

Growing bay laurel outdoors and overwintering

Laurus nobilis

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

8–10

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun To Partial Shade

AT A GLANCE

Bay laurel is hardy outdoors in zones 8-10 only. Everywhere else, grow in a container and bring it inside before the first hard frost. It is slow-growing and tolerates drought, but it is surprisingly susceptible to scale insects indoors -- inspect carefully before overwintering.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/vegetables/growing-bay-laurel/>

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