



# What's in the Sky July 2023

**July 1:** Venus will be at its brightest of the year. Venus and Mars meet for a close conjunction. However Mars is dimming and may be difficult to see depending on the darkness of the sky and level of light pollution.

**July 3:** The **Full Moon** for July is most commonly called the Buck Moon in reference to the antlers growing on male deer during this time of year. It is the first of 3 consecutive Supermoons this year. Look to the East-Southeast around 9:30 PM to watch it rise.

**July 4-5:** Shortly after sunset, you may see dim Mars between the blue star Regulus and brilliant Venus forming a nice conjunction in the Western sky.

**July 9:** Mercury will be brighter and higher in the sky. However, it will still be close to the setting sun and somewhat difficult to see.

**July 17:** The **New Moon** is a great time for star gazing and July is the beginning of Milky Way season. If you have never seen the Milky Way consider a little road trip away from the metroplex. Drive to the rural north toward the Red River and perhaps a bit beyond. Wait for nightfall. It will be there beginning to arch from the southern sky.

**July 18:** Mercury and Venus will be to the left of a crescent Moon.

**July 20:** The crescent Moon will be above Venus in the west.

**July 25:** The **First Quarter Moon** is a great time to view its craters and mountain ranges with binoculars or any telescope.

**July 29-30:** The **Delta Aquarid Meteor Shower** is expected to peak. This meteor shower has an anticipated rate of 10 meteors per hour. Best time to watch is late night to early morning. Look away from the moon to the darkest part of the sky.

**Saturn and Jupiter:** You may be wondering where they are and when they will appear in the evening sky. The wait is almost over. Beginning July 1 Saturn will rise in the East at 11:49pm. Jupiter will rise behind Saturn July 2 at 2:38am. Every night they will rise earlier than the night before and by July 30 Saturn will rise at 9:48pm. Jupiter will rise August 1 at 12:53am.