

# *Pinus sylvestris*

## Scots pine, European redwood



*Pinus sylvestris* (Scots pine) has the largest range of all *Pinus* species: extending from Ireland and Portugal to the far east of Russia and Mongolia. The crown shape varies greatly and depends on the growing site. Low-branched, broad forms of the pine are found on open terrains. In dense forests (plantations) the slender trees will initially take on a pyramidal and whimsical form, expanding to an umbrella shape. They grow to between ten and thirty metres tall and, depending on the site, can also be twenty metres across.

The needles of *Pinus sylvestris* are arranged together in pairs, twisted and range from grey-green to blue-green in colour. The orange-red and whimsical bark tones in wonderfully with the grey-green needles. The young green twigs change colour as they age to yellow-green. The flowers are inconspicuous and bloom light yellow to pink (male) or green (female) in May and June. The grey-brown cones often hang down singly. They open on the tree and release seed later in the spring.

*Pinus sylvestris* is a true pioneer species that grows under extreme conditions and on well-drained soil types, such as poor acidic soils, dry sandy soils and rocky soils, provided it is in full sun. Scots pine can cope with drought, air pollution and (salt) wind and tolerates paved sites. In coastal areas, *Pinus nigra* and *Pinus radiata* generally grow better and are slightly better able to withstand the wind. However, few trees have more character than the Scots pine with its magnificent whimsical stems, branches and bark and evergreen crown. Suitable for planting in virtually any situation provided there is sufficient room for it to develop.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, feathered trees, multi-stemmed trees, characteristic trees, conifers, woodland planting stock | **Topiary on stem:** roof-trained, multi-stem umbrella | **Topiary:** bonsai

### USE

**Location:** park, central reservation, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, countryside, ecological zone, coastal area | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** food forest, Eco planting, Landscape planting, Prairie planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** pyramidal | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 25 - 30 m | **Width:** 10 - 15 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 2A - 9A

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind, tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** low in nutrients, moderately rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** very dry, dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** birds, owls, small mammals | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, standing | **Flower colour:** yellow, dark red | **Flowering period:** May - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, grey-green | **Leaves:** evergreen, long needles | **Fruits:** striking, large, cones | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** orange, brown | **Bark:** peeling | **Twig colour:** yellow | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** deep, tap root