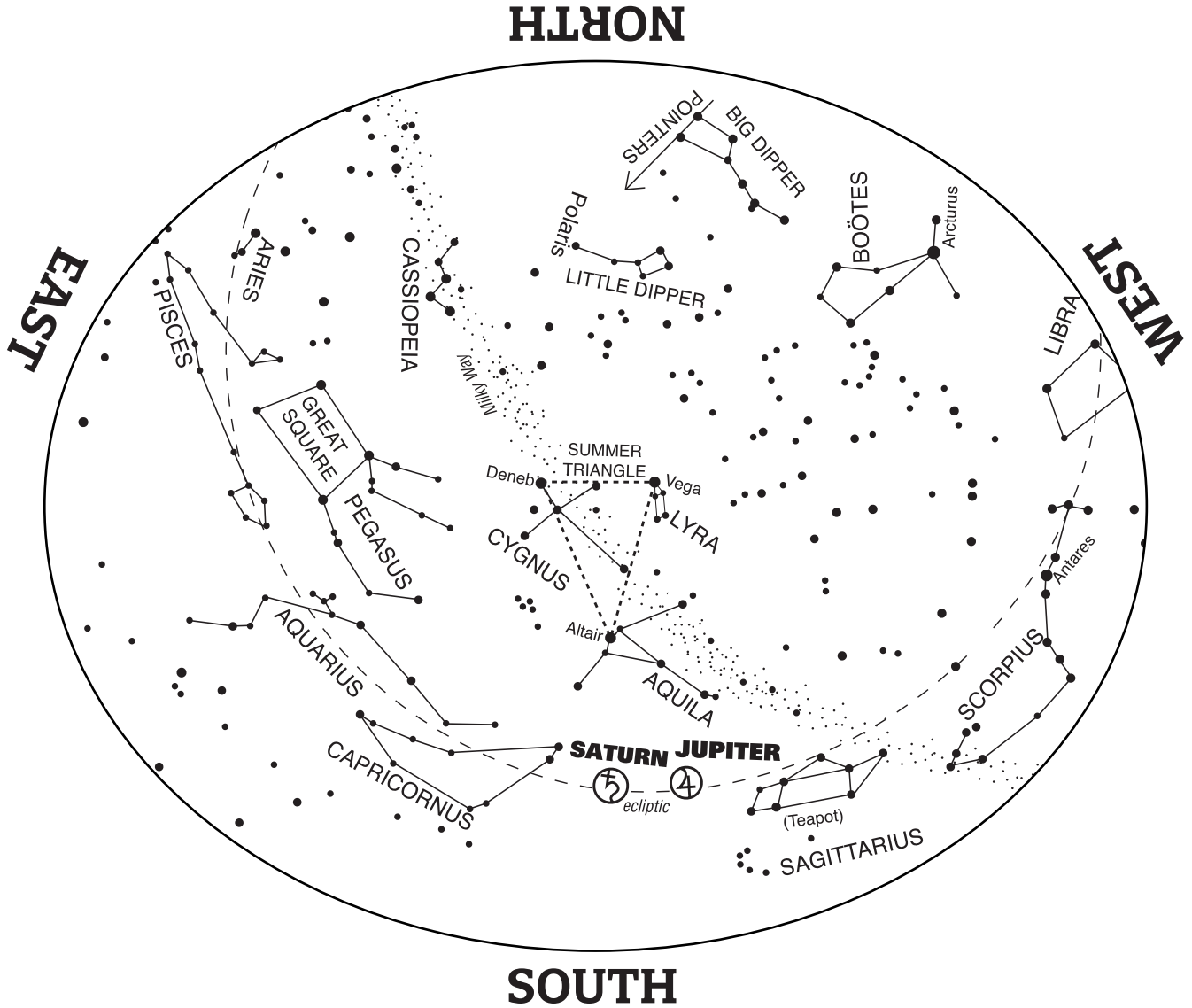


Starmap

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020



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:

9:30pm Mid-September EDT
7:30pm Mid-October EDT

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.

Starmap

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

IN THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SKY

- | | |
|---|---|
| ○ Sept 2
Full Moon | ○ Oct 1
Full Moon |
| Sept 5
Moon near Mars (late night) | Mercury Greatest elongation |
| Sept 9
Moon near Aldebaran (morning) | Oct 2
Venus near Regulus (morning) |
| ◐ Sept 10
Last Quarter Moon | Moon near Mars |
| Sept 11
Neptune Opposition
(See <i>Celestial Highlight</i>) | ◐ Oct 9
Last Quarter Moon |
| Sept 14
Moon near Venus (morning) | Oct 13
Mars Opposition
(See <i>Celestial Highlight</i>) |
| ● Sept 17
New Moon | Oct 14
Moon near Venus (morning) |
| Sept 22
Autumnal equinox
(See <i>Celestial Highlights</i>) | ● Oct 16
New Moon |
| ◑ Sept 23
First Quarter Moon | Oct 19
Moon near Antares |
| Sept 24
Moon near Jupiter | Oct 22
Moon near Jupiter and Saturn |
| Sept 25
Moon near Saturn | ◑ Oct 23
First Quarter Moon |
| Sept 26
International Observe the Moon Night
(See <i>Celestial Highlight</i>) | Oct 25
Mercury in conjunction with Sun
(See <i>Celestial Highlight</i>) |
| | Oct 29
Moon near Mars |
| | ○ Oct 31
Full Moon |
| | Uranus Opposition |

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet Oppositions and Conjunctions with Sun - The astronomical term *opposition* describes when an object appears opposite the Sun in the sky as seen from Earth. Planets in opposition are visible all night. Neptune is in opposition on September 11. Mars is in opposition on October 13. Uranus is in opposition on October 31. In contrast, *conjunction* means that two objects appear in the same place in the sky as seen from Earth. Mercury is in conjunction with the Sun on October 25. Planets in conjunction with the Sun are not visible.

Autumnal Equinox, Tuesday, September 22, 9:31 am EDT - The Autumnal Equinox marks the first day of Fall. The Equinoxes are the only two days each year when the sun rises due east and sets due west every place on Earth! If you happen to be standing at the Earth's equator at noon during the Equinox you would see the sun pass directly overhead.

International Observe the Moon Night, September 26 - Each year the International Observe the Moon Night brings people together to learn and observe the Moon. Since we can't all be together this year, we still want to encourage everyone to go out and look at our nearest neighbor, the Moon. Rising at 4pm the Moon can be seen in the southern sky until around 1am. Have binoculars or a telescope? Look along the terminator line, the edge of light and dark, to see craters up close.

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

CROSBY RAMSEY MEMORIAL OBSERVATORY INFO 410-545-2999

Free public observing nights are held Fridays 7-10:30pm. Please call after 5pm on Friday for observing conditions.



MERCURY

When:
After sunset, September 19 to October 7

Where:
Very low in West

Constellation:
Virgo, Libra, Virgo



VENUS

When:
Morning sky

Where:
East

Constellation:
Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo



MARS

When:
Late night to dawn, September

All night, October

Where:
East to South, September
East to West, October

Constellation:
Pisces



JUPITER

When:
Evening sky

Where:
South to Southwest

Constellation:
Sagittarius



SATURN

When:
Evening sky

Where:
South to Southwest

Constellation:
Sagittarius