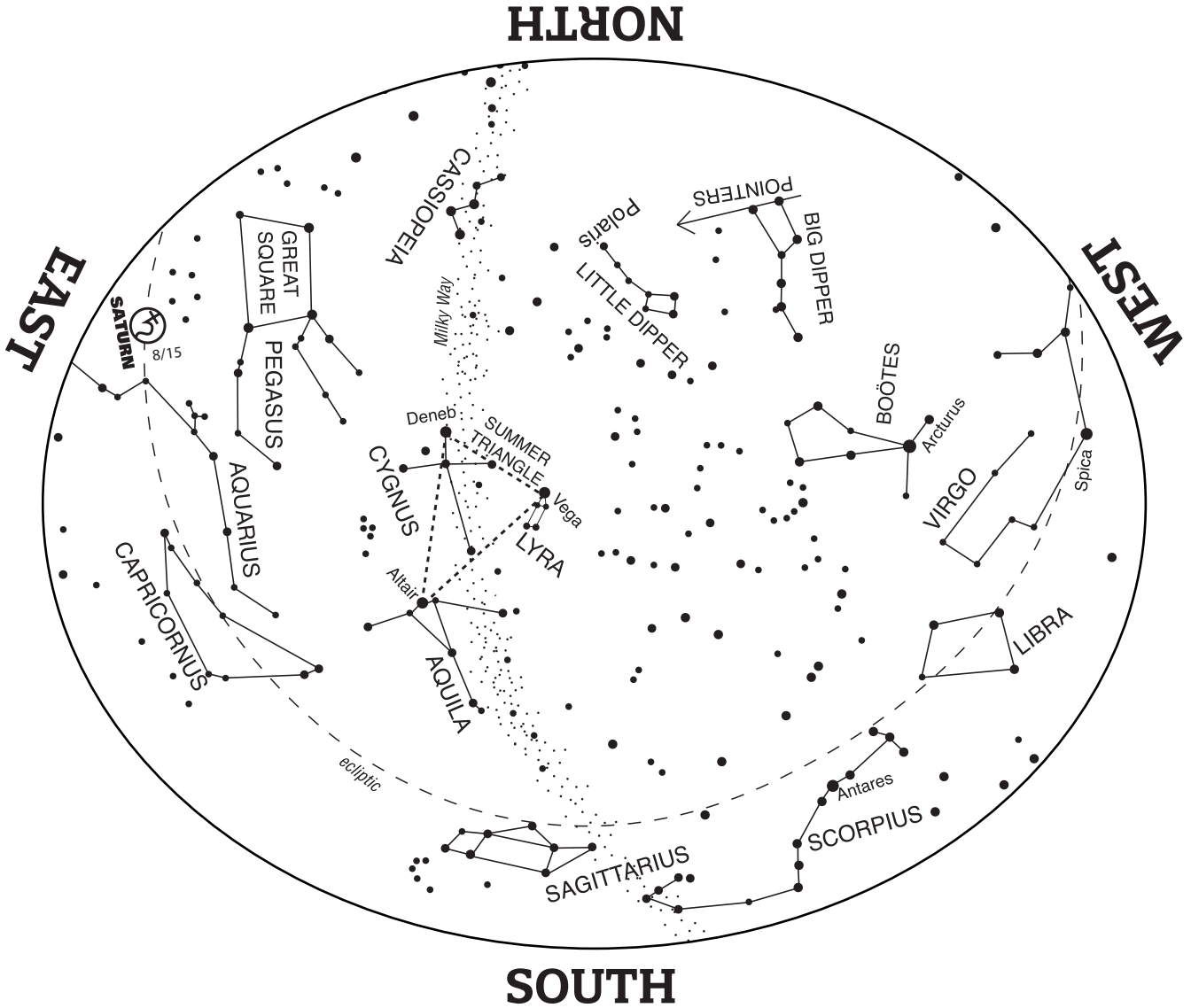


Starmap

JULY/AUGUST 2024



601 Light Street • Baltimore's Inner Harbor
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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.

Starmap

JULY/AUGUST 2024

IN THE JULY/AUGUST SKY

July 1

Moon near Mars (morning)

**Aug. 4**

New Moon

July 3

Moon near Jupiter (morning)

Aug. 10

Moon near Spica

July 5

New Moon

**Aug. 12**Perseid Meteor Shower Peaks and First Quarter Moon
(See Celestial Highlights)**July 13**

First Quarter Moon

Aug. 15

Jupiter near Mars

July 21

Full Moon

**Aug. 19**

Full Moon

July 23

Moon near Saturn

Aug. 20Lunar Occultation of Saturn
(See Celestial Highlights)**July 27**

Last Quarter Moon

**Aug. 26**

Last Quarter Moon

July 30Moon near Mars and Jupiter
(morning)**Aug. 27**

Moon near Jupiter and Mars

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet and Moon groupings: On the morning of July 1st from 3am to sunrise Mars will be below the Moon. Just before sunrise on July 3rd the Moon and Jupiter will rise together in the Eastern sky. Around 11pm on the night of July 23rd the Moon and Saturn will rise together; Saturn will be directly left of the Moon and the two will stay together throughout the night with Saturn moving above the Moon. Around 3am on July 30th the Moon, Mars, and Jupiter will rise together with Mars just below the Moon and Jupiter trailing behind them. Just after sunset the star Spica, which is a part of the constellation Virgo, will be just left of the Moon. On the morning of August 27th Jupiter will be the brightest object near the Moon with Mars trailing below the Moon.

Mars and Jupiter Close Approach: At 2am on August 15th Mars and Jupiter will rise almost on top of each other and will be visible in the eastern sky until sunrise (You can use a good pair of binoculars to see both planets!).

Near Lunar Occultation of Saturn: An occultation is when one object in the sky blocks another from view. All night on August 20th Saturn will be the brightest object next to the Moon and will pass just above the Moon around 10pm; Saturn will appear to almost fully circle the Moon throughout the night. The Moon appears in slightly different places in the sky depending where you are on the Earth due to the Moon being so close to us, so a near miss in Baltimore will be a full Occultation in other places around the world where the Moon will fully cover Saturn.

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. The shower starts on July 17th and on August 12th the meteor shower will hit its peak activity with almost 100 meteors per hour! Look to the north-eastern sky the meteor show will be visible all night and can be found trailing below the constellation Cassiopeia. The shower is visible until the end of August.

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

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).



MERCURY

When:

Not visible

Where:

Not visible

Constellation:

Not visible



VENUS

When:

Not visible

Where:

Not visible

Constellation:

Not visible



MARS

When:

Early Morning

Where:

East to Northeast

Constellation:

Aries, Taurus



JUPITER

When:

Early Morning June

After Midnight August

Where:

East to Northeast

Constellation:

Taurus



SATURN

When:

After Midnight June

Visible August

Where:

Southeastern sky

Starts in East

Constellation:

Aquarius