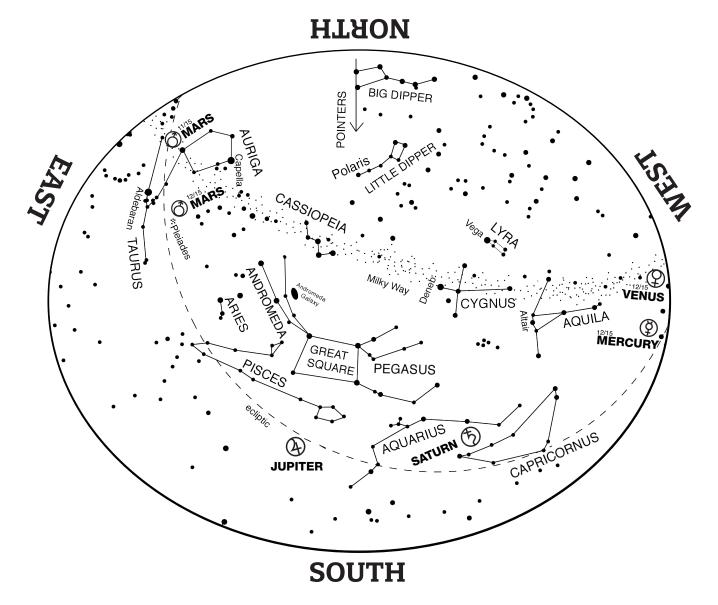
DAVIS PLANETARIUM





601 Light Street • Baltimore's Inner Harbor 410.685.5225 • www.marylandsciencecenter.org



TO USE MAP:

Hold the map in front of you so that the direction you are facing is on the bottom. The stars on the lower half on the map will match up with the stars in the sky. The center of the map is directly overhead in the sky. Constellation and star pattern names are all capitalized. Names of stars have only the first letter capitalized. The map is valid within an hour of:

7:30pm Mid-Nov. EST 5:30pm Mid-Dec. EST **MAGNITUDE** is a measure of a star's brightness. The lower the number, the brighter the star

- 1st or brighter magnitude star
- •2nd magnitude star
- •3rd magnitude star
- 4th or fainter magnitude star
- •

ECLIPTIC:

The imaginary path of the Sun through the year. Constellations of the Zodiac surround the Ecliptic and the Moon and planets appear along it.



IN THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER SKY

Nov 1 First Quarter Moon near Saturn Nov 4

Nov 6 Eastern Standard Time returns (See Celestial Highlights)



Full Moon Total Lunar Eclipse (morning) (See Celestial Highlights) Mercury in conjunction with Sun

Nov 8/9 Moon near Pleiades

Moon near Jupiter

Nov 9 Moon near Aldebaran Uranus is in opposition (See Celestial Highlights)

Nov 10/11 Moon near Mars (See Celestial Highlights)

Nov 13 Moon near Pollux



Nov 16 Last Quarter Moon

Nov 17 Moon near Regulus (morning)

Nov 21 Moon near Spica (morning)

Nov 23 New Moon

Nov 28 Moon near Saturn



Nov 30 First Quarter Moon Dec 1 Moon near Jupiter

Dec 6 Moon near Pleiades

Dec 7 Full Moon near Mars Mars at opposition (See Celestial Highlights)

Dec 10 Moon near Pollux

Dec 13/14 Moon near Regulus

Dec 14 Geminid Meteor Shower (See Celestial Highlights)



Dec 21 Winter Solstice (See Celestial Highlights) Mercury at greatest elongation

Dec 23 New Moon

Dec 28 Venus near Mercury



CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Eastern Standard Time returns, November 6, 2:00 am - Set your clock back one hour on Saturday night, November 5.

Moon Pairings – Moon is near Saturn on November 1 and 28 and December 26. The Moon is near Jupiter on November 4 and December 1 and 28. The Moon passes by the Pleiades star cluster the nights of November 8 and 9 then passes by Mars the evenings of November 10 and 11. The Moon is again near the Pleiades on December 6 and near Mars on December 7.

Total Lunar Eclipse, November 8, 4:10am EST – The Full Moon will be eclipsed by the shadow of the Earth early on November 8. The eclipse begins at 3:03am when the Moon enters the outer part of Earth's shadow (the penumbra), and the Moon's brightness starts to dim about fifty minutes later when the Moon is deeper into the penumbra. At 4:10 am the Moon enters the inner part of Earth's shadow (the umbra) when the partial eclipse really takes shape as the Moon darkens. The eclipse reaches totality at 5:17am when 100% of the Moon's disk will lie in shadow. The Moon exits the umbra at 6:42am ending the total lunar eclipse. The partial eclipse ends at 7:42am but the moon will be below the horizon at that time. To view the eclipse, look to the western sky for the Moon, it can easily be viewed without a telescope. Unlike a solar eclipse, a lunar eclipse is safe to view without any filters. The Pleiades star cluster can be seen above the Moon during the eclipse.

Planet Oppositions and Conjunctions with Sun – Opposition describes when an object appears opposite the sun in the sky as seen from Earth. Planets in opposition are visible all night. Uranus is in opposition on November 9. Mars is in opposition December 7. In contrast, conjunction means that two objects appear in the same place in the sky as seen from Earth. Planets in conjunction with the sun are not visible. Mercury is in conjunction with the sun on November 8.

Geminid Meteor Shower – The Geminids peak on Dec 14. Look toward the stars of Gemini, the Twins, in the eastern sky after dark to watch for Geminid meteors.

Greatest Elongation of Mercury – Since Mercury has an orbit inside of Earth's orbit it doesn't go through opposition. Instead, it goes through greatest elongation, where it is the farthest separation from the sun from our perspective. Mercury's greatest elongation occurs on December 21 after sunset.

Winter Solstice, Saturday, December 21 - The shortest day of the year for the Northern Hemisphere. The sun takes its lowest path across the sky and results in the fewest hours of daylight of any day all year (only 9 hours). All through winter, celebrate the slow return of the sun and notice how the days start to get longer again.

The bi-monthly STARMAP is available on the web at https://www.mdsci.org/learn/resources/starmaps/



MERCURY

When: Not visible, November After sunset. late December Where: Not visible, November Very low in West, late December **Constellation:** Sagittarius



VENUS

When: Not visible, November After sunset. December Where: Not visible, November Low in West. December Constellation: Sagittarius



MARS

When: Late night to dawn, November All night, December Where: Northeast to West, November East to Northwest. December **Constellation:** Taurus



JUPITER

When: Evening sky to pre-dawn, November Evening sky, December Where: Southeast to southwest **Constellation:** Pisces



SATURN

When: Evening sky, November Early evening sky, December Where: South to Southwest, November to early December Southwest, late December **Constellation:** Capricornus