

California Natives

Binomial Name	Common Name	Plant Type	Size	Growth Rate	Exposure	Water	Pot?	Description
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California Buckeye	tree	30' H x 18' W	moderate	full sun to part shade	dry/semi-moist		Buckeye trees are used as a nectar source for many native butterflies.
<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	Mugwort	shrub	4' H x spreading	fast	full sun to part shade	moderate		Provides good erosion control near streams.
<i>Artemisia palmeri</i>	Palmer Sagebrush	shrub	3' H x 3' W	fast	full to part sun	moderate		This plant is rare and threatened by development and flood control projects.
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> 'Pigeon Point'	Pigeon Point Dwarf Coyote Brush	groundcover	2' H x 6-8' W	fast	full sun	dry/semi-moist		Once established can get by with little summer water in coastal plantings and a monthly irrigation inland but looks better and stays healthier with at least occasional summer irrigation.
<i>Carex spissa</i>	San Diego Sedge	grass	3-4' H x 2-3' W	fast	full sun to part shade	moderate	x	A tall sedge resembling small cattails, with blue-green leaves and brown seedheads.
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Desert Willow	tree	20' H x 15' W	fast	full to part sun	dry/semi-moist		A small tree or large shrub. Willowy pendant branches display long, narrow leaves highlighted by fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers.
<i>Cneoridium dumosum</i>	Bush Rue	shrub	2-4' H x 5' W	slow	full to part sun	drought tolerant		An evergreen shrub with a sprawling habit that lends itself to being a high groundcover in hot dry areas.
<i>Coreopsis gigantea</i>	Giant Coreopsis	woody perennial	4' H x 1' W	moderate	full sun	drought tolerant	x	Large yellow daisies on an interesting, almost palm-tree-like plant. Do not water in summer.
<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i>	Rubber Rabbitbrush	shrub	4-7' H x 4-7' W	moderate	full sun	moderate		Has attractive gray-green leaves on white to green stems, and long and abundant bloom of yellow flowers.
<i>Erythranthe cardinalis</i>	Scarlet Monkey Flower	perennial	1-4' H x 4' W	fast	full sun to part shade	regular	x	An attractive plant found along streams or in wet places. Grows 1 to 3 feet high with pale green foliage and large orange scarlet flowers.

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Galvezia juncea 'Punta Banda'	Punta Banda Bush Snapdragon	perennial	5' H x 5-6' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant		The contrast between the tiny green leaves, lime green arching stems and the bright red flowers make this an interesting addition to any native plant garden.
Gambelia speciosa 'Firecracker'	Firecracker Island Snapdragon	shrub	2-3' H x 3' W	fast	part sun to part shade	drought tolerant		Tolerates clay, salt, wind. Deep soak occasionally for lush growth.
Hesperoyucca whipplei	Chaparral Yucca	shrub	4' H x 5' W	slow	full sun	drought tolerant		The plant takes several years to reach maturity and flower, at which point it usually dies. Then a cluster of clones around its base continue to grow and reproduce.
Leymus condensatus	Giant Wild Rye	grass	4' H x 4' W	fast	full to part sun	drought tolerant		Accepts heavy clay soils. Very drought tolerant, but also accepting of water. Very versatile.
Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'	Canyon Prince Rye Grass	grass	3-4' H x 3' W	fast	full to part sun	infrequent	x	One of the most popular and adaptable of California's native grasses, it is very easy to grow.
Oenothera elata ssp. hookeri	Hooker's Evening Primrose	perennial herb	1-4' H x 1-2' W	fast	full to part sun	regular		Grows flat on the ground sending up a 3' spike of 3-4" yellow flowers that open in the evening and morning. Use in the background. Do not use in a formal watered garden.
Ribes aureum	Golden Currant	shrub	6' H x 2-3' W	fast	full to part sun	drought tolerant		Forage source for Cooper and Anglewing butterflies. Berries are edible.
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia Flowering Gooseberry	shrub	10' H x 8' W	moderate	full to part sun	drought tolerant		Crimson flowers are loved by hummingbirds. Numerous sharp thorns make this a good barrier plant. Can spread by underground roots.
Ribes viburnifolium	Catalina Currant	groundcover	2' H x 6' W	moderate	part to full shade	occasional		Excellent under oaks and for erosion control in dry, shaded spots. Berries appeal to birds.
Salvia brandegeei	Brandegee's Sage	shrub	6' H x 6' W	fast	full to part sun	drought tolerant		A rare sage found only on Santa Rosa Island. Vigorous and easy to grow. Tolerates clay soil.

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<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Western Blue-eyed Grass	perennial	18" H x 6" W	fast	full sun to part shade	drought tolerant		Goes dormant in summer, losing some or all of its leaves, and returns with winter rains.
<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	Apricot Mallow	perennial	3' H x 3' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant		OK to cut back in fall. Excellent butterfly plant.
<i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	Alkali Sacaton	grass	2' H x 3' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant		Graceful seedheads on a robust, tough bunchgrass. Loves clay soil.

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<i>Acanthogilia gloriosa</i>	Baja Phlox	shrub	1-3' H x 1-4' W	moderate	full sun	occasional		From Baja California.
<i>Agave parryi</i>	Parry's Agave	succulent	1-2' H x 2-3' W	slow	full to part sun	moderate		Noted for its attractive blue-gray to gray-green evergreen leaves, but is also noted for its infrequent but spectacular flowering spikes.
<i>Aloe brevifolia</i>	Short-leaved Aloe	succulent	1-2' H x 1-2' W	slow	full sun to part shade	infrequent	x	Drought tolerant ground cover for rocky clay soils. An attractive rock, succulent, and cactus garden plant and is useful in xeriscape. Deer resistant. Also works well as a container plant.
<i>Aloe maculata</i>	Soap Aloe	succulent	18" H x 2' W	slow	part to full shade	infrequent	x	A slow-growing aloe that provides an excellent focal point for a rockery garden and should be planted in well drained soil mixed with compost.
<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i>	Golden Columbine	perennial	2-3' H x 1-2' W	fast	part sun to full shade	moderate		Not recommended for hot , humid climates.
<i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i>	Ponytail Palm	shrub	15-20' H x 6-12' W	slow	full sun	infrequent	x	Rarely flowers indoors, but when grown outdoors it will also produce flower stalks that can reach 16 feet high with clusters of small yellowish or beige colored flowers that open during the summer months.
<i>Calodendrum capense</i>	Cape Chestnut	tree	20-30' H x 20-30' W	slow	full sun	moderate		Bears neither true chestnuts nor horse chestnuts and is actually more closely related to citrus trees.
<i>Castanospermum australe</i>	Moreton Bay Chestnut	tree	20-50' H x 12-25' W	slow	full sun	moderate		Exhibits uniform growth, stunning evergreen foliage, and fairly well-behaved roots which make this tree useful for planting in the yard.

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<i>Cistus symphytifolius</i>	Canary Island Rock Rose	shrub	3-4' H x 3-4' W	moderate	full sun	moderate		Endemic to the mountains of the Canary Islands, this shrub has large pink flowers and is well-adapted to our Mediterranean climate.
<i>Eriocephalus africanus</i>	Cape Snow Bush	shrub	3' H x 3' W	moderate	full sun	infrequent		A small, aromatic shrub indigenous to South Africa, easily recognized by its fluffy, white seed heads.
<i>Euryops floribundus</i>	Resin Bush	perennial	1-2' H x 1-2' W	fast	full to part sun	drought tolerant	x	Native to South Africa, this plant seems to do well in dry arid conditions. It has pretty yellow flowers that attract pollinators.
<i>Euryops virgineus</i>	Honey Euryops	shrub	4-6' H x 3-4' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant	x	Makes a good container plant. One of those mild-winter plants, and not for the backbone of your garden.
<i>Flourensia thurifera</i>	Maravella del Campo	shrub	3-4' H x 3-4' W	moderate	full sun	occasional		Showy yellow daisy flowers in spring followed by a period of summer dormancy. Endemic to Chile.
<i>Gasteria glauca</i>	Kouga River Gasteria	succulent	6" H x 6" W	moderate	full sun to part shade	drought tolerant	x	A small aloe-like plant with grey-green leaves arranged in a dense rosette. Grows on cliff faces overlooking the Kouga River of the Eastern Cape Province and is one of the most easily grown of all gasterias.
<i>Gossypium barbadense</i>	Sea Island Cotton	shrub	3-10' H x 3-5' W	fast	full sun	regular		A species of cotton grown for its extra-long fibers and is associated with high-quality fabric, such as Egyptian cotton and Sea Island cotton.
<i>Haworthiopsis limifolia</i>	Fairy Washboard	succulent	3-5" H x 3-5" W	slow	part shade	infrequent	x	Particularly easy to grow. Will stay small in a pot and tolerate indoor growing well.
<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Maximilian Sunflower	perennial	3-8' H x 2-4' W	fast	full sun	infrequent		A prairie perennial. Very showy and towers above surrounding vegetation when in bloom. May spread vigorously.

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<i>Helicodiceros muscivorus</i>	Dead Horse Arum Lily	flower	1' H x 1' W	moderate	full sun	occasional	x	The surprisingly unattractive aroma (it's called dead horse arum for a reason) attracts flies that are attracted to carrion which are potential pollinators.
<i>Kalanchoe x hummeliae</i> 'Fern Leaf'	Fern Leaf Kalanchoe	succulent	6-12" H x 8-10" W	moderate	full sun to part shade	infrequent	x	Leaves are green to greyish-green and densely covered with tiny, whitish hairs, giving them a velvety texture.
<i>Kroenleinia grusonii</i>	Golden Barrel Cactus	cactus	2' H x 2-3' W	slow	full sun to part shade	occasional	x	Plant these in mass for a dramatic, yet whimsical effect or set in groups amidst other drought tolerant succulent and cactus varieties.
<i>Leonotis leonurus</i>	Lion's Tail	shrub	4-8' H x 4-6' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant		Has flowers that resemble fuzzy orange golf balls. Must be kept very dry in winter when growing in climates with cold, wet winters.
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Alyssum	annual	3" H x spreading	fast	full sun to part shade	regular	x	Remarkably easy to grow. A top choice for ground cover, borders, and in between pavers.
<i>Mammillaria vetula</i> ssp. <i>gracilis</i>	Thimble Cactus	cactus	2-3" H x 6" W	slow	full sun to part shade	infrequent	x	Fabulous for use in rockeries and potted gardens. Great for fairy gardens and miniature gardens. Handle with care; offshoots break off easily.
<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	Lindheimer's Muhly	grass	3-5' H x 3-4' W	moderate	full sun	occasional		Perennial bunchgrass with fine foliage and a fountain-like form. A great replacement for the invasive Pampas Grass.
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	White Shooting Stars	biennial	3-5' H x 1-2' W	fast	full sun to part shade	moderate		Mass in borders or cottage gardens. Site near a patio, deck or sidewalk to enjoy the fragrant flowers.
<i>Odontonema cuspidatum</i>	The Cardinal's Guard	subshrub	5' H x 5' W	moderate	full sun to part shade	moderate		A showy evergreen shrub with sparse, stiff branches that grow mostly straight up and requires minimal pruning. Can be invasive.

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Panicum virgatum 'Heavy Metal'	Blue Switch Grass	grass	4-5' H x 1-2' W	moderate	full sun	occasional	x	Can serve as a colorful backdrop to other grasses and perennials and looks stunning in masses or as a specimen.
Rhus coriaria	Tanner's Sumach	shrub	6-15' H x 6-15' W	moderate	full to part sun	moderate		Leaves and the bark were traditionally used in leather tanning and contain tannic acid.
Salvia canariensis	Wooly Canary Island Sage	shrub	5' H x 5' W	fast	full sun	drought tolerant		Adds texture and color just by the glorious foliage alone. From summer the blooms take center stage with its long inflorescences topped with purple flowers.
Senecio medley-woodii	Senecio medley-woodii	succulent	4-6' W x 4-6' W	moderate	full sun	occasional		Has an upright growth habit when young, then as it gets older it tends to sprawl. The silver, oval leaves are thick and succulent with soft white fuzz on them.
Syzygium cumini	Jambolan	tree	30-50' H x 20-30' W	fast	full sun	moderate		A very ancient fruit crop, cultivated for over 2,500 years in India.
Tillandsia latifolia var. divaricata	Divaricata Air Plant	epiphyte	1-2' H x 1-2' W	fast	part sun to part shade	moderate		Regarded as true air plants and as such are among the most unusual of the Bromeliad family. Very easy to grow and rewards you with very large clumps over time. They have beautiful blooms.
Tulista kingiana	Miniature Aloe	succulent	6-8" H x 5" W	slow	full sun to part shade	regular	x	An evergreen succulent plant with short, sharp, bright green leaves arranged in rosettes. The yellowish-green leaves have rounded, flat, white tubercles.
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	herbaceous perennial	3-5' H x 2-4' W	fast	full sun	moderate	x	Easily grown in average garden soils in full sun. Produces extremely fragrant flowers in early summer. Gather them for use as cut flowers to keep it from reseeding and becoming invasive.

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<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>	Japanese Wisteria	vine	10-30' H x 10-20' W	fast	full sun to part shade	regular		Much loved for their long, pendant racemes of fragrant, pea-like flowers.
<i>Yucca pallida</i>	Pale Leaf Yucca	succulent	1-2' H x 2- 3' W	moderate	full sun to part shade	infrequent		The signature spiky form is a perfect addition to a rock garden, or as a focal point in a waterwise garden.