2020 CELESTIAL CALENDAR

CELESTRON

JAN 10

PENUMBRAL LUNAR ECLIPSE

This eclipse occurs when the Moon passes through the Earth's lighter shadow, or penumbra. The Moon will darken slightly Visible in most of North America and northeastern Asia.

FEB 9

SUPERMOON

The Moon will be at its closest approach to Earth and will look slightly larger and brighter than normal.

MAR 9

SUPERMOON

The Moon will be at its closest approach to Earth and will look slightly larger and brighter than normal.

MAR 24

VENUS AT GREATEST EASTERN ELONGATION

This is the most ideal time to view Venus since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky.

APR 8

SUPERMOON

The Moon will be at its closest approach to Earth and will look slightly larger and brighter than normal.

MAY 7

SUPERMOON

The Moon will be at its closest approach to Earth and will look slightly larger and brighter than normal.

JUNE 4

MERCURY AT ELONGATION

This is the best day to try view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.

JUNE 5

PENUMBRAL LUNAR ECLIPSE

This eclipse occurs when the Moon passes through the Earth's lighter shadow, or penumbra. The Moon will darken slightly Visible in most of North America and northeastern Asia.

JUNE 21

ANNULAR SOLAR ECLIPSE

Viewable in parts of the Middle East and Asia. Partial eclipse in Asia and northern Australia. Approved solar glasses or telescope filters required during the entire eclipse.

JULY 14

JUPITER AT OPPOSITION

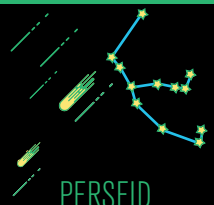
It's the best night of the year to view Jupiter, which will be at its very brightest and visible all night.

JULY 20

SATURN AT OPPOSITION

It's the best night of the year to view Saturn, which will be at its very brightest and visible all night.

AUG 12/13



PERSEID METEOR SHOWER

Up to 60 meteors per hour will appear to radiate from the constellation Perseus.

OCT 1

HARVEST MOON

The full Moon closest to the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon. Take a look at the yellowish-orange Moon low in the sky after sunset.

OCT 13

MARS AT OPPOSITION

It's the best night of the year to view Mars, which will be at its very brightest and visible all night.

OCT 31

BLUE MOON

The Moon is not really blue. This phrase refers to two Full Moons that occur in the same month.

NOV 30

PENUMBRAL LUNAR ECLIPSE

This eclipse occurs when the Moon passes through the Earth's lighter shadow, or penumbra. The Moon will darken slightly. Visible in most of North America and northeastern Asia.

DEC 13/14

GEMINIDS METEOR SHOWER

The biggest shower of the year can produce up to 120 meteors per hour. This year, observers will see fewer meteors due to a bright Moon.

DEC 14

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Day turns to night for observers in parts of the southern Pacific Ocean, central Chile, and central Argentina.

DEC 21

CONJUNCTION OF JUPITER AND SATURN

The conjunction of these two giant planets is known as a great conjunction; the last one occurred in the year 2000. Look to the west just after sunset to glimpse this rare planetary sight.

JUPITER

Evening Sky: July - November
Morning Sky: January - July
Opposition: July 14

SATURN

Evening Sky: July - December
Morning Sky: February - July
Opposition: July 20

MARS

Evening Sky: October - December
Morning Sky: January - July
Opposition: October 13

VENUS

Evening Sky: January - June
Morning Sky: October - December
Greatest Eastern Elongation: March 24

DEEP SKY CHECKLIST

SPRING

- Beehive Cluster (M44)
- Leo Triplet Galaxies (M65, M66, & NGC 3628)
- Whirlpool Galaxy (M51)
- Bode Galaxy (M81)
- Cigar Galaxy (M82)
- Double Star, Mizar & Alcor
- Sombero Galaxy (M104)
- Globular Cluster (M3)

SUMMER

- Milky Way
- Hercules Cluster (M13)
- Ring Nebula (M57)
- Lagoon Nebula (M8)
- Trifid Nebula (M20)
- Sagittarius Cluster (M22)
- Eagle Nebula (M16)
- Omega Nebula (M17)
- Dumbbell Nebula (M27)
- Albireo Double Star
- Wild Duck Cluster (M11)

AUTUMN

- Andromeda Galaxy (M31)
- Double Cluster (NGC869, NGC884)
- Globular Cluster (M15)

WINTER

- Orion Nebula (M42)
- Pleiades Cluster (M45)
- Beehive Cluster (M44)
- Auriga Open Clusters (M36, M37, M38)
- Lepus Globular Cluster (M79)
- Hyades Cluster

WINTER SOLSTICE — LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR
Northern Hemisphere: December 21
Southern Hemisphere: June 21

SUMMER SOLSTICE — SHORTEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR
Northern Hemisphere: June 21
Southern Hemisphere: December 21