewed into teas to help with digestive issues and respiratory conditions.

- **Aromatic:**
  - The leaves and fruit are used to produce aromatic oils and are valued for their fragrance.
- **Ornamental:**
  - Guava trees are often grown in home gardens and landscapes for their attractive flowers and fruits.

### **Picture Description:**

- **Whole Tree:** A small to medium-sized evergreen tree with a bushy appearance and rounded canopy, often bearing fruits and flowers.
- **Leaves:** Opposite, ovate to elliptical leaves that are dark green, glossy, and aromatic when crushed, measuring about 5-15 cm long.
- **Flower:** Small, white or pale pink flowers with five petals and numerous stamens, blooming throughout the year.
- **Fruit:** Round or oval berries that vary in color from green to yellow or pink, typically measuring 4-12 cm in diameter, with juicy flesh and small edible seeds.
- **Bark:** Thin, smooth, light brown to gray bark that often peels in strips as the tree matures.

