

Local plants to Coastal Ecuador

Native plants (6)
and
Decorative plants (12)

Legend :

- ⇅ Height
- ☀ Sunshine
- 💧 Irrigation
- ◊ Flower color



Native plants

1. **Euphorbia trigona**

Euphorbia

- ↕ Can grow up to 5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant

Special features:

Its name means three sides cactus. This plant bears needles and leaves that persist for most of the year. To prune, you cut the branches and you will see that the sap is milky white.



2. **Bromelia pinguin**

Piñuela

- ↕ 1,5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant

Special features:

This plant is easy to care for in a dry setting. Its leaves have small thorns and therefore the local farmers use it as a hedge. It fits very well on the Coast.



3. **Jacquinia macrocarpa** Barbasco

- ⇅ Can grow up to 8 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant
- ◊ Orange

Special features:

This rustic tree from the area seems harmless at first, but the very dark green leaves have a needle at the end. The foliage persists throughout the year and its fruit is non-edible.



4. **Opuntia** Opuntia Cactus

- ⇅ 1,5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant
- ◊ Yellow

Special features:

This cactus has a bushy port. It's large and strong spines provide a strong defense. Its culture is relatively easy, without features. If the flower is pollinated, it will give a small and globular fruit that is edible.



5. Cactus

- ⇅ Can grow up to 7 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant

Special features:

Very adapted to the area, this cactus is often encountered on the coast. It has long spines and can withstand long periods of drought.



6. *Malpighia glabra*

West Indian cherry

- ⇅ Can grow up to 6 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering preferably but very drought tolerant
- ◊ White, pink or red

Special features:

This plant adapted to dry conditions can withstand long periods of drought, but will not fruit until the arrival of rain. Its fruit is a small red edible cherry. Although this tree can reach a height of 6 meters, typically it is more like a smaller bush. Flowering is usually induced by alternating between dry and rainy periods.



Decorative plants

1. **Nerium oleander**

Oleander

- ↕ 3 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering with fertilizer
- ◊ Pink or white



Special features:

It is necessary to water regularly and to make fertilizer to maintain abundant flowering. Its flowers emit a very light fragrance Prune to keep repeating the form of shrub.

2. **Dracaena marginata tricolor**

Dragon tree

- ↕ 2,5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Periodic watering



Special features:

Slightly branched shrub grown for its beautiful foliage and very decorative. In adulthood, it is recognized by its trunk without leaves, except at the top, forming a thick tuft.

3. **Hibiscus rosa-sinensis**

Chinese hibiscus

- ⇅ 2,5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering with fertilizer
- ◊ Red or yellow

Special features:

The remarkable flowers of the Hibiscus don't stay much longer than one day. But, they are renewed regularly all year long. They are often visited by butterflies and hummingbirds. For maximum flowering, it is better to protect Hibiscus from strong winds to prevent the fall of the flower buds.



4. **Cordyline rubra**

Palm Lily

- ⇅ 1,5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

This stem plant is used primarily for its colorful foliage. It adds a special touch when used with solid green foliage plants.



5. **Shefflera arboricola** Dwarf Umbrella Tree

- ⇅ 3 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

This shrub is very easy to grow, it has green leaves or variegated, that is to say two colors, shaped parasol.



6. **Bougainvillea glabra** Lesser bougainvillea

- ⇅ Can grow up to 5 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering
- ◇ White, pink, purple, orange, peach, yellow

Special features:

This climbing shrub with thorny stem gives an ornamental effect of surprising colors. It requires some support (tutor, wire) or can be placed against a wall. It should also be protected against high winds.



7. *Yucca elephantipes* Giant Yucca

- ⇅ 4 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Very drought tolerant
- ◊ White



Special features:

This plant grows with tufts of stiff leaves perched a top of one or several wooden stems. The leaves are jagged and sharp, they are provided with a terminal sting. Its flowering is nice with moderate ornamental value.

8. *Codiaeum variegatum* Croton

- ⇅ 2 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering



Special features:

This is a tropical plant grown for its foliage, it is particularly rich in color. The small flowers don't have much decorative value. It also has a milky white sap.

9. **Ficus benjamina**

Ficus Tree

- ↕ Can grow up to 10 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

This tree is easily adapted to all environments and is widely grown in southern countries. It is highly branched and has the distinction of supporting different sizes, and you can even cut it in several forms. Its various forms are quite robust and easy to maintain good health. Its sap is milky white.



10. **Roystonea regia**

Royal Palm

- ↕ Can grow up to 20 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

The royal palm is a palm stem usually gray massive bulges with features. It also has a lush crown of leaves measuring up to 3 m in length. This very large majestic palm requires only minimal maintenance. It is fast growing, provided it has enough water and space especially given the diameter of its trunk. It enjoys a certain soil moisture, but can withstand droughts.



11. *Cycas revoluta*

Sago palm

- ⇅ 3 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

This plant with large trunk can live very long. It has the characteristic to grow with a lot of crown shaped leaves. The inflorescences are formed in the center of the tuft of leaves and are not decorative.



12. *Cocos nucifera*

Coconut

- ⇅ Can grow up to 20 meters
- ☀ Full sun
- 💧 Regular watering

Special features:

Mainly grown along the coast, this palm grows fast. Its fruit, the coconut, is edible. This species of palm can live very long, between 50 and 75 years. In the tropics, it is a beautiful ornamental tree, but in residential areas, be careful of falling coconuts!

