

Louro Gamela / Red Louro

Durability class	Class 1-2.
Specific gravity	Fresh 800-1000 kg/m3. At 12% moisture content 650-750 kg/m3.
Colour	Louro gamela has a red to brownish colour. Without finish and with good ventilation, the wood will turn into a silvery gray within a year.
Applications	The wood can be used for street furniture, facade cladding, decking, fence boards.
Strength class	D24
Hardness	2950 N.
Grain	Straight to interlocked grain, sometimes tousled.
Timber texture	The grain of red Louro wood is moderately coarse.
Stability	Moderate
Drying	Louro Gamela hardwood is a very slow-drying type of wood. Thin wood dries moderately quickly. It has to be dried carefully to avoid cracks and bending. Wood thicker than 50 mm is very difficult to dry due to the waxy substance which soaks its surface.
Workability	The machinability of Louro vermelho is good, but it has a slightly dulling effect on tools.
Details	Freshly sawn wet Louro gamela wood has a distinctive scent, which disappears after drying. Louro gamela wood contains a waxy substance, which makes it difficult for the wood to absorb or release moisture.
Screwing/nailing	Machining goes well. With sharp tools a smooth surface can be achieved. Pre-drilling is recommended.
Finishing of surface	With gluing (also for finger jointing) the results are good. Research is going on for gluing of Louro Gamela in constructive uses. Finishing goes well.
Botanical name	Sextonia rubra
Origin area	Brazil, Guyana and Suriname.
Other names	Louro vermelho, canela (Brazil), red louro wood (Great Britain), wana (Suriname).
Background information	Freshly sawn, Louro Gamela heartwood has a salmon hue which turns to a light reddish brown or a slightly yellowish reddish brown once dried. This wood has a moderately distinct golden sheen. The 20-50 mm wide sapwood has a yellowish white to dirty yellow or grey-brown colour which is clearly different from the heartwood. The wood can have a light stripe pattern due to cross-grained texture, which makes it look somewhat like mahogany.
Remarks	The large tree has a diameter up to 1,2 m, with a straight and cylindric shape. It is possible to produce larger dimensions.
Family	Lauraceae
Projects	Stairs Mijnsheerlyckheid, Cladding chalets Camping de Brem, Garden fence Zaltbommel, Facade cladding modern house.