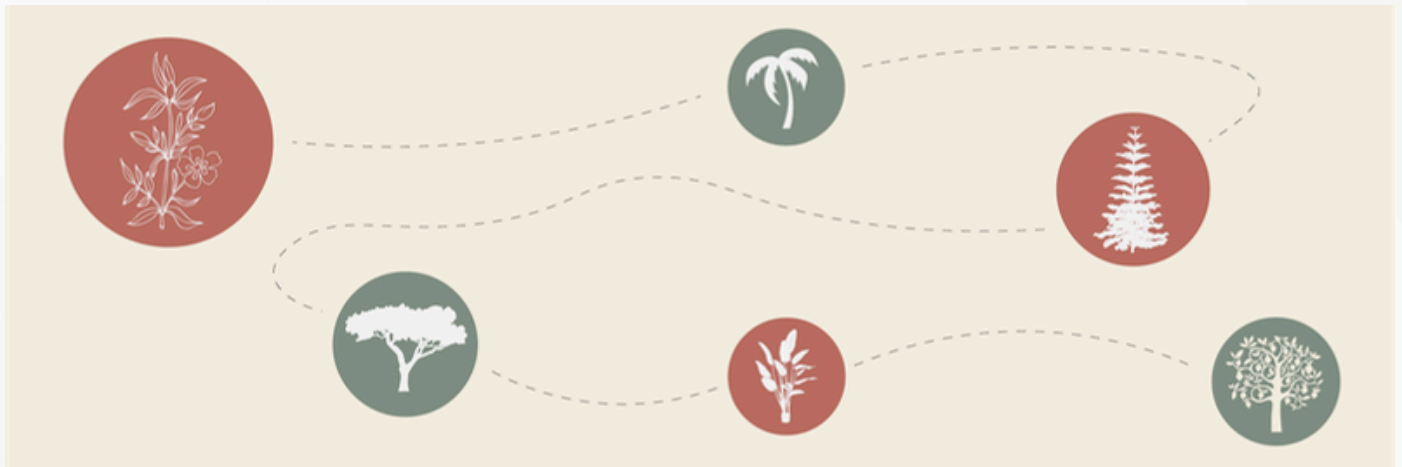


SIGNATURE MOMENT

Discover each single plant on our resort:



1. Chamaerops humilis L.

Scientific name: *Chamaerops humilis* L.

Family: Palmacea

Origin: Mediterranean region

Popular name: Mediterranean fan palm

Low height palm tree - about 80 cm - grows in tufts with several trunks appearing from the same point. It has a slow growth and is a palm tree native from Europe - In Portugal it only appears in the Algarve. The leaves are used to make brooms and, at Easter time, the folars are cooked in a wood oven on top of a leaf of this palm tree.



2. Washingtonia filifera Wendl.

Scientific Name: *Washingtonia filifera* Wendl.

Family: Palmaceae

Origin: Mexico and California and Arizona

Common Name: California Fan Palm

Large palm able to reach 20 m. Large fan-shaped leaves, and when they dry, they form skirts around the trunk. The palm was named in honor of the president of the United States, George Washington.



3. *Trachycarpus fortunei* (Hook) Wendl.

Scientific name: *Trachycarpus fortunei* (Hook) Wendl.

Family: Palmaceae

Origin: Central and Eastern China

Popular name: Chinese fan palm / Chinese windmill palm

It is a very rustic palm that adapts to different soils, including calcareous and sandy, but prefers deep and rich lands. It can measure up to 1 m, and is covered with small, aromatic yellow flowers. Kidney-shaped fruits, small and purplish or bluish-black when ripe. It is a dioecious species.



4. *Olea europaea* L.

Scientific name: *Olea europaea* L.

Family: Oleaceae

Origin: Eastern Mediterranean

Popular name: Olive tree

Medium-sized tree, with a contorted trunk and persistent foliage. Olive oil is extracted from its fruit, used as food and in other times it was used to feed candles. The oldest existing specimen in the Algarve is about 2000 years old.

The symbolic wealth of this tree is abundant: reward, purification, strength, peace, victory, fruitfulness. Dedicated to the Greek goddess Athena, the olive tree was also dedicated to the Roman god Jupiter.

A myth tells that Neptune and Minerva, disputing the possession of Attica, appear before the assembly of the gods. They decide to entrust the region to whoever offers the most precious gift. The god of the sea struck a rock with his trident and caused a spring to spring up while the goddess gave birth to an olive tree. Thus, Minerva won the victory and this tree was consecrated to him. It became a symbol of peace because the goddess is the warrior figure who opposes Mars. It should also be remembered that at the end of the flood, a dove brought an olive branch to Noah's ark. In the language of the Middle Ages, this tree symbolized gold and love.

5. *Ficus carica* L.

Scientific name: *Ficus carica* L.

Family: Moraceae

Origin: Middle East

Popular name: Fig-tree

Introduced to the Iberian Peninsula by the Arabs in the 8th century AD, the figs cultivated in Portugal are of the *Ficus carica* species. Small tree in height, but which can cover a wide area with its hanging branches. It is a dioecious species, its fruits can be eaten fresh or dried. The flowers are tiny and pollinated by an insect that lives in perfect harmony with this tree. If the insect becomes extinct, fig tree pollination ceases to occur.



6. *Acacia longifolia* (Andrews) Wild

Scientific name: *Acacia longifolia* (Andrews) Wild

Family: Fabaceae

Origin: Eastern and Southern Australia

Popular name: Sallow wattle

Evergreen tree with a bushy appearance. It displays profuse yellow flowers from December to March. It can withstand sea winds and is considered an invasive species in Portugal, its propagation being prohibited, due to its rapid growth capable of supplanting natural vegetation. In antiquity, *Acacia* was considered the symbol of the sun, due to its leaves, which at dawn open to sunlight, and for its flowers, which resemble the shape of the sun. It represents innocence or purity, security and certainty. This species is used in the elaboration of perfumes due to its strong fragrance. In countries like India, Nepal, Tibet and China it is used as incense, it is believed that its smoke wards off ghosts and evil spirits and also gives the gods a good mood.



7. *Carpobrotus edulis* L.

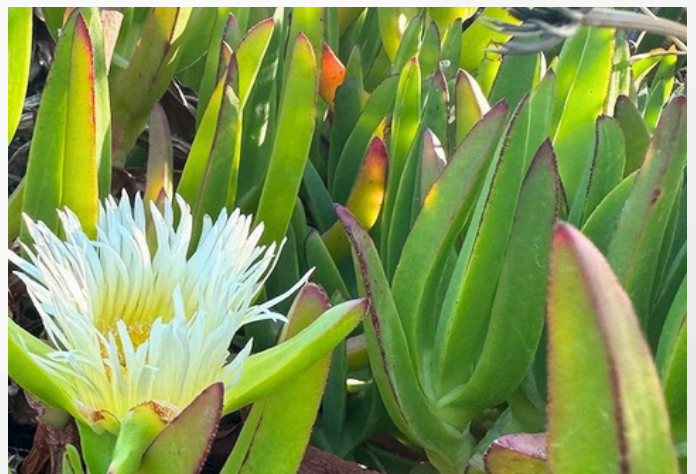
Scientific name: *Carpobrotus edulis* L.

Family: Aizoaceae

Origin: South Africa

Popular name: Sally-my-handsome

Succulent plant with a creeping habit, always green triangular leaves, with flowering from May to September, with yellow or purple-pink flowers. It is a plant that grows by the sea and is considered an invasive plant and its planting is prohibited.





8. *Pinus pinea* L.

Scientific name: *Pinus pinea* L.

Family: Pinaceae

Origin: Mediterranean

Popular name: Umbrella pine

The stone pine is a resinous species of the Pinaceae family, of slow growth, and that can live up to 300 years of age. It is a tree that grows up to 25 m in height, and very exceptionally can reach 50 meters. It has a straight and robust trunk, thick reddish-brown bark, and forms dense and broad crowns. Young stone pines have rounded shapes; however, with age they develop wider crowns that look like a parasol. The leaves are persistent, acicular (needle-shaped), grouped in pairs, slightly twisted, very firm and flexible. They are bright gray-green in color and persist on the tree for three to four years, renewing themselves without the tree being stripped.

As it is a monoecious species, the flowers, male and female, grow on the same tree. Flowering occurs in spring, between March and May. The pinecones or cones are large, solitary or grouped in sets of 2 to 3 pinecones, ovoid in shape, green when young, becoming reddish-brown when ripe. The maturation period of the pinecones is very long, taking three years after the eggs are fertilized. The first pinecones begin to appear around 3 to 4 years of age, however fruiting is more abundant between 15 and 20 years of age, with production increasing until around 40 to 50 years of age. The pine nut extraction process is slow, complex and time-consuming, which contributes to the high value of this national delicacy. From 1 kg of pinecones, you can extract between 15 and 45 grams of pine nuts and the price of 1 kg of pine nuts can be around €100.

10. *Ipomoea indica* (Burm.)

Scientific name: *Ipomoea indica* (Burm.)

Family: Convolvulacea

Origin: Central America

Popular name: Ocean blue morning glory

A herbaceous, perennial vine that is dormant during the winter period. It grows spontaneously over fences and abandoned places. It has blue flowers from June to November with about 6 cm that open at the first sunrise and close at dusk. It is considered an invasive species in Portugal.



11. *Pistacia lentiscus* L.

Scientific name: *Pistacia lentiscus* L.

Family: Anacardiaceae

Origin: Mediterranean

Popular name: Mastic tree / Lentisc

Evergreen shrub forming a clump of about 1 meter to 1.5 meters in height. The leaves have a reddish tinge, and the foot of the plant is winged. It is an aromatic shrub plant and its resin is used to make mastic, a gum-resin used in the preparation of pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and food, paints and construction materials.

12. *Cistus ladanifer* L.

Scientific name: *Cistus ladanifer* L.

Family: Cistaceae

Origin: Mediterranean

Popular name: Gum cistus

Evergreen shrub with vertical development. The leaves are sticky (labdanum resin) and oil filled. It is a very resistant plant to summer periods. It has a white flower with a dark red nail called sores in popular slang. It presents us with its flower in the months of April to May. Labdanum is a resin that is used in perfumery as an aroma fixer. This resin also allows the plant to compete with the others, inhibiting their growth (allelopathy).



13. *Prunus cesarifera* var. *pissardii* (Carrière) L.H.Bailey

Scientific name: *Prunus cesarifera* var. *pissardii*

(Carrière) L.H.Bailey

Family: Rosaceae

Origin: Iran

Popular name: Purple leaf plum

Deciduous and medium-sized tree, with very characteristic blood-coloured foliage, with abundant pinkish white flowering in early spring. It represents feminine beauty and virtue, delicacy and resistance to bad luck. *Prunus* are associated with the image of a majestic old age.



14. *Cyca revoluta* L.

Scientific name: *Cyca revoluta* L.

Family: Cycadaceae

Origin: Japan

Popular name: King sago palm

This plant is symmetrical and bears a crown of leaves. The leaves resemble a large bird's feather. The trunk is strong and has a very slow growth. It is a dioecious species, that is, with one male and one female foot. The sex is easily recognizable when they are in bloom: male feet have vertical cones, and females have rounded inflorescences. Although it resembles a palm tree in reality it is not, it is a gymnosperm of the pine and ginkgo type (plants whose fruits are pinecones and which constituted the flora of the Mesozoic period). They are called living fossils because they have undergone very few adaptations in the last 200 million years.

15. *Araucaria Heterophylla* (Salisb.) Franco

Scientific name: *Araucaria Heterophylla* (Salisb.)

Franco

Family: Araucariaceae

Origin: Norfolk Island

Popular name: Norfolk island pine

Large tree, reaching more than 20 m in height. Native to Norfolk Island in the Pacific Ocean. The first specimen was planted in Portugal by Jacome Ratton at Quinta dos Duques de Palmela, in Lumiar (Lisbon). The largest specimen in Europe is found in the Azores, on the island of Furnas and is 50.10 m high, 1.90 m in diameter and about 150 to 200 years old.



16. *Platanus occidentalis* L.

Scientific name: *Platanus occidentalis* L.

Family: Platanaceae

Origin: US Atlantic Zone

Popular name: Plane

Tree with a very wide crown, which can reach 30 m in height. Thick trunk with smooth, yellowish bark, which comes off in plates, leaving irregular whitish to grey-green patches on the trunk. Large, webbed deciduous leaves with 3 or 5 lobes. Flowers very small, green, grouped in spherical inflorescences with long and hanging peduncles. The fruits are achenes (with only one seed attached to the fruit wall at a single point), grouped in spherical infructescences that resemble a hedgehog. Each fruit is surrounded at the base by hairs that facilitate dispersion by the wind and detach from infructescence the following year. It is a tree widely planted in cities, due to its great resistance to pollution.



17. *Callistemon citrinus* L.

Scientific name: *Callistemon citrinus* L.

Family: Myrtaceae

Origin: Australia

Popular name: Red Australian bottle brush

Large shrub that with proper pruning can be confused with a tree. It has a persistent leaf with very sui generis flowers, the branches are arranged in a way that resembles the bristles of brushes to clean bottles. Give us flowers from May to November..



18. *Mirthus communis* L.

Scientific name: *Mirthus communis* L.

Family: Myrtaceae

Origin: Mediterranean

Popular name: Myrtle

Dense, permanent foliage shrub. It produces flowers in May and June. The leaves when crushed, give off a strong pleasant smell. Considered by the Greeks and Romans as a symbol of Peace and Love, the myrtle was a sacred plant, dedicated to Aphrodite and Venus. Tradition in Ribatejo dictates that brides step on this plant when leaving the church, so the family would gather the day before to collect the plant and spread it around the churchyard.



19. Punica granatum L.

Scientific name: Punica granatum L.

Family: Lythraceae

Origin: Iran to North India

Popular name: Pomegranate tree

Large shrub or small deciduous tree. Young leaves are light green with reddish hues. In May it presents us with its reddish-orange flowers and in December it offers us its fruits - pomegranates. The fruit has a leathery rind, and inside are hundreds of small fruits, each with its seed wrapped in a stern. Pomegranate trees are considered a symbol of fertility.



20. Populus nigra L.

Scientific name: Populus nigra L.

Family: Salicaceae

Origin: Southeast and Central Europe

Popular name: Poplar

The fast-growing, vertical, deciduous tree requires the presence of water and is therefore usually found along riverbanks. The choices are trees with very strong roots, which confer the symbolic value of security and resilience.

This tree specific to the boreal hemisphere takes its name from the Latin word populus and the old French poplier, two terms meaning "People".



21. *Ceratonia síliqua* L.

Scientific name: *Ceratonia síliqua* L.

Family: Fabaceae

Origin: Mediterranean and Macaronesia

Popular name: Carob Tree

Dioecious tree, which can reach 15 m in height, has a wide, dense crown that normally touches the ground. With persistent leaves of dark green color and whose flowering takes place from January to February. It is a tree with medicinal interest: its gum is used as a laxative and adjunct in the treatment of obesity, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia and consequent prevention of arteriosclerosis.

The fruit of the carob tree (carob) is widely used in the manufacture of various food products and beyond. The pulp (which constitutes 90% of the fruit's weight) is used in the form of flour in the food industry, as a substitute for chocolate, as well as in the manufacture of varied sweets such as cookies and cakes, liqueurs, syrup, bread, and even in the manufacture of animal feed. In turn, a gum is extracted from the seed, which is used in various products for its thickening properties (E410), namely in the pharmaceutical industry to form some tablets, in cosmetics to retain water, in food as additives. for puddings, baby food and ice cream stabilizers, in textile and paper.



22. *Tipuana tipu* (Benth.) Kuntze

Scientific name: *Tipuana tipu* (Benth.) Kuntze

Family: Fabaceae

Origin: Southern Brazil, Bolivia and Argentina

Popular name: Rosewood / Pride of Bolivia

Large, fast-growing tree with semi-deciduous leaves. In spring it has discreet yellow flowers, brown and "winged" fruits in winter. Its wood is used to produce equestrian polo clubs.



23. *Morus alba* L.

Scientific name: *Morus alba* L.

Family: Moraceae

Origin: China

Popular name: Mulberry tree

Medium-sized deciduous tree whose growth is fast. The leaves serve as food for silkworms.

Legend says that the young Pyramus and the beautiful Thisbe arranged to meet under a mulberry tree, but the meeting did not go well and blood was spilled, the roots of the mulberry tree absorbing it and its white fruits tinged with red. dark.



24. *Cupressus sempervirens* L.

Scientific name: *Cupressus sempervirens* L.

Family: Cupressaceae

Origin: Eastern Mediterranean - Crete, Syria, Lebanon

Popular name: Cypress

This is a tree of extraordinary longevity - with specimens that are more than 1000 years old. It has a conical-shaped, intense green crown. The trunk is finely striated greyish brown. It is a monoecious species - producing male and female flowers on the same tree. Its wood, very fine and aromatic, even when dry, is highly appreciated for furniture, handicrafts, carvings, the manufacture of musical instruments, etc. Some Egyptian and Phoenician sarcophagi were built from this wood and, according to legend, it was used in the construction of Noah's Ark and the Temple of Solomon.

The conical shape of this species is closely associated with the Christian funerary tradition, however, it was successively transferred from some cultures to others (Syrian, Egyptian, Greek and Roman). Represents the link between earth and heaven (shows the way to heaven).



25. *Strelitzia nicolai* Regel & K.Koch

Scientific name: *Strelitzia nicolai* Regel & K.Koch

Family: Strelitziaceae

Origin: South Africa

Popular name: Giant bird of paradise

Strelitzia is a genus of perennial plants that contains five species, belonging to the Strelitziaceae family that is native to South Africa. *Strelitzia nicolai*, better known as the "white bird of paradise" or "wild banana" is a large plant, cultivated for its large inflorescences composed of white sepals, blue petals and a bluish-black beak, which resemble the head of a bird. Bird. Its large, oval, glossy gray-green leaves are fan-shaped at the end of its numerous stems. It is a fast-growing plant, has a later flowering than *Strelitzia reginae*, which usually blooms after 4-6 years. When planted directly in the ground, it can reach 6 m in height and 3 m in diameter. The name *Strelitzia* was given to it in honor of Queen Charlotte Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and wife of King George III of England. The name *Nicolai* was given to him in honor of Tsar Nicholas of Russia.



27. *Phoenix dactylifera* L.

Scientific name: *Phoenix dactylifera* L.

Family: Palmacea

Origin: Near East of North Africa

Popular name: Date palm

Date palm is a fruit species with the highest tolerance to salinity. Despite this, date growth and quality decline in salty soils. The great adaptability of the date palm to different edaphic conditions makes it, along with the pomegranate, the fruit tree species that best grows in alkaline soils. It is used in the manufacture of brushes, obtaining sugar and alcohol. For every 100 kg of dates, 10 liters of alcohol can be extracted at 96.5 degrees.



26. *Casuariana equisetifolia* L.

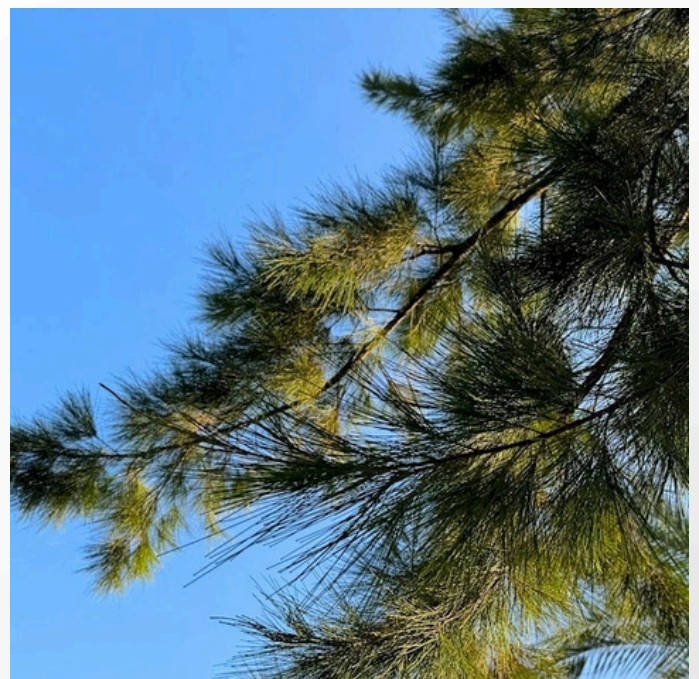
Scientific name: *Casuariana equisetifolia* L.

Family: Casuarinaceae

Origin: Eastern Australia (coastal areas)

Popular name: Australian pine

Large evergreen tree whose leaves are reduced to small scales at the nodes of the smallest branches. It withstands unfavorable conditions by the sea well.



28. *Grevilea robusta* A. Cunn. ex R. Br.

Scientific name: *Grevilea robusta* A. Cunn. ex R. Br.

Family: Proteaceae

Origin: Australia

Popular name: Silver oak

Evergreen tree with vertical growth, reaching more than 15 m. The leaves are very unusual in both shape and colour: lime green on the upper side and silvery green on the underside. In late May to June it produces orange flowers. Indigenous people in Australia used to soak the flowers in water and get a sugary drink.



29. *Dracena draco* L.

Scientific name: *Dracena draco* L.

Family: Asparagaceae

Origin: Macaronesia

Popular name: Dragon tree

The dragon tree reaches 20 m in height and can live about 600 years. It grows slowly and as an adult it has a characteristic parasol canopy, 4 to 15 m wide, similar to that of stone pine. It has a greyish-white trunk, with dichotomous ramifications after the first flowering, which appears around 15 years old. The flowers are white, hermaphrodite and fragrant in panicles, and appear from August to September. The leaves are leathery, but flexible and pointed; they are arranged in a terminal rosette of the younger branches. The fruits are globose, fleshy and orange berries.

The dragon tree is a doubly mythical plant. First because of its scientific name, evocative of its legendary origin: *Dracaena* comes from the Greek *drakaira*, a term that designates the female dragon, and from *draco*, which in Latin means dragon. According to one of the versions of the myth "The Twelve Labors of Heracles", the dragon tree would have been born from the blood of Ladon, the hundred-headed dragon, who watched and prevented strangers from entering the Garden of the Hesperides, where the apples of gold. In order to carry out the eleventh of the twelve labors, which consisted in harvesting three golden apples, Heracles had killed Ladon. The ancients located the Garden of the Hesperides, on an island located at the western «limit» of the world - probably the current Canary archipelago.

