

# **HIBISCUS ROSA-SINENSIS**



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Hibiscus rosa-sinensis, commonly known as Chinese Hibiscus or Japanese Rose, is an evergreen shrub belonging to the Malvaceae family. With its large, funnel-shaped flowers and the prominent protruding staminal column at the center, it is one of the most recognizable tropical flowers in the world.



Contrary to its name, its true native range is East Asia and China. It naturally grows in regions dominated by tropical and subtropical climates. From the 18th century onward, it spread widely throughout Europe and the rest of the world. As the national flower of Malaysia, the Chinese hibiscus is an iconic symbol of warm regions and summer gardens.

## Cultivation and Uses

Hibiscus thrives in abundant sunlight and prefers rich, moist, well-drained soils. It is quite sensitive to cold; therefore, it is grown outdoors in mild climates and as an indoor or conservatory plant in colder regions. With proper pruning and regular watering, it can remain in bloom for most of the year.



In landscaping, it is commonly used as a focal (specimen) plant or to create a colorful hedge. Although its flowers typically last only one day, the plant continuously produces new buds, maintaining the blooming cycle. There are dozens of color varieties available, including red, pink, orange, and yellow. In addition, teas prepared from the flowers of certain species (hibiscus tea) are popular beverages worldwide.