



BOVALLS

dörrbyggeri

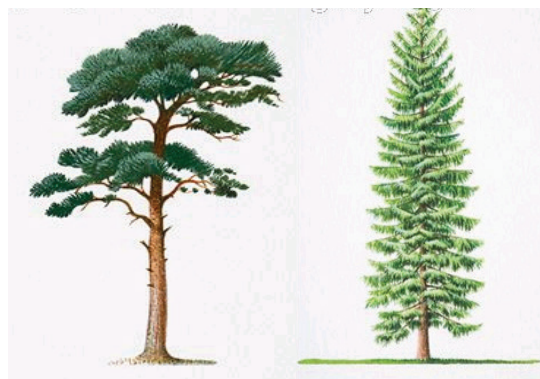
Pine and spruce - facts and maintenance

Pine

Pine is wood from the tree *pinus sylvestris*. Pine has always been the most widely used wood in the Nordic region for buildings, structures, fixtures and furniture. Pine grows on most poor soils - stony, mossy, sandy - providing they are light. Tolerates wind extremely well.

Spruce

Picea abies
Spruce is Sweden's most common tree and one of the country's main export commodities. Spruce tolerates shade well and easily pushes out other species so that dense spruce forests contain few other trees. Spruce forest is the most common habitat in Sweden.



Curious facts about pine and spruce

Pine and birch formed the first forests in Scandinavia around 9000 BC. During the Bronze Age a milder climate allowed competition from other hardwoods and spruce, and these began to displace birch and even, eventually, pine. That Sweden has so much pine forest is down to Gustav Vasa. He allowed farmers to keep their own forests if they were near agricultural areas. The result of this was that such forests quickly spread, and they were usually formed of spruce and other deciduous trees. Meanwhile the Crown retained the more sparsely covered hills, which were wooded with pine; so the pines remained too.

Today the spruce is Sweden's most common tree. "Our shield, our protection, receiving our oaths, winter hardy, our heart's release, our grave's shelter" wrote Harry Martinsson in his poem "Gräsen i Thule" about the importance of the spruce in the Nordic countries.

The inner bark of the pine has saved many Nordic lives. The dried bark was tamped soft and leached out with water to remove the bitterness, then dried again and finally milled into flour.

Maintenance of untreated pine and spruce doors

Untreated pine and spruce doors must be surface treated before installation on the construction site. These doors must be treated carefully because they are sensitive to moisture and can swell and crack as a result. Maintain your door regularly to prevent the surface becoming dry and cracking.

Fjällbacka and Smögen:

This door can be stained or painted with window or door paint. Ask your paint dealer for advice. Keep in mind that panels may contract with changes in the weather and then the paint can crack between the panels and the veneer. We use a Jotun product, "Demidekk Infinity Details", for painting pine/spruce doors. The veneer under the panel is primed with undyed linseed oil.

Enjoy your pine/spruce door!