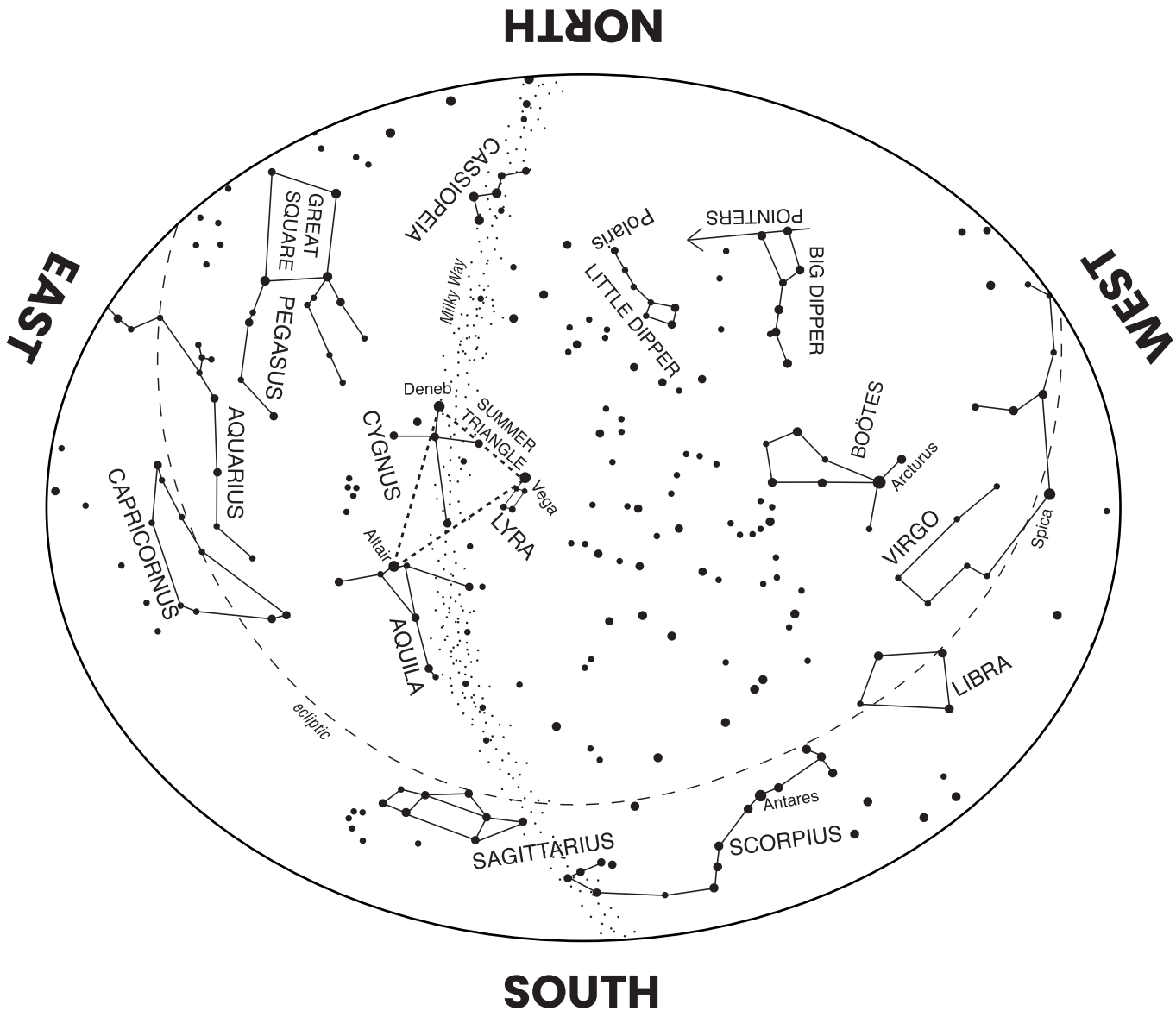
DAVIS PLANETARIUM

Starmap

JULY/AUGUST 2025

MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER
601 Light Street • Baltimore's Inner Harbor
410.685.5225 • www.mdsci.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:

11:30pm Mid-July EDT
9:30pm Mid-August 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.

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IN THE JULY/AUGUST SKY

July 2
First Quarter Moon

July 10
Full Moon

July 17
Last Quarter Moon
Moon near Saturn

July 21
Moon near Venus

July 24
New Moon

July 28
Moon near Mars

August 1
First Quarter Moon
Venus at its highest point
(See Celestial Highlights)

August 9
Full Moon

August 12
Perseid meteor shower peaks
Moon near Saturn
(See Celestial Highlights)

August 13
Venus near Jupiter

August 17
Last Quarter Moon

August 19
Planetary Alignment begins
(See Celestial Highlights)

August 23
New Moon

August 26
Moon near Mars

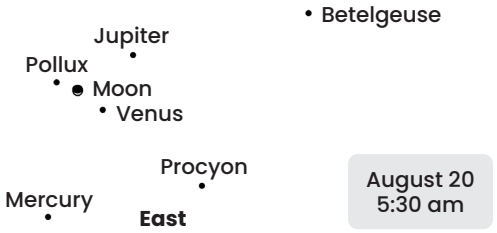
August 31
First Quarter Moon

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet and Moon Groupings – On the morning of July 17 just after midnight the Moon and Saturn rise together in the eastern sky. Early morning on July 21 Venus shines brightly with the Moon rising in the eastern sky. Just after sunset on July 28 look for the red glow of Mars setting with the Moon on the western horizon. On the night of August 12 Saturn is the brightest object next to the Moon. A couple hours before sunrise on August 13 Venus and Jupiter shine brightly on the eastern horizon with Venus being the bright dot just below Jupiter.

Venus Visibility – Venus lives up to its name as the morning star shining brightly in the morning sky throughout July and August. Find Venus at its highest point in the morning sky on August 1.

Planetary Alignment – Find Jupiter, Venus, and Mercury forming a line in the eastern sky just before sunrise on August 19, 20, and 21. Find the Moon moving down the line over the three days.



Perseid Meteor Shower – A meteor is a leftover part of a comet. When the Earth wanders into the path of the comet these parts hit the Earth's atmosphere and they burn up creating a fantastical sight. On August 12 the meteor shower hits its peak activity with almost 100 meteors per hour! Look to the north-eastern sky the meteor show is visible all night and can be found trailing below the constellation Cassiopeia. The shower is visible until the end of August.

The Observatory at the Maryland Science Center info:
Safe solar viewing is offered Saturdays from 1:00pm-4:00pm, weather permitting (admission included with Science Center admission).

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

MERCURY

When:
July: not visible
Mid-August: just before sunrise

Where:
Eastern horizon

Constellation:
Cancer

VENUS

When:
Visible early morning

Where:
Eastern sky

Constellation:
Taurus, Gemini

MARS

When:
July: visible just after sunset
August: not visible

Where:
Western horizon

Constellation:
Leo, Virgo

JUPITER

When:
July: not visible
August: visible before sunrise

Where:
Eastern horizon

Constellation:
Gemini

SATURN

When:
Visible late night

Where:
South-Eastern sky

Constellation:
Pisces