

10 SPACE EVENTS

APRIL

ASTROATHENS.COM

-  - Rocket Launch
-  - Planet Sighting
-  - Deep-Sky Object
-  - Our Moon
-  - Meteor Shower

10 VENUS & THE PLEIADES



You might've seen Venus in our evening sky over the past several nights, especially close to the Moon, Jupiter, and not too far from Mars - now's your chance to see it close to the Pleiades open star cluster!

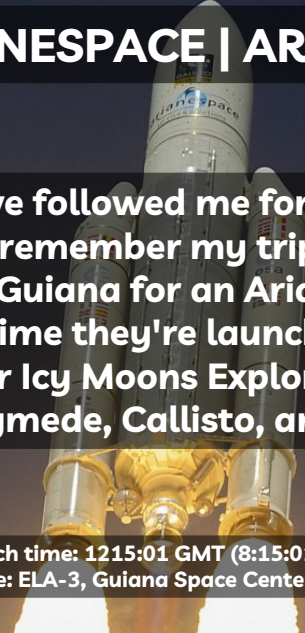
View time: after sunset - 9:30 pm CT
View site: Facing Western Horizon

13 ARIANESPACE | ARIANE 5



If you've followed me for a while you might remember my trip to Kourou, French Guiana for an Ariane 5 launch! This time they're launching ESA's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer to study Ganymede, Callisto, and Europa!

Launch time: 12:15:01 GMT (8:15:01 a.m. EDT)
Launch site: ELA-3, Guiana Space Center, French Guiana

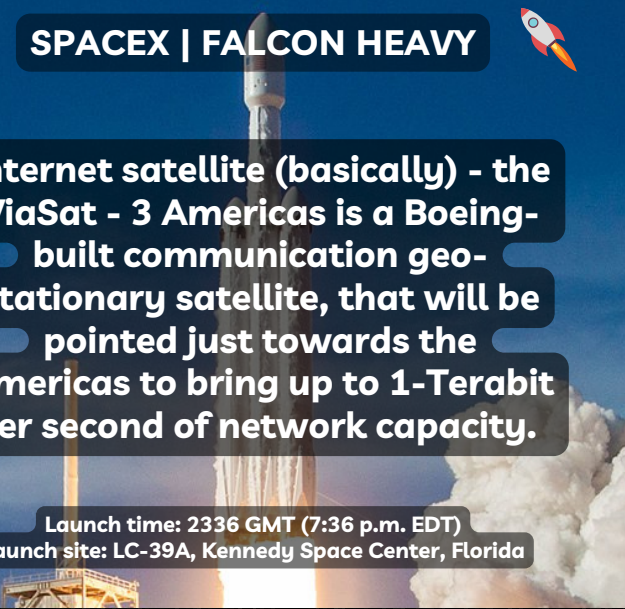


13 SPACEX | FALCON HEAVY



Internet satellite (basically) - the ViaSat - 3 Americas is a Boeing-built communication geostationary satellite, that will be pointed just towards the Americas to bring up to 1-Terabit per second of network capacity.

Launch time: 23:36 GMT (7:36 p.m. EDT)
Launch site: LC-39A, Kennedy Space Center, Florida

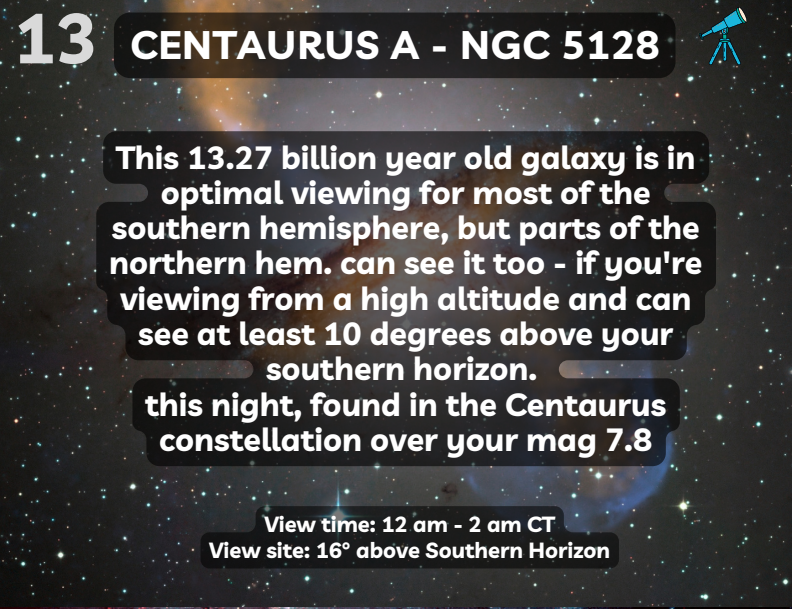


13 CENTAURUS A - NGC 5128



This 13.27 billion year old galaxy is in optimal viewing for most of the southern hemisphere, but parts of the northern hem. can see it too - if you're viewing from a high altitude and can see at least 10 degrees above your southern horizon. this night, found in the Centaurus constellation over your mag 7.8

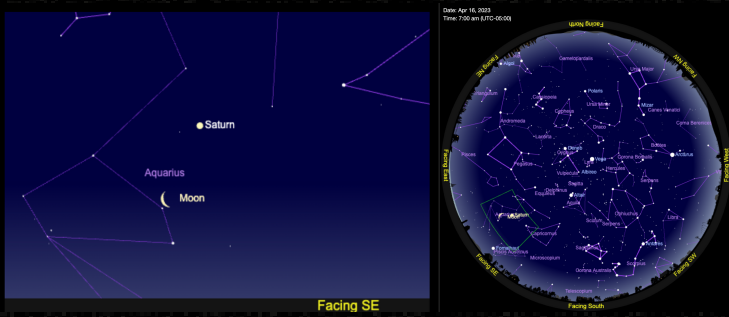
View time: 12 am - 2 am CT
View site: 16° above Southern Horizon



16 SATURN & THE WANING CRESCENT



Catch the Moon and Saturn dancing in the sky at just 5° apart, in the constellation Aquarius.



View time: Dawn, 7am CT
View site: Facing East - Southeast Horizon

16 SOUTHERN PINWHEEL GALAXY - M83



Check out this Messier object in the constellation Hydra. Its peak visibility happens at approx. 1:30 am CT.

View time: 11 pm - 3 am CT
View site: 29° above Southeastern Horizon

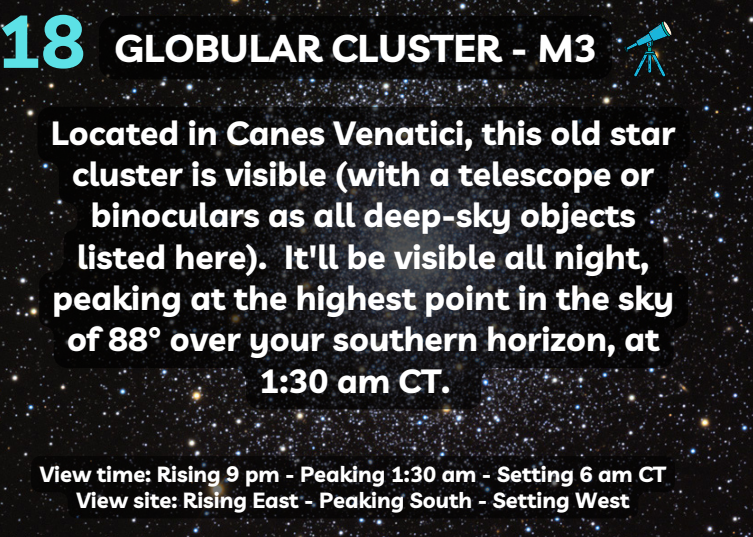


18 GLOBULAR CLUSTER - M3

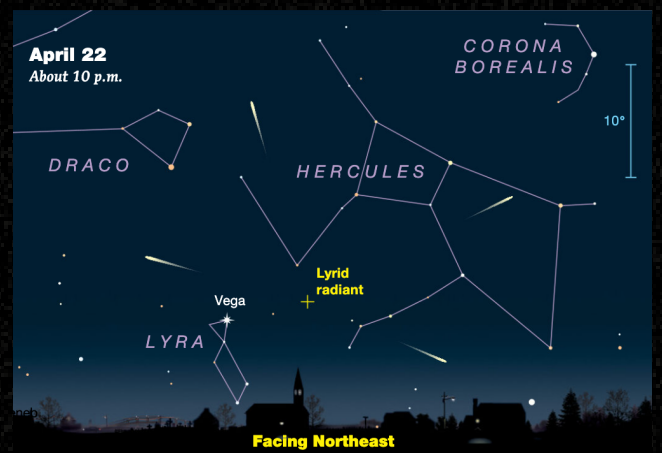


Located in Canes Venatici, this old star cluster is visible (with a telescope or binoculars as all deep-sky objects listed here). It'll be visible all night, peaking at the highest point in the sky of 88° over your southern horizon, at 1:30 am CT.

View time: Rising 9 pm - Peaking 1:30 am - Setting 6 am CT
View site: Rising East - Peaking South - Setting West



22-23 LYRID METEOR SHOWER PEAKS!

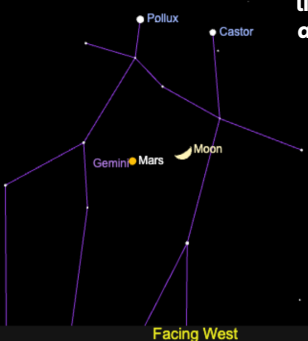


Facing Northeast

25 THE NEARLY HALF - MOON AND MARS



Enjoy this evening duo as the Moon approaches the first quarter (it'll look like a half moon) and will be just 3° away from the red planet, Mars, in the constellation Gemini.



View time: 7-9 pm CT
View site: Western Horizon

27 BEEHIVE AND THE MOON



Check out M44, the Beehive cluster and the first quarter moon just 4° apart! Find this in the constellation Cancer, facing your Southwest horizon.



View time: 7-9 pm CT
View site: Western Horizon

THE MOON PHASES

