

Astronomy targets: April 2017

Unless stated otherwise, all times are for mid-month, for Birmingham UK and are GMT+1. Rise & set times are for 20 degrees above horizon. Dark & light times are nautical twilight times (Sun 12 degrees below horizon) and astronomical darkness (Sun 18 degrees below horizon).

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Sun times

Date	S.Set	Dark	Astro dark	Light	S.Rise	Moon
01/04/17	1942	2059	2145	0437	0523	0640 ☾
08/04/17	1954	2114	2202	0416	0504	0623 ☾☾☾
15/04/17	2007	2129	2221	0354	0446	0608 ☾☾
22/04/17	2019	2145	2242	0330	0427	0553
29/04/17	2031	2201	2305	0304	0408	0538

Moon phases

Full Moon 10 Apr; New Moon 26 Apr

Calendar

21 Apr: Lyrid meteor shower (20 per hour)

Planets

- ☐ Mercury: low at Sunset
- ☐ Jupiter: to 0340

Transient objects

- ☐ Comets visible this month: 41P/Tuttle-Giacobini-Kresak & C/2015 V2 (Johnson). See <http://cometchasing.skyhound.com>

Auriga (Sunset-2300)

- EN IC405 (C31) Flaming Star Nebula
- OC M36 open cluster
- OC M37 open cluster
- OC M38 open cluster
- DS OΣ147: yellowish & two blue

Boötes (all night, best 0150)

- DS ξ (xi): yellow & orange

Camelopardalis (all night)

- GA NGC2403 (C7) galaxy
- AS Kemble's Cascade & NGC1502 cluster

Cancer (Sunset-0010)

- OC M44 Beehive Cluster
- OC M67 open cluster
- DS ι (iota): gold & blue

Canes Venatici (all night, best 0030)

- GA M51 Whirlpool Galaxy
- GA M63 Sunflower Galaxy
- GA M94 galaxy
- GA M106 galaxy
- GA NGC4631 Whale Galaxy
- GC M3 globular cluster
- DS Cor Caroli α (alpha): yellow & orange
- ST La Superba Y carbon star

Cassiopeia (Sunset-2250 & 0120-Sunrise)

- EN NGC281 Pacman Nebula
- EN NGC7635 (C11) Bubble Nebula
- EN IC1805 Heart Nebula
- EN IC1848 Soul Nebula
- OC M52 open cluster
- OC M103 open cluster
- OC NGC457 (C13) Owl cluster
- OC NGC654 open cluster
- OC NGC659 open cluster
- OC NGC663 (C10) open cluster
- OC NGC7789 open cluster
- OC NGC7790 open cluster
- DS η (eta): gold & red

Cepheus (2250-Sunrise)

- RN NGC7023 (C4) Iris Nebula
- OC NGC188 (C1) open cluster
- OC NGC7160 open cluster
- DS δ (delta): yellow & purple
- DS Σ2816: yellow & two white
- ST The Garnet Star: μ (mu)

Coma Berenices (all night, best 0040)

- GA M64 Black Eye Galaxy
- GA M85 galaxy
- GA M88 galaxy
- GA M91 galaxy
- GA M98 galaxy
- GA M99 galaxy
- GA M100 galaxy
- GA NGC4565 Needle Galaxy
- GC M53 globular cluster
- OC Melotte 111 open cluster

Cygnus (0140-Sunrise)

- GA NGC6946 (C12) Fireworks Galaxy
- EN NGC6888 Crescent nebula
- EN NGC6960 Veil nebula
- EN IC5070 Pelican Nebula
- EN IC5146 (C19) Cocoon Nebula
- EN IC7000 (C20) North American Nebula
- PN NGC6826 Blinking Nebula
- PN NGC7008 Fetus Nebula
- OC M29 open cluster
- OC M39 open cluster
- OC NGC6871 open cluster
- OC NGC6883 open cluster
- OC NGC6910 Rocking Horse Cluster
- DS Albireo β (beta): gold & blue
- DS 61: orange & red

Delphinus (0320-Sunrise)

- GC NGC7006 (C42) globular cluster
- GC NGC6934 (C47) globular cluster
- DS γ (gamma): yellow & blue

Draco (all night, best 0350)

- GA M102 galaxy
- PN NGC6543 Cats Eye Nebula

Gemini (Sunset-2300)

- PN NGC2392 (C39) Eskimo Nebula
- OC M35 open cluster
- DS Castor α (alpha): two blue

Hercules (2320-Sunrise, best 0420)

- GC M13 Hercules Globular Cluster
- GC M92 globular cluster

Lacerta (0240-Sunrise)

- OC NGC7243 (C16) open cluster

Leo (Sunset-0220, best 2150)

- GA M65, M66 & NGC3628 Leo Triplet
- GA M95 galaxy
- GA M96 galaxy
- GA M105 & NGC3384 galaxies
- DS Algieba γ (gamma): two yellow

Lynx (Sunset-0330)

- GC NGC2419 (C25) globular cluster

Lyra (2350-Sunrise)

- PN M57 Ring Nebula
- GC M56 globular cluster
- DS Double-Double ϵ (epsilon): four white
- DS Other Double-Double Σ 2470 & Σ 2474: four white

Ophiuchus (0320-Sunrise, best 0350)

- GC M9 globular cluster
- GC M10 globular cluster
- GC M12 globular cluster
- GC M14 globular cluster
- GC M19 globular cluster
- GC M62 globular cluster
- GC M107 globular cluster
- OC ic4665 open cluster

Sagitta (0210-Sunrise)

- GC M71 globular cluster

Scorpius (partly visible, best 0500)

- GC M4 globular cluster
- GC M80 globular cluster
- OC M6 Butterfly Cluster
- OC M7 Ptolemy Cluster

Serpens (0350-Sunrise, best 0440)

- EN M16 Eagle Nebula
- GC M5 globular cluster

Ursa Major (all night, best 2340)

- GA M81 Bode's Galaxy & M82 Cigar Galaxy
- GA M101 Pinwheel Galaxy
- GA M108 galaxy
- GA M109 galaxy
- PN M97 Owl Nebula
- DS Mizar & Alcor ζ (zeta): 3 white

Ursa Minor (all night, best 0210)

- DS Polaris α (alpha): yellow & white

Virgo (2320-0300, best 0050)

- GA M49 galaxy
- GA M58 galaxy
- GA M59 galaxy
- GA M60 galaxy
- GA M61 galaxy
- GA M84, M86, NGC4435, etc. Markarian's Chain
- GA M87 galaxy
- GA M89 galaxy
- GA M90 galaxy
- GA M104 Sombrero Galaxy

Vulpecula (0120-Sunrise)

- PN M27 Dumbell Nebula
- OC NGC6885 (C37) open cluster
- AS Coathanger

Key

- GA Galaxy
- EN Emission nebula
- RN Reflection nebula
- PN Planetary nebula
- GC Globular cluster
- OC Open cluster
- AS Asterism
- DS Double star
- ST Star