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## **SKY CALENDAR APRIL 2023**

An aid to enjoying the changing sky

Use this scale to measure angular distances between objects on diagrams below.

**Evening Planets: Venus** dominates the evening sky (517) 355-4676 all month. Look westward for the bright planet. Watch http://abramsplanetarium.org/ April 9 through 12 as Venus passes to the left of the Pleiades star cluster. Venus passes 7.4° north of Aldebaran on April 18 and 19. Mercury, in its the year for the northern in the first half of the month. Mercury is 22.1° below Venus on April 1, 9. Mercury is at Greatest

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best evening apparition of hemisphere, can be found to the lower right of Venus shrinking to 19.6° by April Elongation (19.5°) from the Sun April 11. Mercury quickly fades in brightness during the third week of April. What is the last date you can spot the quick moving planet? Uranus is between Venus and Mercury but will be a very challenging object to spot that close to the horizon. Mars is high in the sky. The red planet is moving eastward through the stars of Gemini the twins. Mars slowly fades in brightness as the distance increases between Earth and Mars. Mars starts April 136.1 million miles from Earth and ends the month 161.6 million miles away.

**Morning Planets: Saturn** spends the month low in the southeast dawn sky, getting a bit higher each day. Saturn rises 1 hour and 24 minutes before sunrise on April 1. Saturn rises 2 hours and 28 minutes before sunrise on April 30, as seen from latitude 40 and longitude 90. Look for a thin crescent Moon below Saturn on April 16.

**Jupiter** is in conjunction with the Sun on April 11 and can't be seen this month.

**TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY WEDNESDAY** Apr 1-3, Alpha Lib Fri Apr 7, Sat Apr 1, Thurs Apr 6, : Pleiades Apr 4-8, Apr 4-6, Pleiades : Tues 4 Pleiades one hour one hour before sunrise one hour one hour one hour one hour LIBRA  $\mathcal{S}_{ICKL_{E}}$ after Fri 7 after after after after sunset Sat 8 sunset sunset sunset sunset Venus Thurs 6 VIRGO Venus · Sat 1 Venus **LEO** Spica · Wed 5 Uranus Uranus + + Uranus Regulus  $\bigcirc$ **VIRGO** Tues 4 ○ Wed 5 Hamal Hamal Sunday 2 **WSW** SW **ARIES** Hamal **ARIES** Mercury Mercury ARIES . Spica -0.5 mag ★ –0.4 mag **ESE** Denebola Aldebaran WNW WNW Mon Apr 10, Tues Apr 11, Thurs 6 Mercury –1.0 mag one hour one hour Pleiades Venus Mon 3 after after Venus Apr 9-13, Mon 10 sunset sunset Delta Sco Pleiades Tues 11 Sunday Apr 9 one hour before sunrise **TAURUS** Pleiades  $\circ$ one hour Apr 15 & 16, SAGITTARIUS. after Antares Sunday 9 one hour before sunrise Venus sunset Wed 12 **CAPRICORNUS** Thurs 13 **SCORPIUS** Delta Cap . Uranus Uranus + TERRITORY OF DOGS Saturn Ve-Me 19.6° Mercury at Hamal min dist Mercury greatest elongation, Uranus + **Sat 15** 19.5° east of the Sun. 0.0 mag Mercury Sunday 16 Hamal WNW Mercury +0.1 mag ESE –0.2 mag ARIF Mon Apr 17, Thurs Apr 20, Thurs Apr 6 Thurs Apr 20 Venus 🛶 Fri Apr 21 Sat Apr 22 Venus Venus WNW 45 minutes before sunrise Annular-Total 40 min after Full Moon 12:34 a.m. EDT one hour one hour Solar Eclipse is Aldebaran sunset after Sunday Apr 16, Thurs Apr 13 after visible in parts Aldebaran Aldebaran sunset one hour Last Quarter Moon 5:11 a.m. EDT of the Indian sunsėt Pleiades Aldebaran Moon and Pacific **TAURUS** after Thurs Apr 20 **AQUARIUS** Venus oceans, Malaysia sunset Mercury mag +1.9, New Moon 12:12 a.m. EDT Pleiades Indonesia, Papua Uranus mag +5.8, New Guinea **TAURUS TAURUS** Pleiades **Thurs Apr 27** Saturn will be nearly impossible to **TAURUS** Pleiades Philippines, and spot in the evening twilight. The First Quarter Moon 5:20 p.m. EDT Australia. Moon will be higher and easier Easy Tues Apr 25, for western states. Young Mercury quickly fades in Castor Pollux • Mercury Moon Mercury W WNW one hour brightness this week. Last easy Uranus Old Moon after +2.2 mag ESE · WNW Young Moon Mercury Moon sunset WNW L +0.9 mag WNW Saturn Capella Delta Mars Wed Apr 26. Sat Apr 29. Moon /) Pollux Castor Cap one hour 45 minutes Moon BetaTauri Zeta after sunset before sunrise Mon Sunday AURIGA . **GEMINI** Apr 24, Apr 23, **AQUARIUS** two 1½ hours Moon BetaTauri Mars hours after BetaTauri SE Zeta **ESE** after Venus \* sunset Tauri sunset Venus 🗼 **GEMINI** Apr 27-29. **TAURUS** Aldebaran Betelgeuse Venus one hour after sunset LEO SICKLE . **TAURUS TAURUS** BetaTauri **Pleiades** Thurs 27 Pleiades ORION **Sat 29 Pleiades TAURUS** Orion's Aldebaran • Aldebaran • Fri 28 belt WNW · WNW Venus 🛪 Beehive ORION Hyades Regulus

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