

FICUS AUSTRALIS



www.limakhotels.com

Ficus australis (Australian Rubber Fig) is a popular outdoor and indoor plant native to eastern Australia, known for its large, evergreen leaves and banyan-like growth habit. It is often closely related to the rusty fig or Port Jackson fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*).



Ficus australis is an evergreen tree with a spherical crown and large, oval, green, leathery, and glossy leaves. Its leaves are larger and shinier than those of *Ficus nitida*.

In its natural habitat, it can reach a height of 20 to 35 meters and a width of 10 to 12 meters. When kept as a houseplant, growth is generally limited to 1 to 2 meters.

It is found naturally in rainforests and drier forest landscapes along the east coast of Australia and in Indonesia.

Cultivation and Uses

- Prefers bright, indirect light; direct sunlight can burn the leaves.
- Temperature: Cannot tolerate temperatures below 16°C; ideal room temperature is around 21°C.
- Overwatering should be avoided; the soil should be allowed to dry between waterings.
- Requires a good-quality potting mix with good drainage.
- Can be pruned regularly to maintain desired shape and encourage new growth.



- It is used as a shade tree in parks, public areas, and large gardens.
- Its fast growth and dense foliage make it ideal as a hedge or screen plant for privacy.
- It is a popular decorative plant indoors when grown in pots.
- It is also used in bonsai due to its shaping abilities.
- Like other ficus species, it is also known for its ability to absorb toxins from indoor air.