



USA Toyz



Constellation Guidebook

**Names & Meanings
Skyward Locations
Mythology**

Table of Contents

Andromeda	2	Lacerta	13
Antlia	2	Leo	13
Apus	2	Leo Minor	13
Aquarius	2	Lepus	13
Aquila	3	Libra	14
Ara	3	Lupus	14
Aries	3	Lynx	14
Auriga	3	Lyra	14
Boötes	4	Mensa	15
Caelum	4	Microscopium	15
Camelopardalis	4	Monoceros	15
Cancer	4	Musca	15
Canes Venatici	5	Norma	16
Canis Major	5	Octans	16
Canis Minor	5	Ophiuchus	16
Capricornus	5	Orion	16
Carina	6	Pavo	17
Cassiopeia	6	Pegasus	17
Centaurus	6	Perseus	17
Cepheus	6	Phoenix	17
Cetus	7	Pictor	18
Chamaeleon	7	Pisces	18
Circinus	7	Pisces Austrinus	18
Columba	7	Puppis	18
Coma Berenices	8	Pyxis	19
Corona Australis	8	Reticulum	19
Corona Borealis	8	Sagittari	19
Corvus	8	Sagittarius	19
Crater	9	Scorpius	20
Cruce	9	Sculptor	20
Cygnus	9	Scutum	20
Delphinus	9	Serpens	20
Dorado	10	Sextans	21
Draco	10	Taurus	21
Equuleus	10	Telescopium	21
Eridanus	10	Triangulum	21
Fornax	11	Triangulum Australe	22
Gemini	11	Tuscan	22
Grus	11	Ursa Major	22
Hercules	11	Ursa Minor	22
Horologium	12	Vela	23
Hydra	12	Virgo	23
Hyrds	12	Volans	23
Indus	12	Vulpecula	23

Andromeda The Princess

Andromeda is one of the 48 constellations listed by the 2nd-century Greco-Roman astronomer Ptolemy and remains one of the 88 modern constellations. Located north of the celestial equator, it is named for Andromeda, daughter of Cassiopeia, in the Greek myth, who was chained to a rock to be eaten by the sea monster Cetus.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Antlia The Pump

Antlia is a constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its name means "pump" in Latin; it represents an air pump. Originally Antlia Pneumatica, the constellation was established by Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille in the 18th century, though its name was later abbreviated by John Herschel.

LOCATION IN SKY: Southwest Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April



Apus The Bird-of-Paradise

Apus is a small constellation in the southern sky. It represents a bird-of-paradise, and its name means "without feet" in Greek because the bird-of-paradise was once wrongly believed to lack feet.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



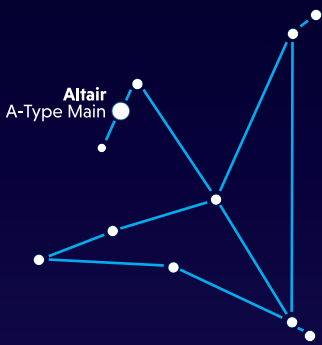
Aquarius The Water-Bearer

Aquarius is a constellation of the **zodiac**, situated between Capricornus and Pisces. Its name is Latin for "water-carrier" or "cup-carrier"; it is found in a region often called the Sea due to its profusion of constellations with watery associations such as Cetus the whale, Pisces the fish, and Eridanus the river.

LOCATION IN SKY: Southwest Sky (Northern Hemisphere)
West Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October





Aquila The Eagle

Aquila is a constellation on the celestial equator. Its name is Latin for 'eagle' and it represents the bird who carried Zeus/Jupiter's thunderbolts in Greco-Roman mythology.

LOCATION IN SKY: West Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Ara The Altar

Ara is a southern constellation situated between Scorpius and Triangulum Australe. Ara was one of the 48 Greek constellations described by the 2nd century astronomer Ptolemy, and it remains one of the 88 modern constellations defined by the International Astronomical Union.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July

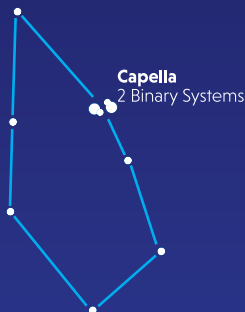


Aries The Ram

Aries is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. It is located in the northern celestial hemisphere between Pisces to the west and Taurus to the east. The name Aries is Latin for ram. It is a mid-sized constellation, ranking 39th overall size, with an area of 441 square degrees (1.1% of the celestial sphere).

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)
North Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: December



Auriga The Charioteer

Auriga is the Latin word for "charioteer", associating it with various mythological charioteers, including Erichthonius and Myrtilus. A large constellation, with an area of 657 square degrees, it is half the size of the largest constellation, Hydra.

LOCATION IN SKY: East Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October

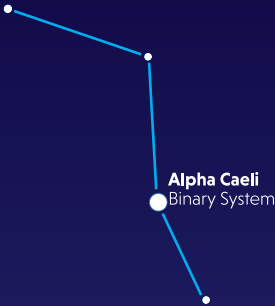


Boötes The Herdsman

The name Boötes was first used by Homer in his *Odyssey* as a celestial reference point for navigation, described as "late-setting" or "slow to set", translated as the "Plowman". Exactly whom Boötes is supposed to represent in Greek mythology is not clear. According to one version, he was a son of Demeter, Philomenus, twin brother of Plutus, a ploughman who drove the oxen in the constellation *Ursa Major*.

LOCATION IN SKY: Northwest Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: June



Caelum The Chisel

Caelum is a faint constellation in the southern sky, introduced in the 1750s by Nicolas Louis de Lacaille and counted among the 88 modern constellations. Its name means "chisel" in Latin, and it was formerly known as *Caelum Scalptorium* ("the engravers' chisel").

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Camelopardalis The Giraffe

Camelopardalis or the Giraffe constellation is a large, faint grouping of stars in the northern sky. The constellation was introduced in 1612 (or 1613) by Petrus Plancius.

LOCATION IN SKY: Northeast Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Cancer The Crab

Cancer is one of the twelve constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for crab and it is commonly represented as one. Cancer is a medium-size constellation with an area of 506 square degrees.

LOCATION IN SKY: West Sky (Northern Hemisphere)
Northwest Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March

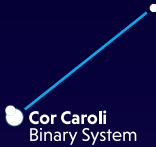
Canes Venatici

The Hunting Dog

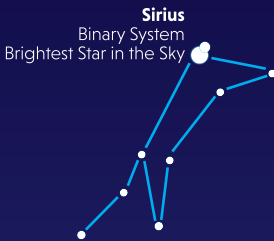
Canes Venatici is one of the 88 official modern constellations. Its name is Latin for "hunting dogs", and the constellation is often depicted in illustrations as representing the dogs of Boötes the Herdsman, a neighboring constellation.

LOCATION IN SKY: Northwest Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May



Cor Caroli
Binary System



Sirius
Binary System
Brightest Star in the Sky

Canis Major

The Greater Dog

Canis Major is a constellation in the southern celestial hemisphere. Its name is Latin for "greater dog" in contrast to Canis Minor, the "lesser dog"; both figures are commonly represented as following the constellation of Orion the hunter through the sky.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: February

Canis Minor

The Lesser Dog

Canis Minor is a small constellation in the northern celestial hemisphere. Its name is Latin for "lesser dog", in contrast to Canis Major, the "greater dog"; both figures are commonly represented as following the constellation of Orion the hunter.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Procyon
Binary System



Deneb Algedi
Binary System

Capricornus

The Goat Horn

Capricornus is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for "horned goat" or "goat horn" or "having horns like a goat's", and it is commonly represented in the form of a sea-goat: a mythical creature that is half goat, half fish.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September

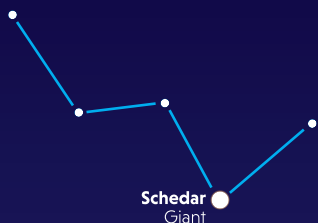


Carina The Keel

Carina is a constellation in the southern sky. Its name is Latin for the keel of a ship, and it was formerly part of the larger constellation of Argo Navis (the ship Argo) until that constellation was divided into three pieces, the other two being Puppis (the deck), and Vela (the sails of the ship).

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Cassiopeia The Queen

Cassiopeia is a constellation in the northern sky, named after the vain queen Cassiopeia in Greek mythology, who boasted about her unrivalled beauty. It is easily recognizable due to its distinctive 'W' shape, formed by five bright stars. It is opposite the Big Dipper.

LOCATION IN SKY: North Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Alpha Centauri
Closest Visible Star To Earth

Centaurus The Centaur

Centaurus is a bright constellation in the southern sky. In Greek mythology, Centaurus represents a centaur; a creature that is half human, half horse. Notable stars include Alpha Centauri, the nearest star system to the Solar System.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May



Cepheus The King

Cepheus is a constellation in the northern sky. It is named after Cepheus, King of Aethiopia in Greek mythology. He was married to Cassiopeia and was the father of Andromeda, both of whom are immortalized as modern day constellations.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Cetus The Whale

Cetus is a constellation. Its name refers to Cetus, a sea monster in Greek mythology, although it is often called 'the whale' today. Cetus is located in the region of the sky that contains other water-related constellations such as Aquarius, Pisces, and Eridanus.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November

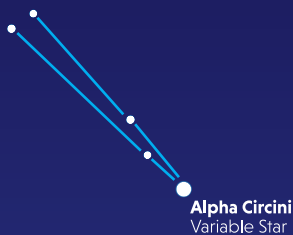


Chamaeleon The Chameleon

Chamaeleon is a small constellation in the southern sky. It is named after the chameleon, a kind of lizard. It was first defined in the 16th century. It was one of many constellations created by European explorers in the 15th and 16th centuries out of unfamiliar Southern Hemisphere stars.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April

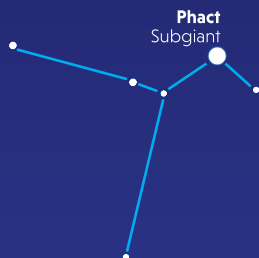


Circinus The Compass

Circinus is a small, faint constellation in the southern sky, first defined in 1756 by the French astronomer Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille. Its name is Latin for compass, referring to the drafting tool used for drawing circles.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Columba The Dove

Columba is a small, faint constellation created in the late sixteenth century. Its name is Latin for dove. It is located just south of Canis Major and Lepus.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: February

Beta Comae Berenices
Dwarf



Coma Berenices The Hair

Coma Berenices is an ancient asterism in the northern sky. Its name means "Berenice's Hair" in Latin and refers to Queen Berenice II of Egypt, who sacrificed her long hair as a votive offering. Coma Berenices is the only modern constellation named for an historic figure.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May

Alphekka Meridiana
Rapid Rotating Star

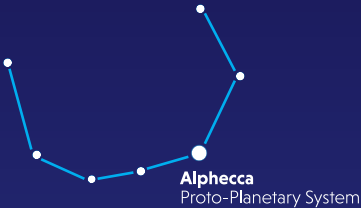


Corona Australis The Southern Crown

Corona Australis or Corona Austrina is a constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its Latin name means "southern crown", and it is the southern counterpart of Corona Borealis, the northern crown. The Ancient Greeks saw Corona Australis as a wreath rather than a crown and associated it with Sagittarius or Centaurus.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August

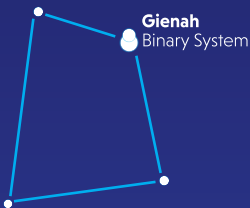


Corona Borealis The Northern Crown

Corona Borealis is a small constellation in the Northern Celestial Hemisphere. Its brightest stars form a semicircular arc. Its Latin name, inspired by its shape, means "northern crown". In classical mythology Corona Borealis generally represented the crown given by the god Dionysus to the Cretan princess Ariadne and set by him in the heavens.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Corvus The Raven

Corvus is a small constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its name means "raven" in Latin. It depicts a raven, a bird associated with stories about the god Apollo, perched on the back of Hydra the water snake. The four brightest stars form a distinctive quadrilateral in the night sky.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May



Crater The Cup

Crater is a small constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its name means "cup" in Latin. It depicts a cup that has been associated with the god Apollo and is perched on the back of Hydra the water snake.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April



Crux The Southern Cross

Crux is a constellation located in the southern sky in a bright portion of the Milky Way. It is among the most easily distinguished constellations even though it is the smallest of all 88 modern constellations. Its name is Latin for cross, and it is dominated by a cross-shaped or kite-like asterism.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May



Cygnus The Swan

Cygnus is a northern constellation lying on the plane of the Milky Way, deriving its name from the Latinized Greek word for swan. The swan is one of the most recognizable constellations of the northern summer and autumn, and it features a prominent asterism known as the Northern Cross (in contrast to the Southern Cross).

LOCATION IN SKY: North Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September

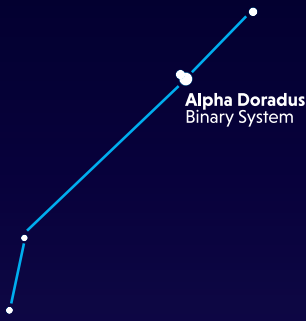


Delphinus The Dolphin

Delphinus is a constellation in the northern sky, close to the celestial equator. Its name is Latin for dolphin. It is one of the smaller constellations, ranked 69th in size.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October

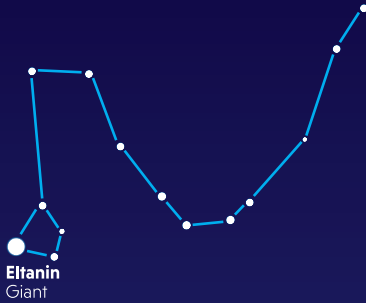


Dorado The Dolphinfish

Dorado is a constellation in the southern sky. Its name refers to the dolphinfish (*Coryphaena hippurus*), which is known as dorado in Portuguese, although it has also been depicted as a swordfish. Dorado contains most of the Large Magellanic Cloud, the remainder being in the constellation Mensa. The South Ecliptic pole also lies within this constellation.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Draco The Dragon

Draco is a constellation in the far northern sky. Its name is Latin for dragon. The north pole of the ecliptic is in Draco. Draco is circumpolar (that is, never setting), and can be seen all year from northern latitudes.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Equuleus The Foal

Equuleus is a constellation. Its name is Latin for 'little horse', a foal. It is the second smallest of the modern constellations (after Crux), spanning only 72 square degrees. It is also very faint.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September



Eridanus The River

Eridanus is a constellation in the southern hemisphere. It is represented as a river. It is the sixth largest of the modern constellations.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: December

Alpha Fornacis
Subgiant



Fornax The Hunter

Fornax is a constellation in the southern sky, partly ringed by the celestial river Eridanus. Its name is Latin for furnace. It was named by French astronomer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille in 1756.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: December

Castor
Binary System

Pollux
Giant



Gemini The Twins

Gemini is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for "twins," and it is associated with the twins Castor and Pollux in Greek mythology.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: February



Grus The Crane

Grus is a constellation in the southern sky. Its name is Latin for the crane, a type of bird. The constellations Grus, Pavo, Phoenix and Tucana are collectively known as the "Southern Birds".

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October

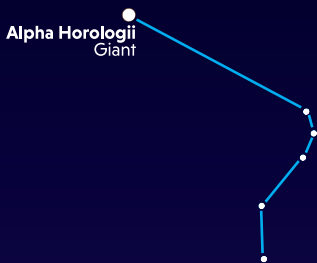


Hercules The Hero

Hercules is a constellation named after Hercules, the Greek mythological hero adapted from the Greek hero Heracles. It is the fifth largest of the modern constellations.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July

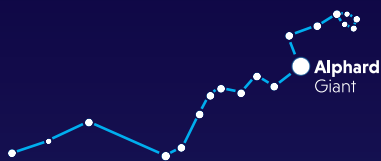


Horologium The Pendulum Clock

Horologium is a faint constellation in the southern sky. It was devised by French astronomer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille in 1752.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: December

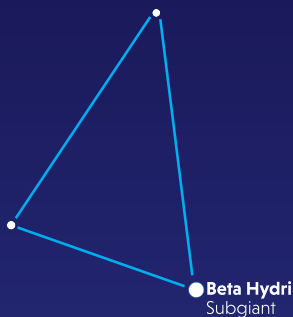


Hydra The Water Snake

Hydra is the largest of the 88 modern constellations, measuring 1303 square degrees, and one of the longest. The shape of Hydra resembles a twisting snake, and features as such in some Greek myths.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April

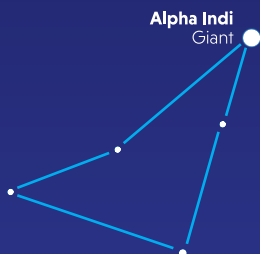


Hydrus The Lesser Water Snake

Hydrus is a small constellation in the deep southern sky. Its name means "male water snake", as opposed to Hydra, a much larger constellation that represents a female water snake. It remains below the horizon for most Northern Hemisphere observers.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Indus The Indian

Indus is a constellation in the southern sky created in the late sixteenth century. It does not contain any bright stars.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September

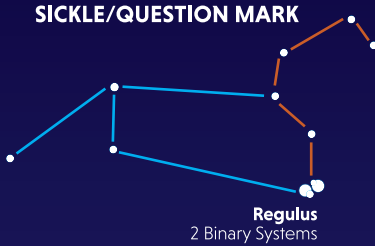


Lacerta The Lizard

Lacerta is a small, faint constellation. Its name is Latin for lizard. Its brightest stars form a "W" shape similar to that of Cassiopeia, and it is thus sometimes referred to as 'Little Cassiopeia'.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Leo The Lion

Leo is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for lion, and to the ancient Greeks represented the Nemean Lion killed by the mythical Greek hero Heracles (known to the ancient Romans as Hercules) as one of his twelve labors. The lion's mane and shoulders also form an asterism known as "The Sickle," which to modern observers may resemble a backwards "question mark."

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April



Leo Minor The Smaller Lion

Leo Minor is a small and faint constellation in the northern celestial hemisphere. Its name is Latin for "the smaller lion", in contrast to Leo, the larger lion. It lies between the larger and more recognizable Ursa Major to the north and Leo to the south. Leo Minor was not regarded as a separate constellation by classical astronomers.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April



Lepus The Hare

Lepus is a constellation lying just south of the celestial equator, immediately south of Orion. Its name is Latin for hare. It is located below the constellation Orion (the hunter), and is sometimes represented as a hare being chased by Orion or, alternatively, by Orion's hunting dogs.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Libra The Weighing Scales

Libra is a constellation of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for weighing scales. It is fairly faint, with no first magnitude stars, and lies between Virgo to the west and Scorpius to the east.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: June

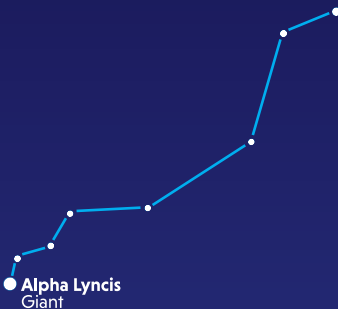


Lupus The Wolf

Lupus is a constellation located in the deep southern sky. Its name is Latin for wolf. In ancient times, the constellation was considered an asterism within Centaurus, and was considered to have been an arbitrary animal hunted by Centaurus.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: June



Lynx The Lynx

Lynx, named after the animal, is a constellation in the northern sky that was introduced in the 17th century by Johannes Hevelius. It is a faint constellation with its brightest stars forming a zigzag line.

LOCATION IN SKY: West Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Lyra The Harp

Lyra is a small constellation. Lyra was often represented on star maps as a vulture or an eagle carrying a lyre, and hence is sometimes referred to as Vultur Cadens or Aquila Cadens, respectively.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Mensa The Table Mountain

Mensa is a small constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere near the south celestial pole. Its name is Latin for table, though it originally depicted Table Mountain and was known as Mons Mensae. One of the faintest constellations in the night sky, Mensa boasts no bright stars. Its brightest star, Alpha Mensae is barely visible in suburban skies.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Microscopium The Microscope

Microscopium is a minor constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its name is a Latinised form of the Greek word for microscope. Its stars are faint and hardly visible from most of the non-tropical Northern Hemisphere.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September



Monoceros The Unicorn

Monoceros (Greek: Μονόκερως) is a faint constellation on the celestial equator. Its name is Greek for unicorn. It is bordered by Orion to the west, Gemini to the north, Canis Major to the south and Hydra to the east. Monoceros is not easily seen with the naked eye.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Musca The Fly

Musca, Latin for fly, is a small constellation in the deep southern sky. It was also known as Apis, Latin for bee, for two hundred years. Musca remains below the horizon for most Northern Hemisphere observers.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May

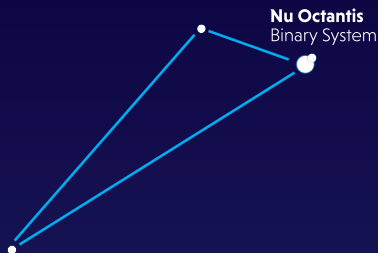


Norma The Carpenter's Level

Norma is a small constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere between Scorpius and Centaurus. Its name is Latin for normal, referring to a right angle, and is variously considered to represent a rule, a carpenter's square, a set square or a level.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Octans The Octant

Octans is a faint constellation located in the deep southern sky. Its name is Latin for the eighth part of a circle, but it is named after the octant, a navigational instrument.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October

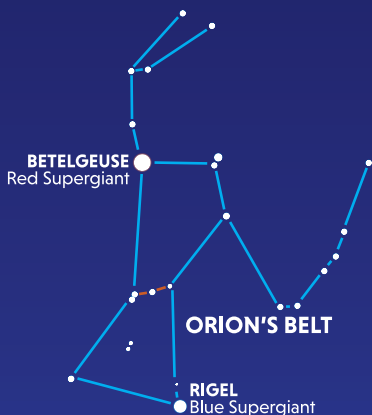


Ophiuchus The Serpent-Bearer

Ophiuchus is a large constellation located around the celestial equator. Its name is from the Greek Ophioukhos; "serpent-bearer", and it is commonly represented as a man grasping the snake that is represented by the constellation Serpens.

LOCATION IN SKY: Southeast Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Orion The Hunter

Orion is a prominent constellation located on the celestial equator and visible throughout the world. It is one of the most conspicuous and recognizable constellations in the night sky. It was named after Orion, a hunter in Greek mythology. Its brightest stars are Rigel (Beta Orionis) and Betelgeuse (Alpha Orionis), a blue-white and a red supergiant, respectively.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Pavo The Peacock

Pavo is a constellation in the southern sky with the Latin name for peacock. It is one of twelve constellations conceived by Petrus Plancius from the observations of Pieter Dirkszoon Keyser and Frederick de Houtman. The constellations Pavo, Grus, Phoenix and Tucana are collectively known as the "Southern Birds".

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Pegasus The Winged Horse

Pegasus is a constellation in the northern sky, named after the winged horse Pegasus in Greek mythology. It was one of the 48 constellations listed by the 2nd-century astronomer Ptolemy.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)
Northwest Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Perseus The Hero

Perseus is a constellation in the northern sky, being named after the Greek mythological hero Perseus. It is located near several other constellations named after ancient Greek legends, including Andromeda to the west and Cassiopeia to the north.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)
Northwest Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Phoenix The Firebird

Phoenix is a minor constellation in the southern sky. Named after the mythical phoenix, or firebird. The constellations Phoenix, Grus, Pavo and Tucana, are known as the Southern Birds.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Pictor The Easel

Pictor is a constellation in the Southern Celestial Hemisphere, located between the star Canopus and the Large Magellanic Cloud. Its name is Latin for painter, and is an abbreviation of the older name Equuleus Pictoris (the "painter's easel").

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January



Pisces The Fish

Pisces is a constellation of the **zodiac**. Its name is the Latin plural for fish. Pisces is associated with Aphrodite and Eros, who escaped from the monster Typhon by leaping into the sea and transforming themselves into fish. In order not to lose each other, they tied themselves together with rope.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Pisces Austrinus The Southern Fish

Pisces Austrinus name is Latin for "the southern fish", in contrast with the larger constellation Pisces, which represents a pair of fishes. In Greek mythology, this constellation is known as the Great Fish and it is portrayed as swallowing the water being poured out by Aquarius. The two fish of the constellation Pisces are said to be the offspring of the Great Fish.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October



Puppis The Deck

Puppis, the Deck, was originally part of an over-large constellation, the ship of "Jason and the Argonauts", Argo Navis, which centuries after its initial description was divided into three parts, the other two being Carina (the keel and hull), and Vela (the sails of the ship). Puppis is the largest of the three constellations in square degrees.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: February

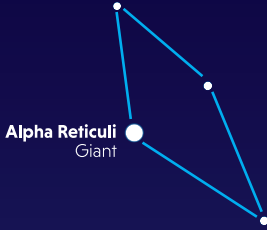


Pyxis The Mariner's Compass

Pyxis, Latin for a small medicinal box, is a small and faint constellation in the southern sky. Abbreviated from Pyxis Nautica, its name is Latin for a mariner's compass.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Reticulum The Reticle

Reticulum is a small, faint constellation in the southern sky. Its name is Latin for a small net, or reticle—a net of crosshairs at the focus of a telescope eyepiece that is used to measure star positions.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January

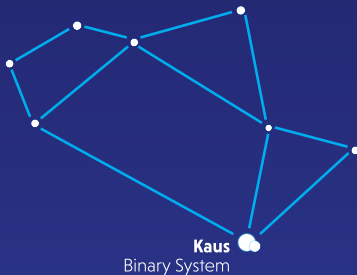


Sagitta The Arrow

Sagitta is a dim but distinctive constellation in the northern sky. Its name is Latin for "arrow", and it should not be confused with the larger constellation Sagittarius, the archer. It is the third-smallest area of all constellations (only Equuleus and Crux are smaller). Located to the north of the equator, Sagitta can be seen from every location on Earth except within the Antarctic circle.

LOCATION IN SKY: South (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Sagittarius The Archer

Sagittarius is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Sagittarius is commonly represented as a centaur pulling-back a bow. It lies between Scorpius and Ophiuchus to the west and Capricornus to the east. The Babylonians identified Sagittarius as the god Nergal, a strange centaur-like creature firing an arrow from a bow.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: October

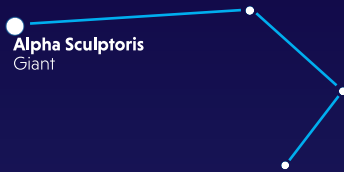


Scorpius The Scorpion

Scorpius is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for scorpion. In Greek mythology, the myths associated with Scorpio almost invariably also contain a reference to Orion. The two battled and were raised to the sky as stars by Zeus.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July



Sculptor The Sculptor

Sculptor is a small and faint constellation in the southern sky. It represents a sculptor. It was introduced by Nicolas Louis de Lacaille in the 18th century. He originally named it Apparatus Sculptoris (the sculptor's studio), but the name was later shortened.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November



Scutum The Shield

Scutum is a small constellation introduced in the seventeenth century. Its name is Latin for shield.

LOCATION IN SKY: Southwest Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Serpens The Serpents

In Greek mythology, Serpens represents a snake held by the healer Asclepius. As snakes shed their skin every year, they were known as the symbol of rebirth in ancient Greek society.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July

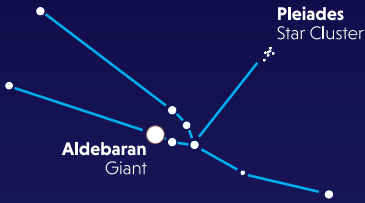


Sextans The Sextant

Sextans is a minor equatorial constellation which was introduced in 1687 by Johannes Hevelius. Its name is Latin for the astronomical sextant, an instrument that Hevelius made frequent use of in his observations.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April

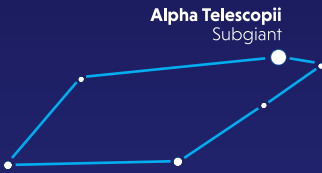


Taurus The Bull

Taurus, Latin for "the Bull", is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Taurus is a large and prominent constellation in the northern hemisphere's winter sky. It is one of the oldest constellations, dating back to at least the Early Bronze Age when it marked the location of the Sun during the spring equinox.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: January

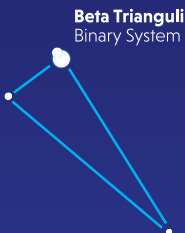


Telescopium The Telescope

Telescopium is a minor constellation in the southern celestial hemisphere. Its name is a Latinized form of the Greek word for telescope. Telescopium was later much reduced in size by Francis Baily and Benjamin Gould.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: August



Triangulum The Triangle

Triangulum is a small constellation in the northern sky. Its name is Latin for "triangle", derived from its three brightest stars, which form a long and narrow triangle. Known to the ancient Babylonians and Greeks.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

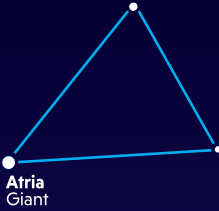
BEST SEEN: December

Triangulum Australe The Southern Triangle

Triangulum Australe is a small constellation in the far Southern Celestial Hemisphere. Its name is Latin for "the southern triangle", which distinguishes it from Triangulum in the northern sky and is derived from the almost equilateral pattern of its three brightest stars.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: July

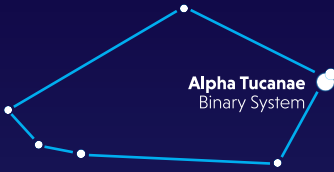


Tucana The Toucan

Tucana is a constellation of stars in the southern sky, named after the toucan, a South American bird. The constellations Tucana, Grus, Phoenix and Pavo are collectively known as the "Southern Birds".

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: November

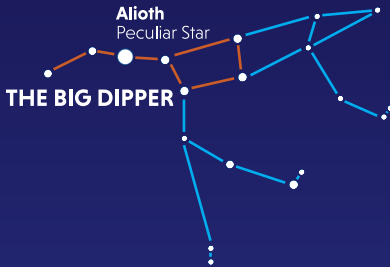


Ursa Major The Great Bear

Ursa Major, also known as the Great Bear, is a constellation in the northern sky, whose associated mythology likely dates back into prehistory. Its Latin name means "greater (or larger) she-bear", standing as a reference to and in direct contrast with nearby Ursa Minor, "the lesser she-bear."

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: April



Ursa Minor The Lesser Bear

Ursa Minor, Latin for "Lesser Bear", contrasting with Ursa Major, also known as the Little Bear, is a constellation in the Northern Sky. Like the Great Bear, the tail of the Little Bear may also be seen as the handle of a ladle, hence the North American name, Little Dipper. Ursa Minor has traditionally been important for navigation, particularly by mariners, because of Polaris being the North Star.

LOCATION IN SKY: North Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: June





Vela The Sails

Vela is a constellation in the southern sky. Its name is Latin for the sails of a ship, and it was originally part of a larger constellation, the ship Argo Navis, which was later divided into three parts, the others being Carina and Puppis.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Virgo The Virgin

Virgo is one of the constellations of the **zodiac**. Its name is Latin for virgin. Lying between Leo to the west and Libra to the east, it is the second largest constellation in the sky (after Hydra). It can be easily found through its brightest star, Spica.

LOCATION IN SKY: South Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: May



Volans The Flying Fish

Volans is a constellation in the southern sky. It represents a flying fish; its name is a shortened form of its original name, Piscis Volans.

LOCATION IN SKY: Directly Above (Southern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: March



Vulpecula The Fox

Vulpecula is a faint constellation in the northern sky. Its name is Latin for "little fox", although it is commonly known simply as the fox. It was identified in the seventeenth century, and is located in the middle of the Summer Triangle (an asterism consisting of the bright stars Deneb, Vega and Altair).

LOCATION IN SKY: Southwest Sky (Northern Hemisphere)

BEST SEEN: September

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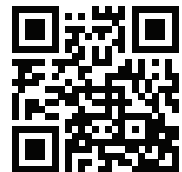
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