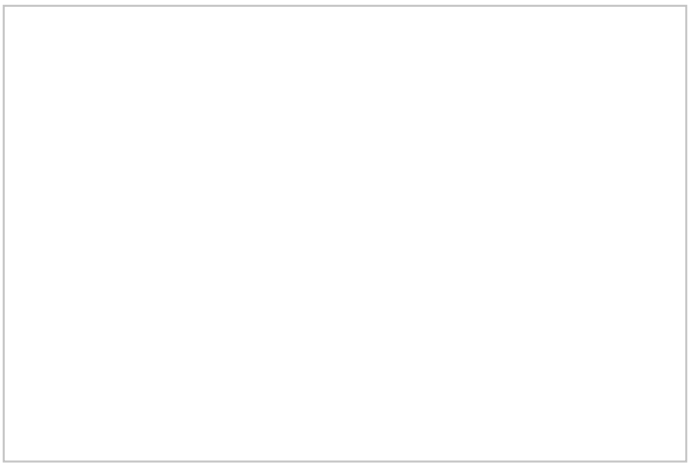
Norfolk Island pine



Araucaria heterophyllaï (synonymï A. excelsa) is aï vascular plantï in the ancient and now disjointly distributedï coniferï familyï Araucariaceae. As itsï vernacular nameï Norfolk Island pineï (orï Norfolk pine implies, the tree isï endemicï toï Norfolk Island, a small island in theï Pacific Oceanï betweenï New Zealandï andï New Caledonia, about 1440 km east of Sydney,ï Australia. The genusï Araucariaï occurs across the South Pacific, especially concentrated in New Caledonia (about 700 km due north of Norfolk Island) where 13 closely related and similar-appearing species are found. It is sometimes called aï star pine,ï Polynesian pine,ï triangle treeï orï living Christmas tree, due to its symmetrical shape as aï sapling, although it is not a trueï pine.

It is a slow growing tree, reaching a height of 50 65 m, with straight vertical trunks and symmetrical branches, even in the face of incessant onshore winds that can contort most other species. From the straight trunk, it emits its branches almost horizontal or slightly oblique, in number of five, forming floors; the plane of each floor is a perfectï pentagon. If kept indoors, the tree remains smaller. The gray-brown bark falls off in fine scales. At the more or less horizontal to sometimes hanging branches, the branches are four to seven in regularï whorls.

The scientific nameï heterophyllaï ("different leaves") derives from the variation in the leaves between young and adult plants.

Category: Indoor plants
Families: Araucariaceae
Genus: Araucaria
Species: heterophylla
Geographical Area of Origin: Oceania
Climatic Zones: Sub-tropical, USDA 10 b (Southern Italy and islands)
Habit: Conifer
Leaves: Evergreen
Colore Foglie: Verde
Flowering Period: Aprile / Maggio / Giugno / Luglio / Agosto / Settembre / Ottobre

Flower: Conifer cone
Colore Fiori: Giallo
Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Middle-Dough / Medium soil
Water needs: Medium
Light Exposure: Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun
Form: Touffe
Colore Frutti: Marrone