Known as one of the easiest palms to grow, the Rupicola Palm, commonly known as the Cliff Date Palm, is originally from the foothills of the Himalayas. It is very adaptable in terms of climate, although it thrives best in tropical climates. Rupicola Palms can grow in areas where temperatures do not drop below 21°F. In India, it is often used to make sugar, alcohol, and jelly. Because of the fruit it produces, this tree attracts both mammals and birds.

With its tan trunk and clusters of dioecious flowers in the spring, it's no wonder why these trees are sought after. Its soft, flexible, spine-like leaves form a beautiful crown of bright green. Because of this tree's majestic shape, its leaves have a considerable resistance to wind once mature.

The Rupicola Palm can be planted in direct sunlight and in soil with good drainage. Because of its unique qualities and resort-style features, the Rupicola Palm is primarily used as an accent in landscapes, and it is often planted singularly as a feature tree.
Rupicola Palm
Phoenix rupicola

Common Names:
Phoenix Rupicola, Cliff Date Palm, Wild Date Palm, Indian Date Palm

Native Origin:
India

Environment:
Soil: Well-drained soils; requires fertilization
Salt: Moderate
Drought Tolerance: High
Exposure: Full sun, partial shade

Description:
Hardy Range: 9b to 11
Mature Height: 20' - 25'
Mature Spread: 8' - 10'
Growth Rate: Moderate

Ornamental Characteristics:
The Rupicola Palm can grow upwards of 20' - 25', on average, and spread up to 10'. This plant has soft, spine-like leaves which are flexible, growing upwards of 30' at full maturity. The Rupicola Palm sheds its dead leaves at the point of attachment. Its fruits mature through colors of yellow, violet red, and dark red-purple. The Rupicola Palm has a smooth, strong trunk which can withstand breakage. The leaves are brightly colored in green and curve in an arch, making it a beautiful sight.

Rupicola Palm in the landscape

Full Sun
Partial Shade
Cold tolerant
High drought tolerance