



August Night Sky

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This map represents the sky at the following local times:

- Late July 11 pm
- Early August 10 pm
- Late August Dusk

NORTH

EAST

WEST

SOUTH

This Month's Moon Phases

- 5: Last Quarter
- 12: New
- 19: First Quarter
- 28: Full

Deep Sky Object Key

- Galaxy
- Open Cluster
- Globular Cluster
- Diffuse Nebula
- Planetary Nebula

Three significant astronomical events occur this August. Observers along a path from Greenland to the Mediterranean will get to witness a total solar eclipse, the first since April 2024, on August 12th. From West Michigan, we will only see a *very* partial solar eclipse. A mere 1.31% of the Sun's face will be obscured at 1:31:31 pm EDT, but an eclipse is an eclipse! Obviously, you will need a pair of eclipse glasses or a

#14 or darker (high number) welding glass to safely view the Sun.

The famed Perseid meteor shower peaks on the night of August 12th-13th. Viewing conditions are optimal this year with the Moon at a new phase. Observers at dark sites can view up to 100 meteors per hour. All you'll need are warm clothes, a reclining chair, and your own two eyes.

A deep partial lunar eclipse will be visible to skywatchers across North America on the night of August 27th-28th. The umbral phase of the eclipse begins at 10:34 pm EDT. You'll slowly notice the eastern (left) half of the Moon grow progressively darker. Maximum eclipse occurs at 12:13 am, with 96.2% of the lunar surface looking coppery red. The Moon exits the umbra entirely at 1:52 am.