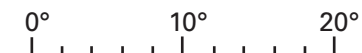


# ©ABRAMS PLANETARIUM SKY CALENDAR APRIL 2021

An aid to enjoying the changing sky

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

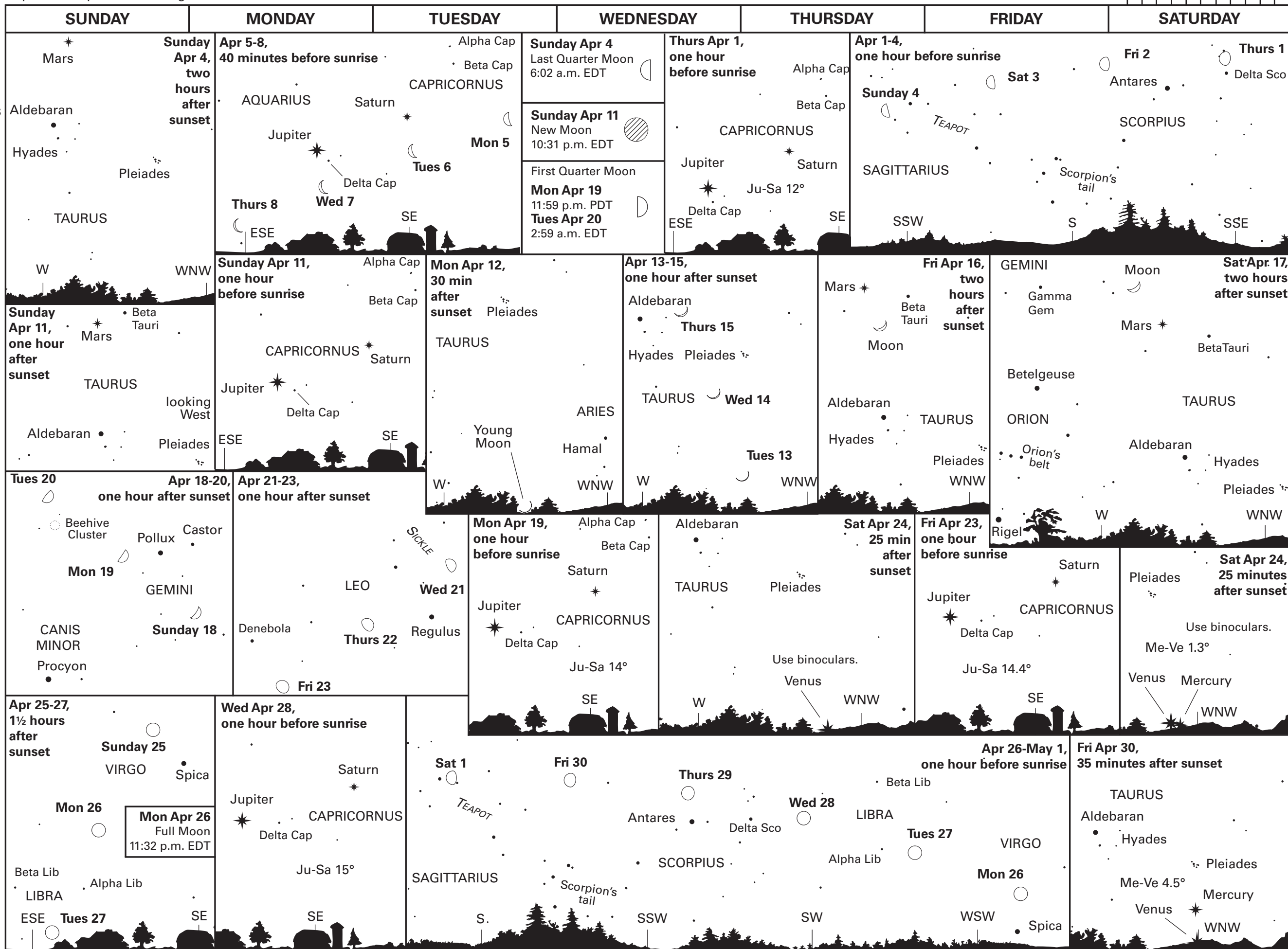


**Evening Planets: Mars** is visible in the west throughout the month. Mars sets about five and a half hours after sunset at the start of April, and about four and a half hours after sunset by the end of the month. Mars fades in brightness from 1.3 magnitude to 1.6 magnitude. **Venus and Mercury** make an appearance late in the month. Look low in the WNW with binoculars. Next month Venus and Mercury will be easier to spot, but will remain close to the WNW horizon.

**Morning Planets: Jupiter and Saturn** are low in the south east dawn sky. Each morning, the pair of gas giant planets climb a little higher. At the start of the month, Jupiter rises two hours before sunrise. At the end of the month, Jupiter rises three hours before sunrise. The waning crescent Moon is below Saturn on April 6 and below Jupiter April 7. The **Lyrid meteor shower** peaks in the predawn hours of April 22. The Lyrids have a broad peak, lasting from April 16 to April 25. The Moon is a waning gibbous in Leo on April 22 and will interfere with seeing the fainter meteors.

The Full Moon on April 26 at 11:32 p.m. EDT is the **second closest Full Moon** of 2021. The Moon is at perigee, 222,081 miles, April 27 at 11:22 a.m. EDT. The Moon is at apogee on April 14 at 1:46 p.m. EDT at 252,343 miles

Planetarium business office:  
(517) 355-4676  
<http://twitter.com/AbramsSkyNotes>  
<http://abramsplanetarium.org/>



John S. French, Robert C. Victor  
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