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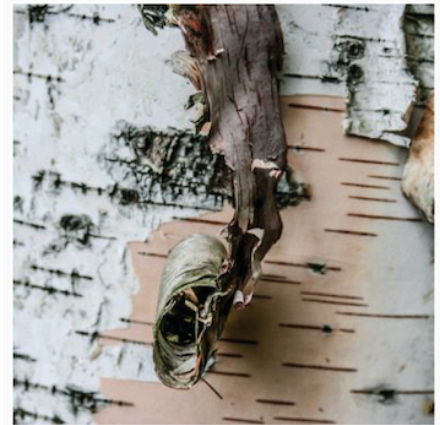
BIRCH

Betula

 2017

A birch tree is one of the most eye-catching trees around. It is immediately recognizable by its beautiful white bark with horizontal pores and paper-thin scrolls. In spring it is covered with clusters of flowers and catkins. The slender branches are extremely flexible and make excellent whips and switches. The Finns use birch canes in the sauna and in the Netherlands, Black Peter used to frighten children with birch rods during the Saint Nicholas celebrations on 5 December. The endless birch forests in the high north still provide people who live there with practically everything they need - wood for houses and roofs, firewood that doesn't need to be dry, sap which can be made into wine, syrup, glue and oil to repel insects. The bark is used to make canoes, back-packs, water bottles and flasks, shoes and clothes, and paper and kindling. The branches and leaves can be made into brushes and brooms as well as paint and soap. It is easy to understand why the birch is the national tree of Russia.

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Ook in andere talen



Also in other languages



Ankaŭ en aliaj lingvoj

