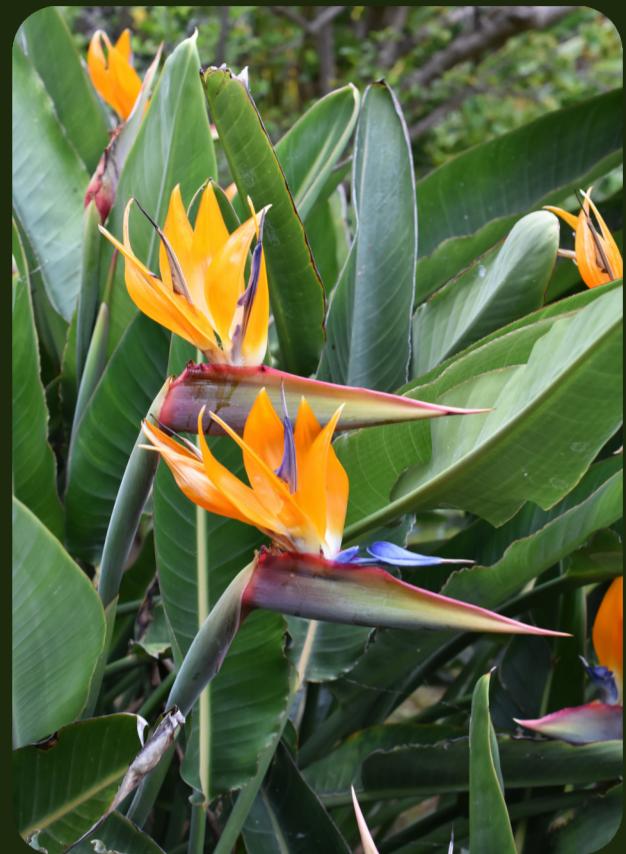


# **STRELITZIA REGINAE**



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*Strelitzia reginae*, commonly known as Bird of Paradise or Crane Flower, is a perennial and exotic plant belonging to the Strelitziaceae family. Its flower, dominated by vibrant orange and blue colors, resembles a bird's head and crest, which is how it got its name. With its large, stiff, banana-like leaves, it remains green throughout the year.



The species is native to South Africa, where it naturally grows along riverbanks and in shrublands. At the time of its discovery, it was named *Strelitzia* in honor of Queen Charlotte of England, who came from the Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. Today, it is one of the most prestigious landscape plants in warm coastal regions around the world.

## Cultivation and Uses

Strelitzia thrives in abundant sunlight and prefers rich, well-drained soils. Direct sunlight is essential for it to flower. It enjoys regular watering, but its roots should not be left standing in water. It is quite resistant to wind and is grown outdoors in mild climates, while in colder regions it is cultivated as an indoor plant in large containers.



In landscaping, it is usually planted in groups to create a strong focal point. It is ideal for poolside areas, entrance paths, and tropical garden designs. In addition, it is highly valued in the cut-flower industry due to its long vase life and architectural form. In particular, *Strelitzia nicolai* (Giant White Bird of Paradise) reaches impressive sizes and is preferred for creating a “tropical forest” effect in both indoor spaces and gardens.