

Tulip

Tulipa spp.

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

3–8

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

BLOOM

Spring

HEIGHT

1–2 ft

DEER

Vulnerable

AT A GLANCE

Large hybrid tulips (Darwin hybrids, triumph types, parrot tulips) perform best as annuals in most American gardens. Plant them in fall, enjoy them once, and replace them the next fall. Species tulips (*Tulipa tarda*, *T. clusiana*, *T. kaufmanniana*) genuinely perennialize and return for years. The deer problem is separate from the perennialization problem, but both point in the same direction: species tulips are a better long-term investment.

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/plants/tulip-care/>