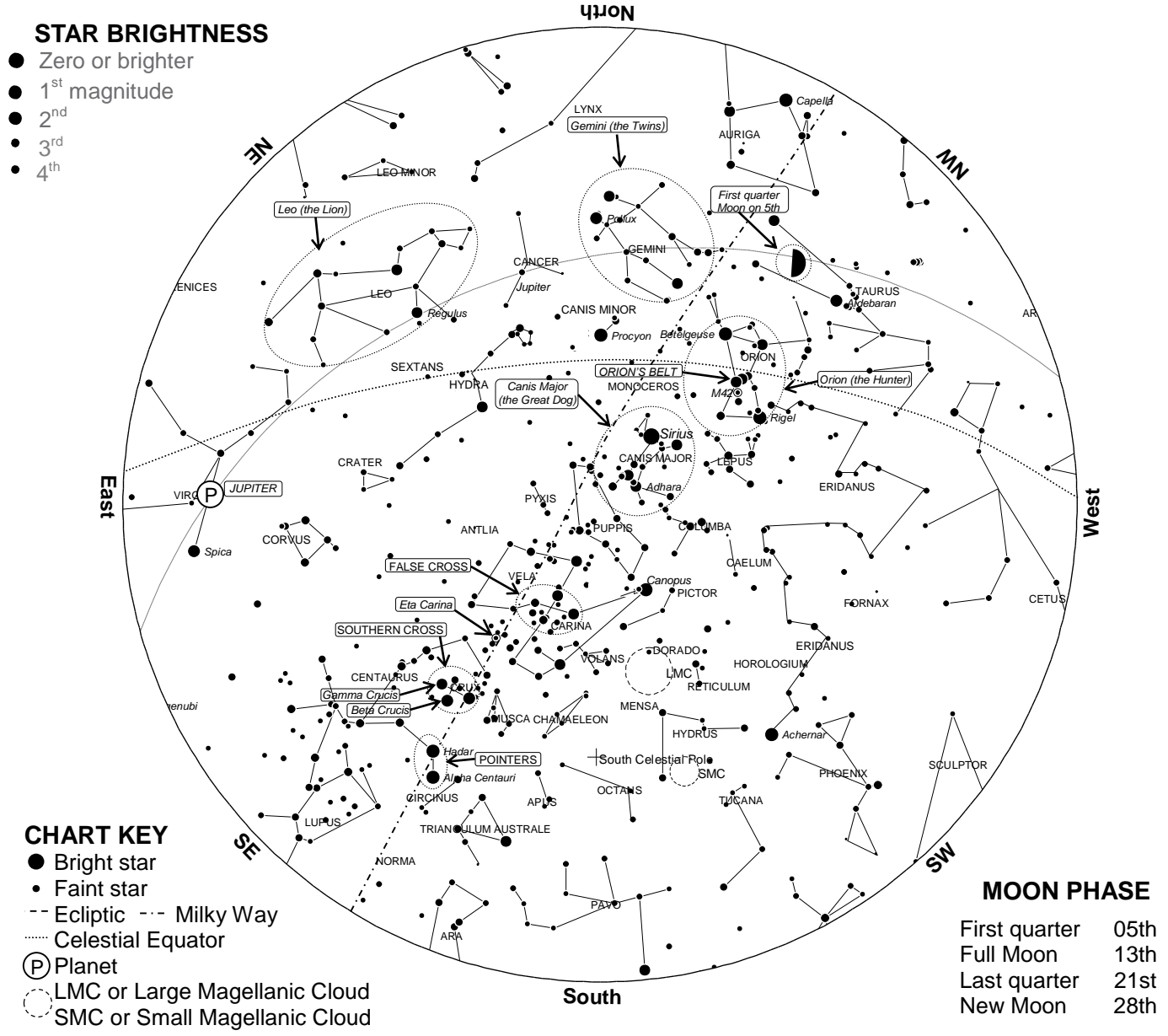


Night sky map

March 2017



THE CHART

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Hobart and Adelaide for March at about 8.30pm (Daylight Savings Time) and at about 9.30 pm (Local Standard Time) for Perth and Brisbane. For Darwin and similar 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 point, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

HIGHLIGHTS IN MARCH 2017

The best time to view the Moon with a small telescope or binoculars is a few days either side of the first quarter Moon on the 5th. You may catch a glimpse of Venus or Mars towards the west just after sunset. Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, can be found rising from the eastern horizon and will be visible throughout the night. In 2017, the Autumnal equinox falls on the 20th of March. Prominent in the sky this month, are the constellations of Canis Major (the Great Dog), Orion (the Hunter), Gemini (the Twins) and Leo (the Lion). Crux (the Southern Cross) is low in the south eastern sky.