THE MARKET / A PRICE SNAPSHOT

What an Arborist Costs in Christchurch

Tree removal and pruning figures from 15 Christchurch arborists, the extras, the tree rules and 1,348 Google reviews. Checked on 14 November 2026.

ONE 8 TO 10 M TREE
$500 to $1,500
Felled, chipped and taken away, good access, stump left. Published estimates. [1] [2] [3]

BY HEIGHT, INCL GST
$250 to $3,200
From under 5 m to 25 m, Canterbury Tree Experts' calculator examples. Over 25 m: site visit. [1]

NO FIGURE ONLINE
12 of 15
Only three arborists publish any number; one shows GST. [10]

What the data shows

Canterbury Tree Experts puts an 8 to 12 m tree at **$500 to $750** incl GST with good access, and **$950 to $1,500 + GST** with a house beside it and a long carry. Garden and Tree Men's guide says **$700 to $1,500** for a 5 to 10 m tree; Google's AI Overview repeats that table. Christchurch Arborist gives **$1,000 to $1,500** for a "large tree". [1] [2] [3] [11]

The standard job

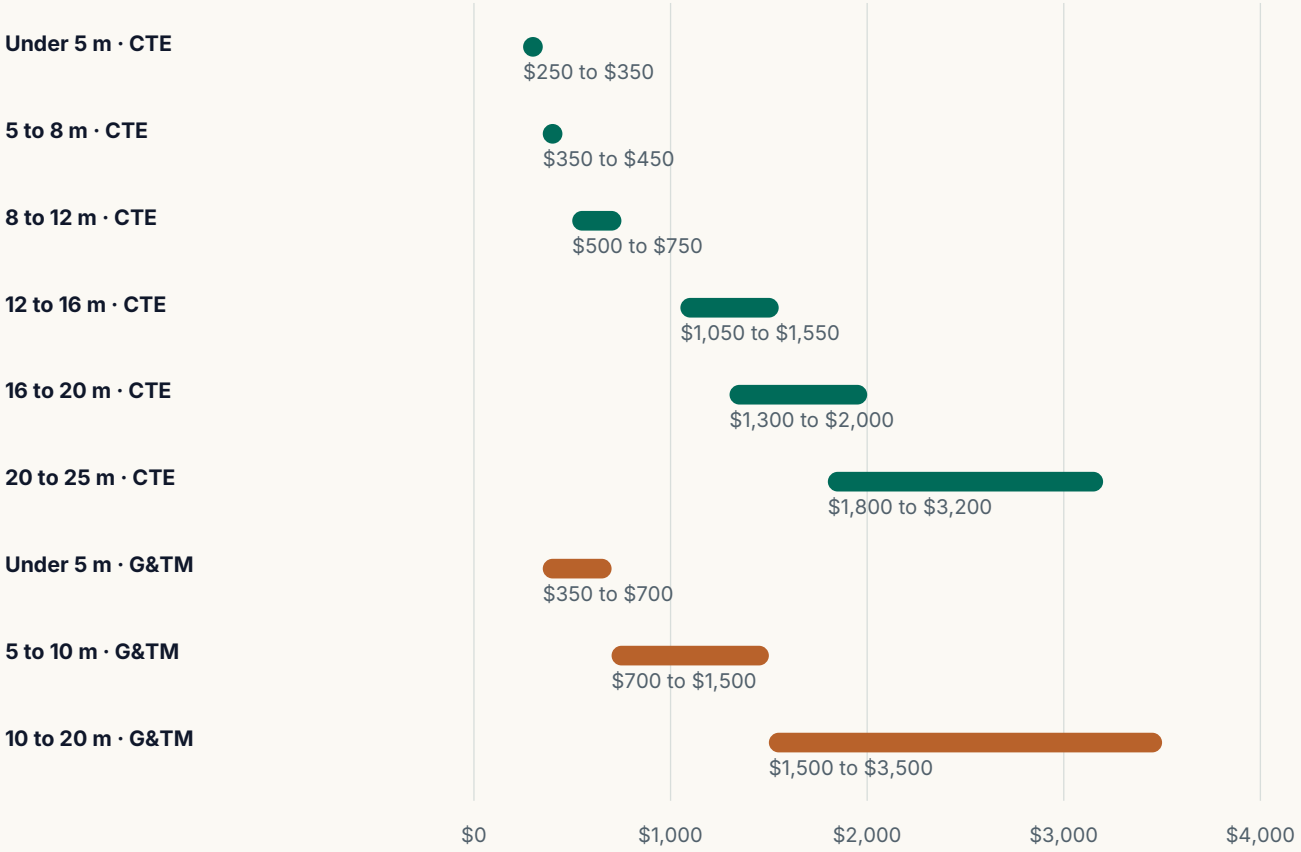
Job	In the price	Not in the price
One healthy 8 to 10 m tree, flat section, good access.	Felling, chipping, removal of all wood, tidy site; GST where stated.	Stump grinding, crane, power lines, protected or street tree, traffic management.

Method. We read the home, service, price and blog pages of 15 arborists and every Google review on 12 of their profiles (1,348). Prices in NZD; GST added at 15% only where a site states + GST. A targeted sample, not a Christchurch average. No arborist was asked for a quote. [10]

01 / PRICES BY HEIGHT

Every few metres adds hundreds of dollars

Tree removal estimates by height. Canterbury Tree Experts incl GST (company rounding); Garden and Tree Men GST not stated.



Height	Trunk	Canopy	CTE + GST	CTE incl GST
Under 5 m	<300 mm	<4 m	$200–$300	$250–$350
5–8 m	300–500 mm	4–8 m	$300–$400	$350–$450
8–12 m	500–700 mm	4–8 m	$450–$650	$500–$750
12–16 m	700–1,000 mm	8–12 m	$900–$1,350	$1,050–$1,550
16–20 m	700–1,000 mm	8–12 m	$1,150–$1,750	$1,300–$2,000
20–25 m	1,000–1,200 mm	12–16 m	$1,550–$2,800	$1,800–$3,200

Healthy tree, good access, all wood removed, stump not included. [1]

02 / EXTRAS AND PRUNING

Stumps, cranes and access

Everything Christchurch arborists publish beyond the tree itself.

Item	Figure	GST	Source
Stump grinding	$150 to $500 per stump	Not stated	[2]
Crane hire	$1,000 to $2,500+	Not stated	[2]
Complex or hazardous removal	$3,500+	Not stated	[2]
8–12 m tree, easy access	$450 to $650	+ GST	[1]
Same tree, house beside, 30–50 m carry	$950 to $1,500	+ GST	[1]
Pruning, tree under 10 m	$125 to $450	+ GST	[4]
Pruning, 10 to 15 m	$250 to $750	+ GST	[4]
Pruning, over 15 m	$400 to $2,500	+ GST	[4]
Single small tree (general)	$150 to $450	Not stated	[3]

Hard access roughly doubles the price in the one example published: an 8 to 12 m tree goes from $450–$650 + GST to $950–$1,500 + GST when a house sits beside it and wood has to be carried 30 to 50 m.

03 / RULES

Protected trees, street trees, power lines

Most trees on private land can be cut without permission. Three cases add cost or time.

Case	What applies	Src
Significant tree on private land	Listed in the Christchurch District Plan, Appendix 9.4.7.1. Pruning, gardening under it or felling needs a resource consent.	[5]
Tree on Council land	Removal or pruning needs Council permission. If removed at your request, costs can include consent, removal, replacement and the tree's value.	[6]
Near power lines	Orion has made its first cut on all lines. After that the tree owner keeps branches clear: at least 1.5 m from low-voltage lines.	[7] [8]

Before the first cut: check the District Plan maps or ask the Council's duty planner, and call Orion if the tree is near lines.

04 / REVIEWS AND WHO TO CALL

Customers praise the clean-up

Every Google review on 12 profiles: 1,348. 411 mention the clean-up, 387 mention price, cost, a quote or value, 144 are clearly positive about price. Only 16 have three stars or fewer; 8 of those are about money.

Three to call first

Rated 4.8 or higher on Google with 50+ reviews, ranked by new reviews in the 12 months to 14 November 2026.

Arborist	Phone	Rating, reviews	New, answered	Prices online
1. Garden and Tree Men	0800 848 636	5.0, 351	183, 183	Indicative ranges
2. Hollands Tree Services	0800 220 990	4.8, 101	75, 68	No
3. Alex The Arborist	022 671 7739	5.0, 52	49, 0	No

SEO4 Price Score

Eight checks, 0 to 2 points: prices, GST, scope, extras, estimate, rating, new reviews, replies. It rates price information online, not the tree work.

Arborist	Score	Arborist	Score
Canterbury Tree Experts	14/16	Beaver Tree Service	4/16
Garden and Tree Men	11/16	Alex The Arborist	4/16
Hollands Tree Services	6/16	Arbor Master	4/16
SW Arborist	5/16	Total Trees	4/16
The Tree Guys	4/16	Canterbury TreeWorks	3/16
Tree Medic	4/16	Jim’s Trees	2/16

None of these businesses are SEO4 clients. A public snapshot from 14 November 2026, written in good faith. [10]

05 / HOW TO GET COMPARABLE QUOTES

Same tree, same questions

Tree quotes only compare when every arborist prices the same work.

Quote request template
Hi, could you quote to remove [one] [type of tree, if known] about [height] m tall at [address]. It is [in the back yard / beside the house / near power lines], and the truck can park [distance] away. Please include chipping and taking away all wood, and price stump grinding separately. Is the quote fixed and does it include GST? Is the tree protected, and are you insured?

Five questions: Fixed and incl GST? Wood and green waste removed? Stump included? Insurance and qualifications? Crane, consent or power shutdown needed?

Run your quotes through the free calculator in the full article: **seo4.co.nz/blog/arborist-cost-christchurch**. Arborists who want a clear price page or a review plan can contact SEO4 at seo4.co.nz/pricing-contact.

Sources

[01] Canterbury Tree Experts · removal cost guide
[02] Garden and Tree Men · tree removal cost
[03] Christchurch Arborist · cost post
[04] Canterbury Tree Experts · pruning cost guide
[05] CCC · protected trees and guidelines
[06] CCC · apply to remove a tree
[07] Orion · trees near lines, your responsibilities
[08] Orion · trimming trees near power lines
[09] Canterbury Tree Experts · calculator
[10] SEO4 · website check and review count
[11] Google · results and AI Overview, 14 Nov 2026
[12] SEO4 · full article and calculator