

Nerium

Nerium (*Apocynaceae*)

oleander, Oleander

Origin: Mediterranean basin, Persia, India, Japan. Evergreen, shrub (or small tree), bushy, compact, rounded. Leaves: evergreen, lanceolate, entire, quite leathery, arranged in groups of 2-3 on each verticil, green (on some varieties they are variegated). Flowers: depending on the variety they can be simple or double, fragrant or not, all shades of various colours. They are grouped in terminal heads and last throughout the summer. Fruit: after the flowering, in long pods containing lanuginous seeds. Cultivation: it usually grows in poor soil but prefers to be planted in a garden where the soil is well-tilled and fertile. If grown in a pot, this must be deeper than it is wide to allow space for the long roots. In winter it should be kept quite dry but from spring to autumn it requires a lot of moisture. Use: the abundant clusters of flowers make an attractive contrast with the dark leaves forming beautiful splashes of colour in parks and gardens if there is enough space.

SIMPLE FLOWERS VARIETIES



“Alsace”

White blushed with pink.

Nerium



“Altini”

Brilliant red. Perfumed.

“Dottor Attilio Ragionieri”

Light salmon.



“Grandiflorum”

Large, pink, perfumed flower.

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“Italia”

Very bright red, perfumed.

“Madame Allen”

Bright pink. Very perfumed.



“Magali”

Lilac pink. Slightly perfumed.

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“Maria Gambetta”

Golden yellow.

“Minouche” (“Ville d’Hyères”)

Deep luminous pink.



“Papà Gambetta”

Fiery red.

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“Pasadena”

Fuschia pink. Perfumed.

“Soeur Agnes” (“Mont Blanc”)

White, perfumed.



**“Tito Poggi”
 (“Madame Léon Blum”)**

Apricot.



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“Virginie”

Pastel pink.

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DOUBLE FLOWERS VARIETIES



“Catherine”

Bright deep red. Perfumed.

“Géant de Batailles”

Red with white stripes. Strongly perfumed.



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“Louis Pouget”

Deep pink. Strongly perfumed.

“Luteum Plenum”

Pinkish-yellow. Strongly perfumed.



“Rosario”

Vivid pink. Very perfumed.

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“Roseum plenum”

Salmon pink. Strongly perfumed.

“Soleil Levant”

Apricot.



“Splendens Giganteum”

Vivid pink. Very perfumed.

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“Souvenir de Michel” (“Provence”)

Salmon pink. Strongly perfumed.

“Tamouré”

Vivid pink. Very perfumed.



“Topaze”

White tinged with cream.