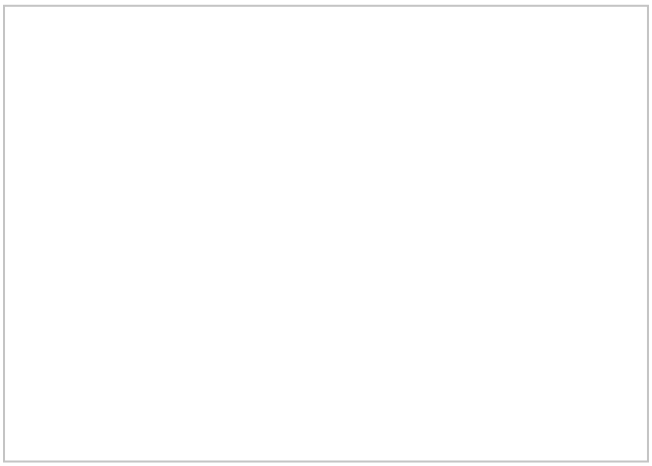
# New Zealand pohutukawa



Metrosideros excelsa, with common names pɑhutukawa or New Zealand pohutukawa. Is a coastalï evergreenï tree in theï myrtleï family,ï Myrtaceae, that produces a brilliant display of red (or occasionally orange, yellowï or whitè) flowers made up of a mass ofï stamens. The pɑhutukawa is one of twelveï *Metrosideros*ï speciesï endemicï toï New Zealand. Renowned for its vibrant colour and its ability to survive even perched on rocky, precarious cliffs.

The pɑhutukawa grows up to 25 metres (82ï ft) high, with a spreading, dome-like form. It usually grows as a multi-trunked spreading tree. Its trunks and branches are sometimes festooned with matted, fibrousï aerial roots. The oblong, leathery leaves are covered in dense white hairs underneath.

The tree flowers from November to Ɉanuary with a peak in mid to late December (theï Southern Hemisphereï summer), with brilliant crimson flowers covering the tree, hence the nickname New Zealand Christmas tree. There is variation between individual trees in the timing of flowering, and in the shade and brightness of the flowers.

**Category:** Outdoor foliage plants
**Families:** Myrtaceae
**Genus:** Metrosideros
**Species:** excelsa
**Geographical Area of Origin:** Oceania
**Climatic Zones:** Sub-tropical, USDA 10 b (Southern Italy and islands)
**Habit:** Tree
**Leaves:** Evergreen
**Colore Foglie:** Verde ï Grigio
**Flowering Period:** Giugno / Luglio / Agosto
**Flower:** Corymb
**Colore Fiori:** Giallo ï Rosso
**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 / Grown as shrub / bush / Column
**Colore Frutti:** Marrone