

# Philodendron x 'Xanadu' Xanadu Philodendron<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

This moderately large-leaved, easily grown philodendron makes a dramatic, tropical statement wherever it is used in the landscape (Fig. 1). The deeply divided, usually drooping, dark grey-green leaves grow up to 18 inches long and 8 to 12 inches wide, appearing on long, smooth petioles. Each leaf is divided into 15 to 20 lobes. It can be grown outside only in south Florida and in the warmest parts of central Florida. The flower is not showy.

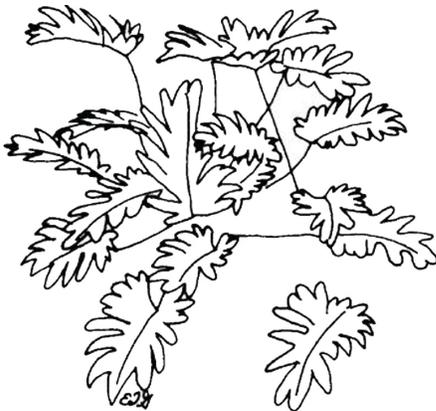


Figure 1. 'Xanadu' philodendron

## General Information

**Scientific name:** *Philodendron x 'Xanadu'*

**Pronunciation:** fill-loe-DEN-drun

**Common name(s):** 'Xanadu' philodendron

**Family:** *Araceae*

**Plant type:** perennial; shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 10 through 11 (Fig. 2)

**Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** year round

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** foundation; border; mass planting; suitable for growing indoors

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range



Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

## Description

**Height:** 2 to 4 feet

**Spread:** 4 to 6 feet

**Plant habit:** round

**Plant density:** open

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** coarse

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate

**Leaf type:** simple

1. This document is FPS474, one of a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date October 1999. Reviewed February 2014. Visit the EDIS website at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.

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**Leaf margin:** lobed  
**Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval)  
**Leaf venation:** pinnate  
**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen  
**Leaf blade length:** 12 to 18 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** no fall color change  
**Fall characteristic:** not showy



Figure 3. Foliage of 'Xanadu' philodendron

## Flower

**Flower color:** green  
**Flower characteristic:** flowers periodically throughout the year

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** no fruit  
**Fruit length:** no fruit  
**Fruit cover:** no fruit  
**Fruit color:** no fruit  
**Fruit characteristic:** no fruit

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not particularly showy; usually with one stem/trunk  
**Current year stem/twig color:** green  
**Current year stem/twig thickness:** very thick

## Culture

**Light requirement:** plant grows in the shade  
**Soil tolerances:** occasionally wet; acidic; slightly alkaline; sand; loam; clay  
**Drought tolerance:** moderate  
**Soil salt tolerances:** poor  
**Plant spacing:** 36 to 60 inches

## Other

**Roots:** usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest  
**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding  
**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive  
**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

## Use and Management

When given enough room to spread, 'Xanadu' makes a handsome foundation or specimen planting, and can also be used in large containers, where it looks especially attractive at poolside. It has similarities in texture and form to selloum without its large size. Space 4 or 6 feet apart in a landscape to form a mass planting of coarse textured foliage. Since leaves remain close to the ground, it makes a nice, tall ground cover for any shaded, damp location.

'Xanadu' is well adapted to the shade of tall trees. It needs fairly rich, moisture-retentive soil to look its best. Most philodendrons adapt to alkaline soil fairly well and are resistant to drought.

## Pests and Diseases

Infrequent pests include mites and scale.