

Sydney Observatory night sky map

A map for each month of the year, to help you learn about the night sky

October 2015

www.sydneysydneyobservatory.com

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Hobart and Adelaide for October 2015 at about 8:30 pm (daylight saving time) and at about 7:30 pm (local standard time) for Perth and Brisbane. For Darwin and similar northern locations the chart will still apply, but some stars will be lost off the southern edge while extra stars will be visible to the north. Stars down to a brightness or magnitude limit of 4.5 are shown on the star chart. To use this star chart, rotate the chart so that the direction you are facing (north, south, east or west) is shown at the bottom. The centre of the chart represents the point directly above your head, called the zenith, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

Star Brightness

- Zero or brighter
- 1st magnitude
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th

Moon Phase

- Last quarter: 05th
- New Moon: 13th
- First quarter: 21st
- Full Moon: 27th

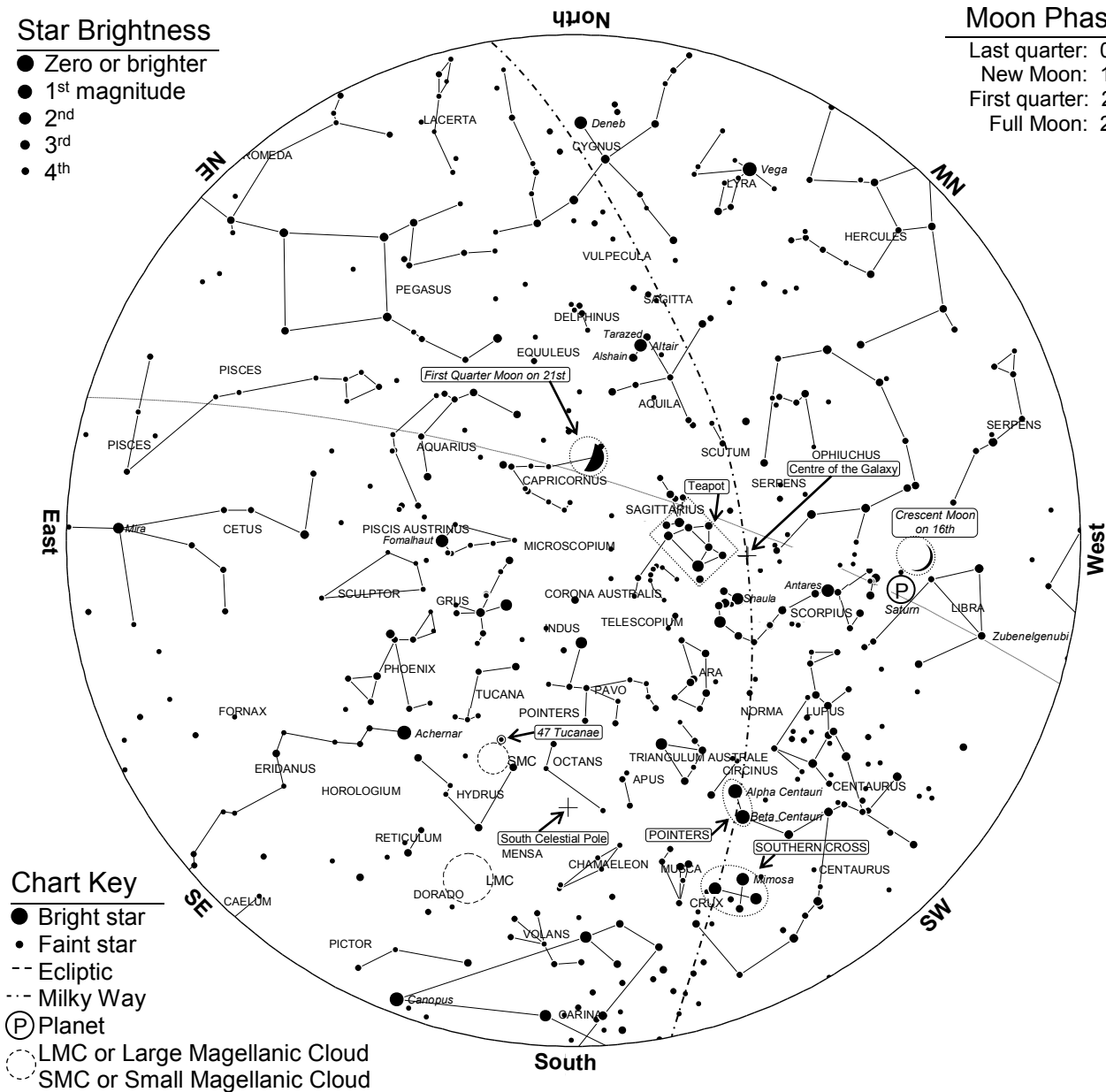


Chart Key

- Bright star
- Faint star
- Ecliptic
- Milky Way
- ♃ Planet
- LMC or Large Magellanic Cloud
- SMC or Small Magellanic Cloud

The best time to observe the Moon using binoculars or a small telescope is a few days either side of the first quarter Moon. During the first quarter Moon, there are highly contrasting shadows cast along the craters and mountains that lie on the Lunar terminator, which is the line between the illuminated and non-illuminated parts of the Moon. To the south-west is Crux (the Southern Cross), which easily located using the two nearby stars commonly called the Pointers. To the west are the constellations of Scorpius (the Scorpion) and Sagittarius (the Archer).

Sydney Observatory, with a magnificent view overlooking Sydney Harbour, is open 10am to 5pm daily – except closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and open 10am to noon on New Year's Eve. Open Monday to Saturday for night sessions (times vary depending on the season) for sky viewing through one of our telescopes (cosy planetarium session if cloudy), and 3D movies about the Universe. Bookings are essential for night programs.

For more information, check the website at www.sydneysydneyobservatory.com.au or call (02) 9921 3485. Sydney Observatory is at 1003 Upper Fort Street, Observatory Hill, in the historic Rocks area of Sydney.

