



October Night Sky

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This map represents the sky at the following local standard times:

- Early September 11 pm
- Late September 10 pm
- Early October 9 pm
- Late October Dusk

NORTH

EAST

WEST

SOUTH

This Month's Moon Phases

- 3: Last Quarter
- 10: New
- 18: First Quarter
- 26: Full

Deep Sky Object Key

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

Saturn reaches opposition on the night of October 3rd-4th. This is a wonderful time to view Saturn's rings through a telescope due to the opposition effect, a rapid brightening of the rings when Earth is positioned directly between the Sun and Saturn. The tiny shadows cast by individual icy particles in Saturn's rings fall directly behind the particles themselves and are hidden from view. With all visible surfaces

fully illuminated, the overall ring brightness surges.

A 25-day-old waning crescent Moon will occult (totally block) Jupiter and its Galilean moons during the early morning hours of October 6th. The occultation begins at 4:22:51 am EDT. It takes the Moon 66 seconds to completely cover the gas giant planet. Jupiter will dramatically begin to

reappear behind the unilluminated portion of the Moon at 5:18:31 am. The occultation ends at 5:19:42 am. The next Jupiter occultation will not occur until September 28, 2034.

The Orionid meteor shower peaks on the night of October 21st-22nd. The waxing gibbous Moon will not interfere. Observers can expect about 18 meteors per hour.