



March 2026 Astronomy Report



- **Moon:**
 - Phases
 - Rupes Altai escarpment
- **Planets:**
 - Evening: Saturn, Venus, Uranus, Jupiter
 - Morning: Mercury (*barely*)
 - *Neptune & Mars not visible this month*
- **Comets/Asteroids/Meteor Showers:**
 - Comet C/2024 E1 (Wierzbos)
- **Dark Sky Star Party:**
 - 22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14
- **Public Viewing:**
 - Cub Lake, March 21

Moon - Phases

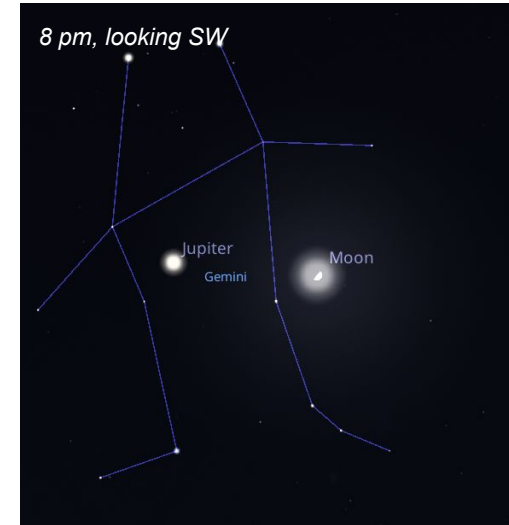
March 18 - New Moon

March 20 - Vernal equinox occurs at 7:46 am

March 25 - First Quarter (Gemini)

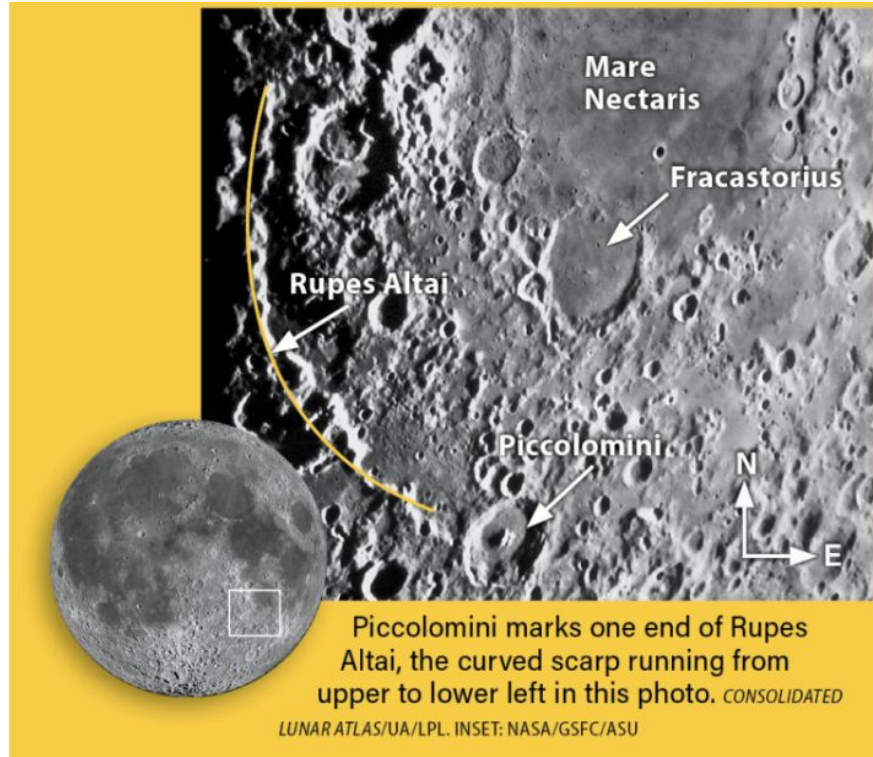
March 3 - Full Moon (lunar eclipse)

March 11 - Last Quarter (Ophiuchus)



Apogee (251K miles) - 10th
Perigee (228K miles) - 22nd

Moon - Rupes Altai escarpment, March 23



Rupes Altai is the most prominent lunar escarpment. This cliff forms the southwestern rim of the Nectaris impact basin.



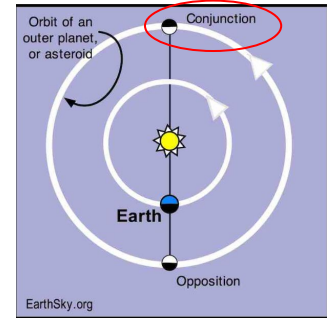
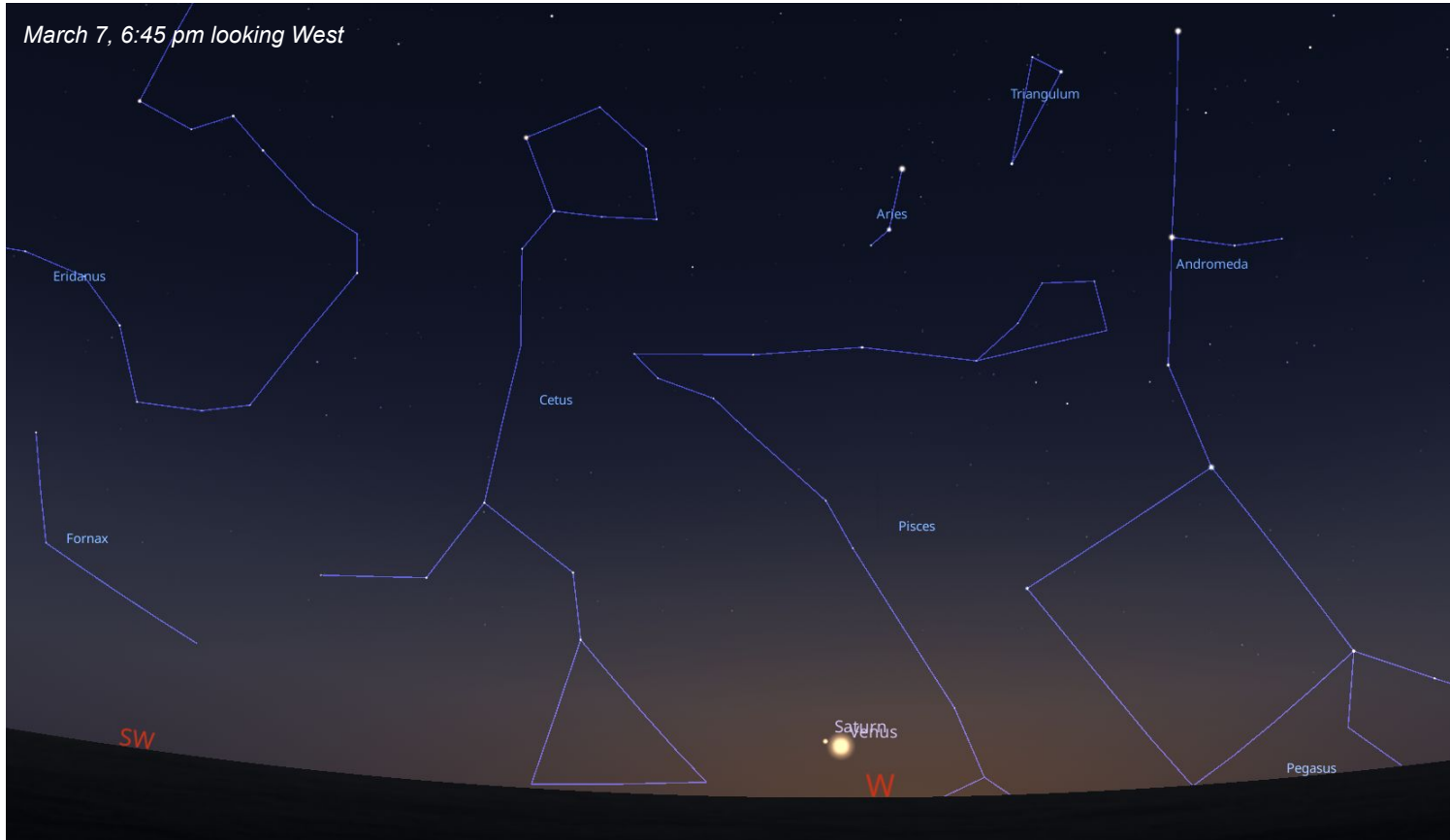
March 2026 Astronomy Report



- **Moon:**
 - Phases
 - Rupes Altai escarpment
- **Planets:**
 - Evening: Saturn, Venus, Uranus, Jupiter
 - Morning: Mercury (*barely*)
 - *Neptune & Mars not visible this month*
- **Comets/Asteroids/Meteor Showers:**
 - Comet C/2024 E1 (Wierzbos)
- **Dark Sky Star Party:**
 - 22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14
- **Public Viewing:**
 - Cub Lake, March 21

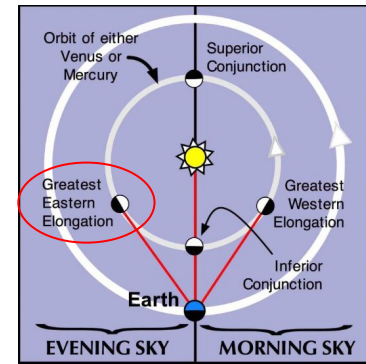
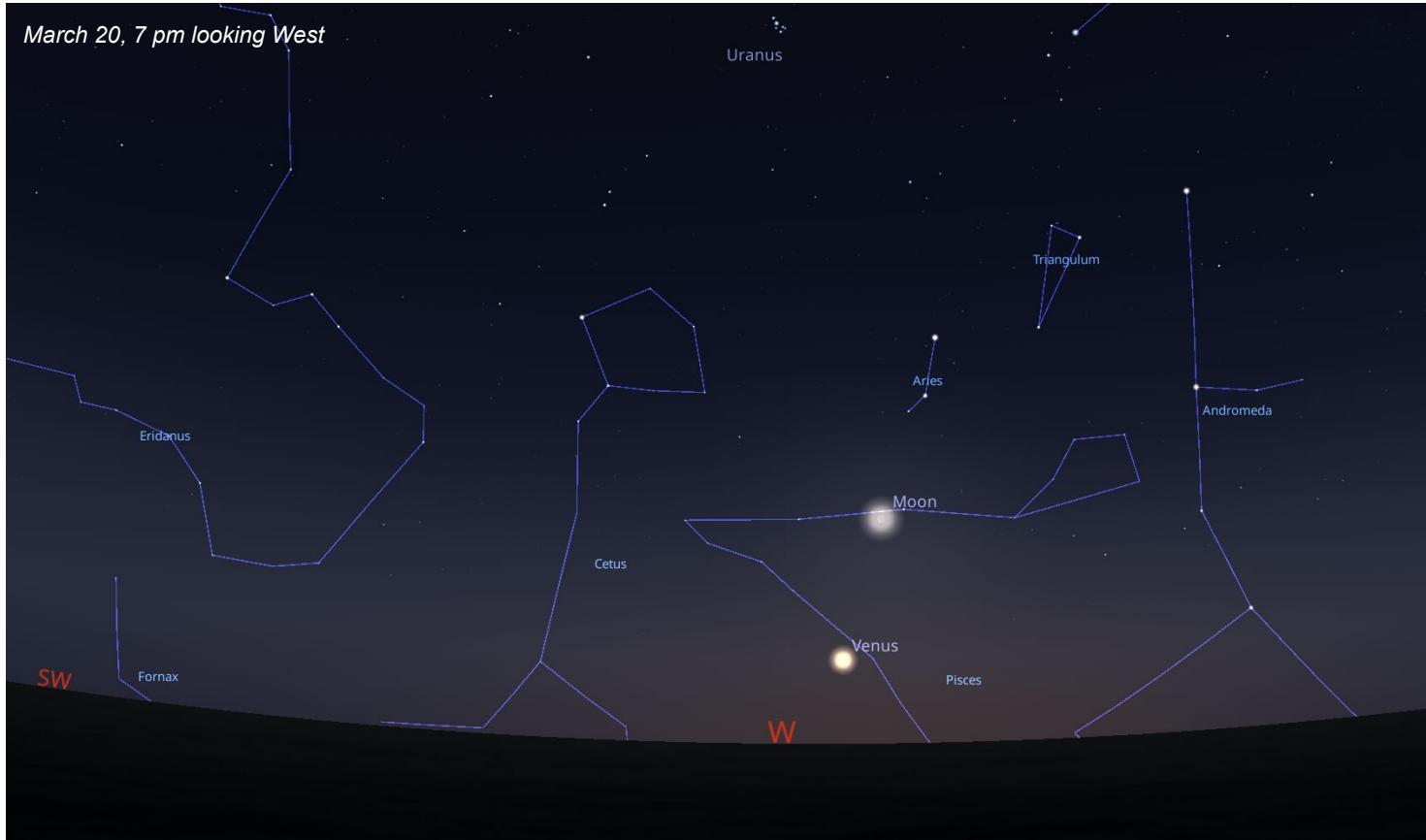
Evening Planets: Saturn, Venus - (Pisces)

Venus and Saturn lie close together on March 7th and 8th. Saturn drops out of view by mid-month and reaches solar conjunction on March 25th.



Evening Planets: Venus - (Pisces)

Venus continues to climb higher as it extends its elongation from the Sun. A slender crescent Moon is nearby on March 19th & 20th.



Evening Planets: Jupiter - (*Gemini*)

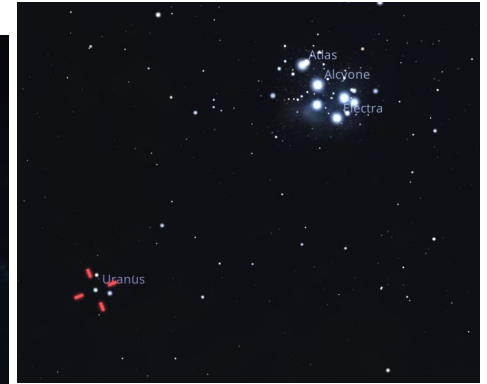
Jupiter dominates the evening sky in Gemini throughout March. Sets around 2 am by end of the month.

March 20, 9 pm looking SW



Evening Planets: Uranus - (Taurus)

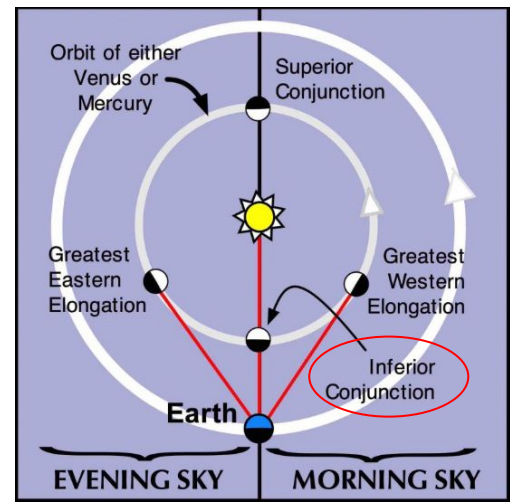
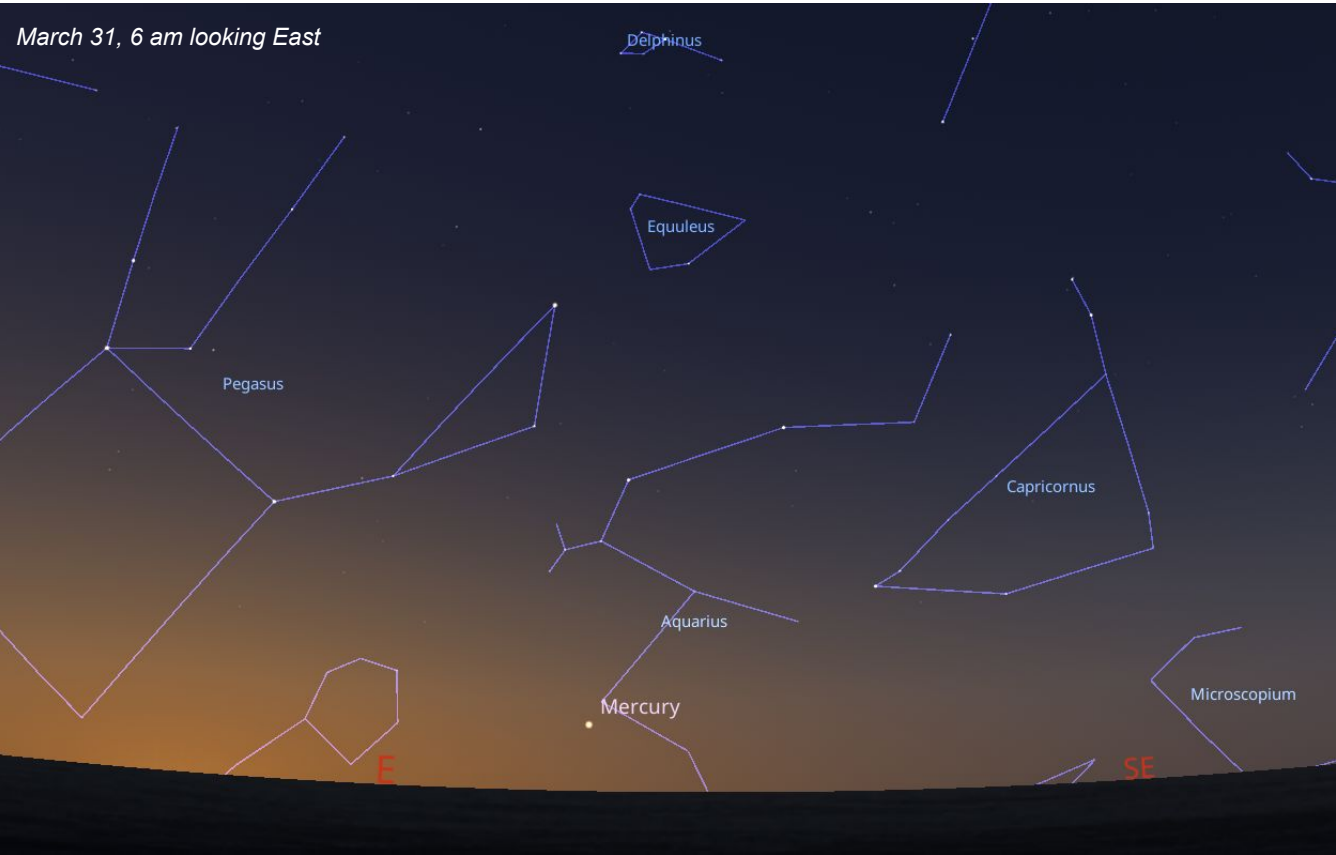
Uranus is visible just south of the Pleiades (M45), sets soon after midnight.



Uranus is next to 13 and 14 Tauri, visible with binoculars.

Morning Planet: Mercury - (Aquarius)

Mercury reappears in the morning sky after its conjunction with the sun on March 7th.
Low in the eastern sky by end of the month.





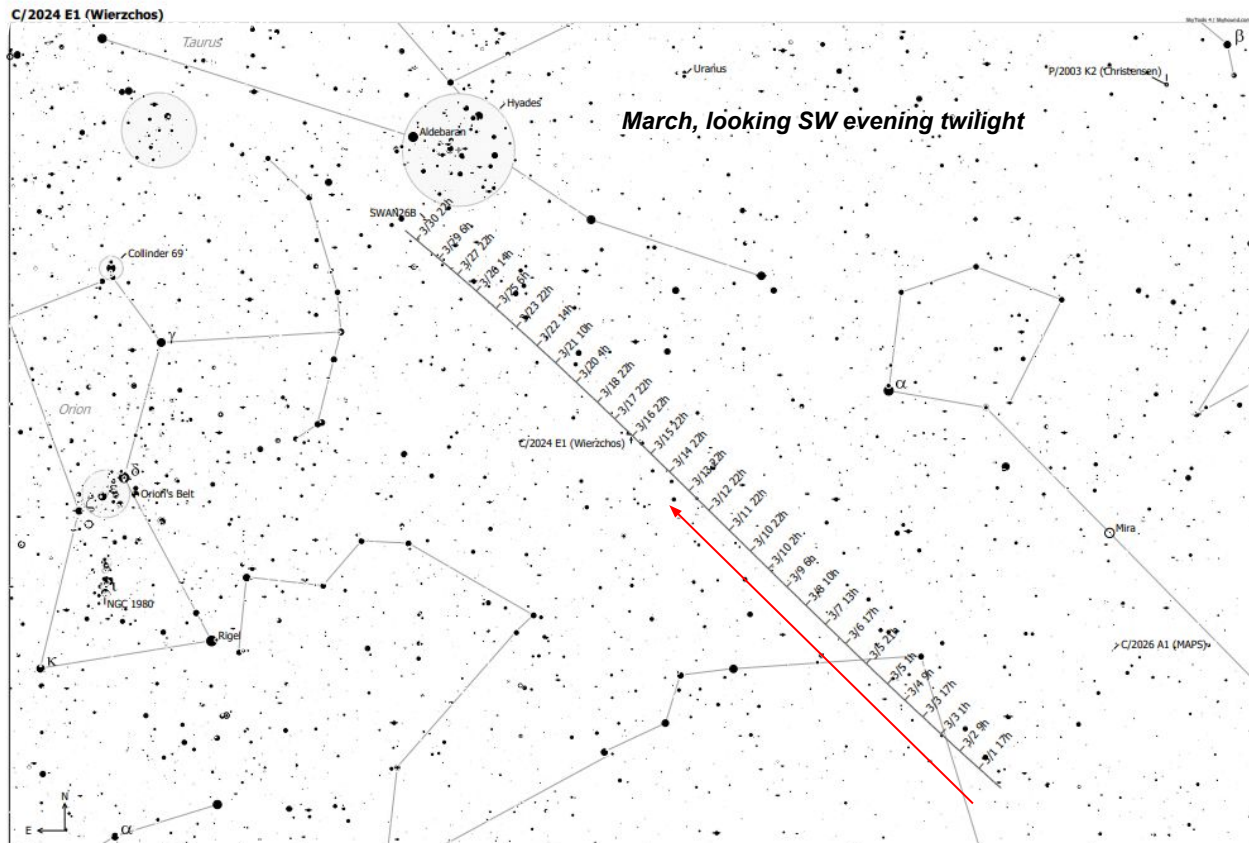
March 2026 Astronomy Report



- **Moon:**
 - Phases
 - Rupes Altai escarpment
- **Planets:**
 - Evening: Saturn, Venus, Uranus, Jupiter
 - Morning: Mercury (*barely*)
 - *Neptune & Mars not visible this month*
- **Comets/Asteroids/Meteor Showers:**
 - Comet C/2024 E1 (Wierzbos)
- **Dark Sky Star Party:**
 - 22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14
- **Public Viewing:**
 - Cub Lake, March 21

Comet - C/2024 E1 (Wierzchos)

Comet Wierzchos is moving quickly but can be found with binoculars early in the month. Fades by mid-month as it moves towards Taurus.





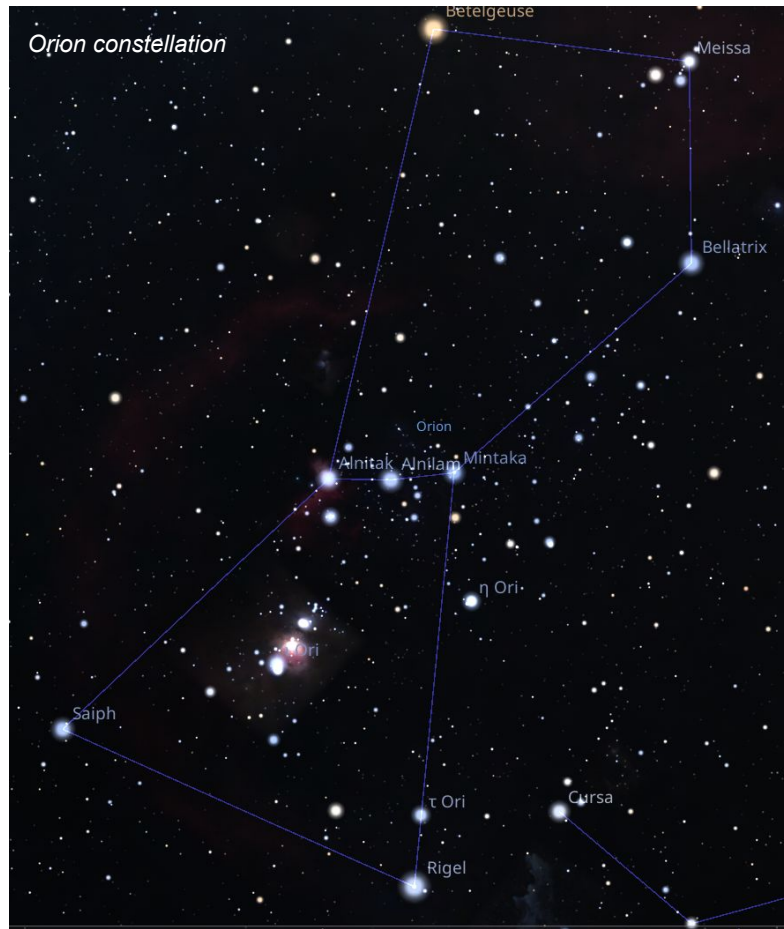
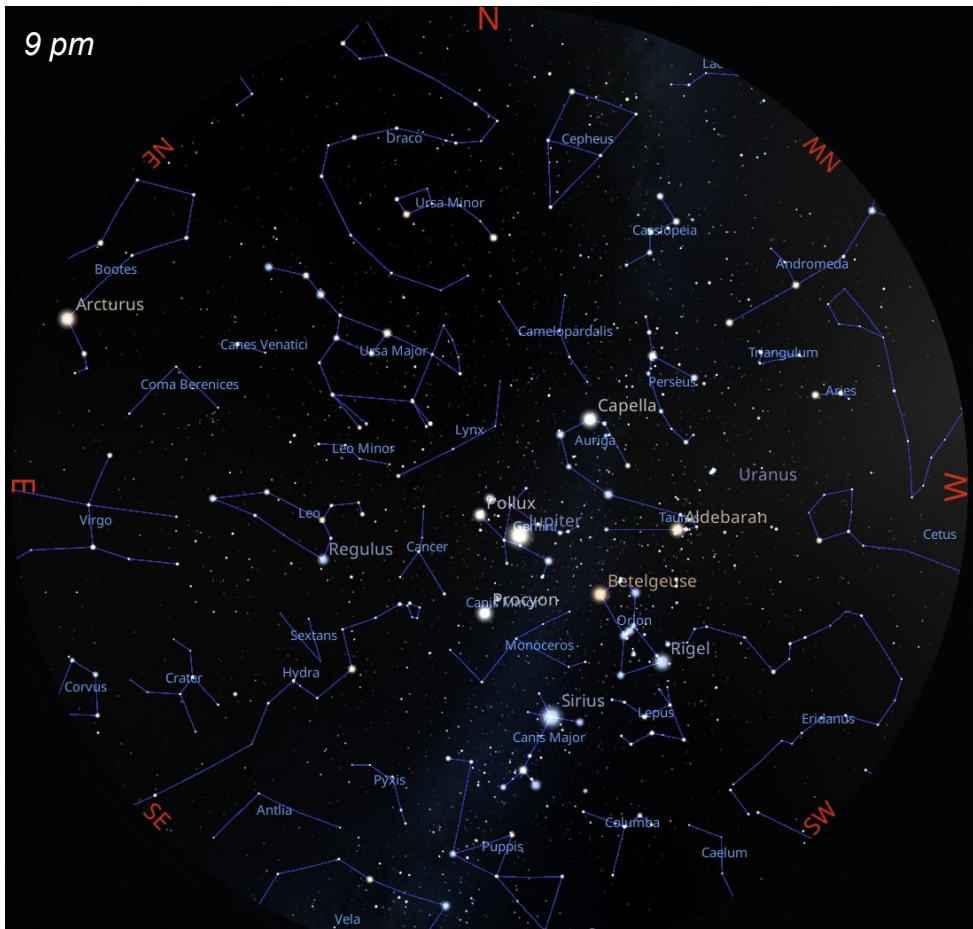
March 2026 Astronomy Report



- **Moon:**
 - Phases
 - Rupes Altai escarpment
- **Planets:**
 - Evening: Saturn, Venus, Uranus, Jupiter
 - Morning: Mercury (*barely*)
 - *Neptune & Mars not visible this month*
- **Comets/Asteroids/Meteor Showers:**
 - Comet C/2024 E1 (Wierzbos)
- **Dark Sky Star Party:**
 - 22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14
- **Public Viewing:**
 - Cub Lake, March 21

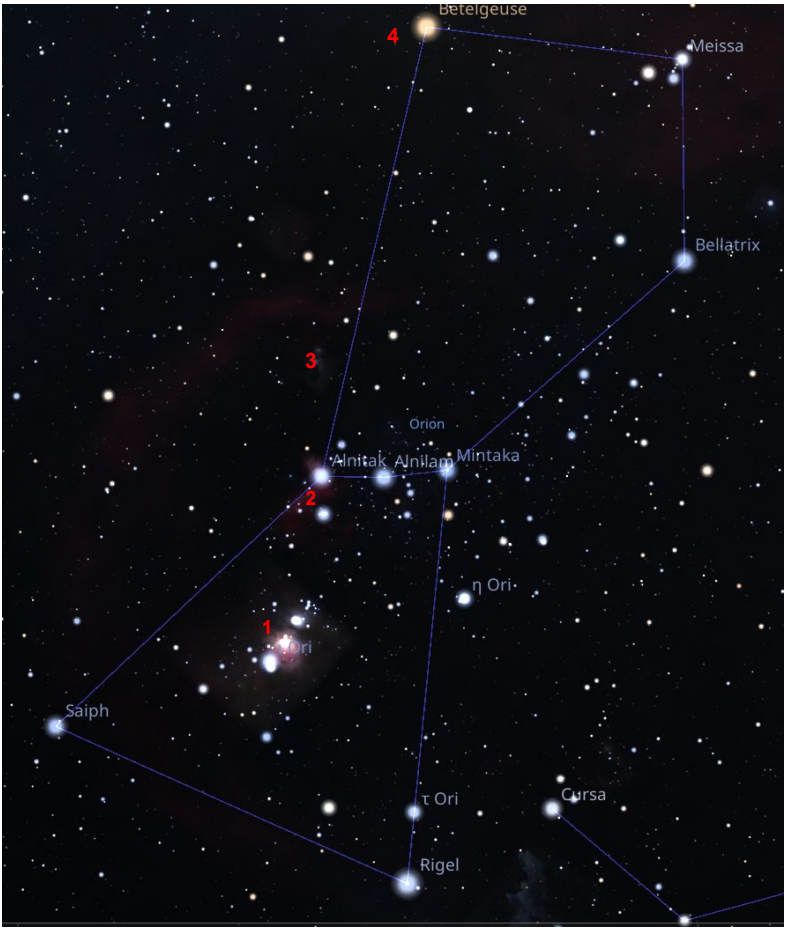
22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14

Ps 19:2



Dark Sky Viewing

22171 Cody Ct - BVS, March 14



1 - M42 (Orion Nebula)



*Brightest nebula in night sky, visible w naked eye
1300 light years from Earth*

2 - B33 (Horsehead Nebula)



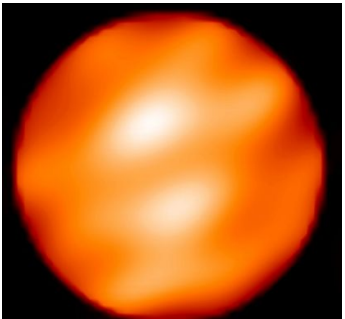
1300 light years from Earth (telescope)

3 - M78



*visible in small scopes as a hazy patch
1350 light years from Earth*

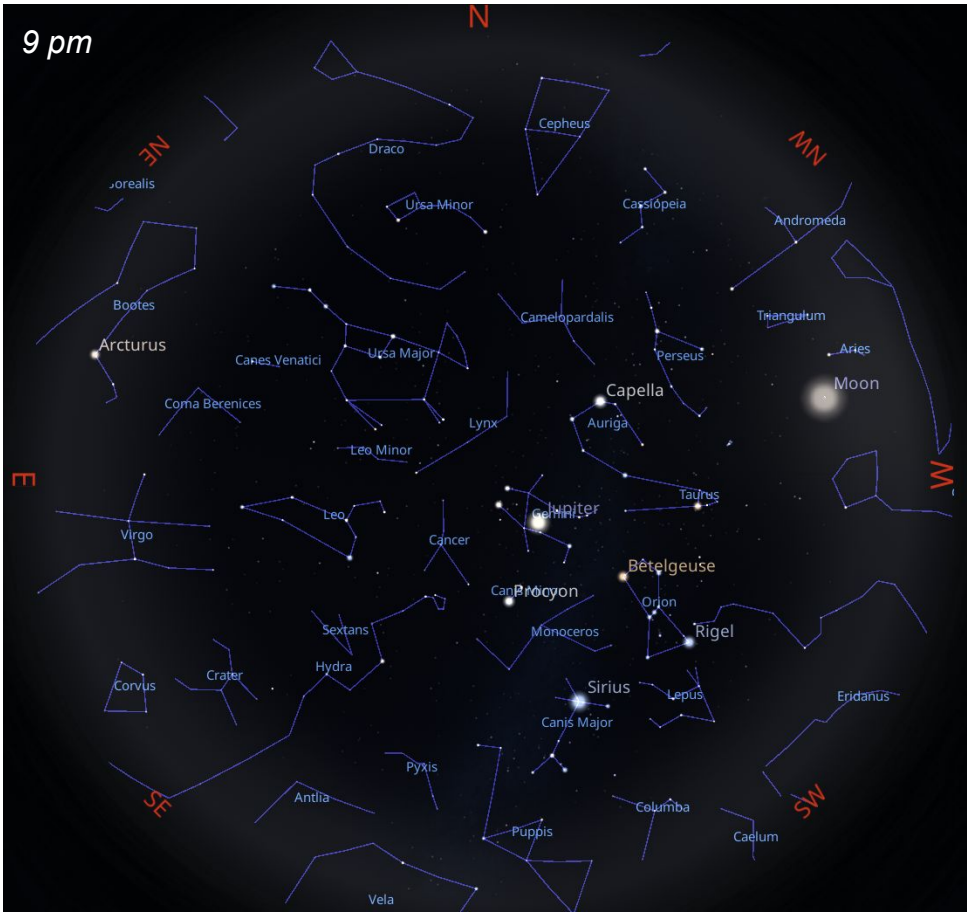
4 - Betelgeuse



*Red supergiant star, 10th brightest star
Radius ~700X greater than the Sun*

Public Viewing

Cub Lake, March 21



March 2026 Viewing Chronology

- 3 - Full moon (lunar eclipse)
- 7 - Saturn/Venus (*twilight*)
- 11 - Last Qtr moon
- 14 - Dark Sky Star Party
- 18 - New moon
- 20 - Vernal equinox; Venus/moon/Jupiter/Uranus (*evening*)
- 21 - Public Viewing
- 25 - moon (Rupes Altai) (*evening*)
- 31 - Mercury (*dawn*)

C/20 E1 (Wierzchos) comet - 1st half of March

Backup Slide

