

Scots Pine

Pinus sylvestris



The Scots Pine, known as the Scotch Pine in North America, is an evergreen conifer native to Northern and Central Eurasia, with populations ranging from Scotland to eastern Siberia. It is naturalized in northeastern North America, making it one of the most widely dispersed pine trees in the world. A resilient species, it can grow up to 60 feet, and bears a canopy spread of about 40 feet. Its needles grow in clusters of 2, and the cones are about 1-2 inches in length with spiked scales. While the bark on the lower trunk is normally a fissured grayish brown, the upper trunk has a distinct orange, flaky texture and the branches grow in twisted, divergent directions—making it stand out among other North American pines. The tree is commonly used for pulpwood, ornamental planting and Christmas trees. It's also culturally significant in Celtic culture, where it represents the birth of new. In recent years, pine wilt has steadily hit its North American populations and it is no longer recommended for planting.