

Sydney Observatory night sky map

July 2013

A map for each month of the year, to help you learn about the night sky

www.sydneysydneyobservatory.com.au

This star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth for July 2013 at about 7:30 pm (local standard time). For Darwin and similar locations the chart will still apply, but some stars will be lost off the southern edge while extra stars will be visible to the north. Stars down to a brightness or magnitude limit of 4.5 are shown. To use this star chart, rotate it so that the direction you are facing (north, south, east or west) is shown at the bottom. The centre of the chart represents the point directly above your head, called the zenith, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

Star brightness

- Zero or brighter
- 1st magnitude
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th

Moon phase

- New moon: 08th
- First quarter: 16th
- Full moon: 23rd
- Last quarter: 30th

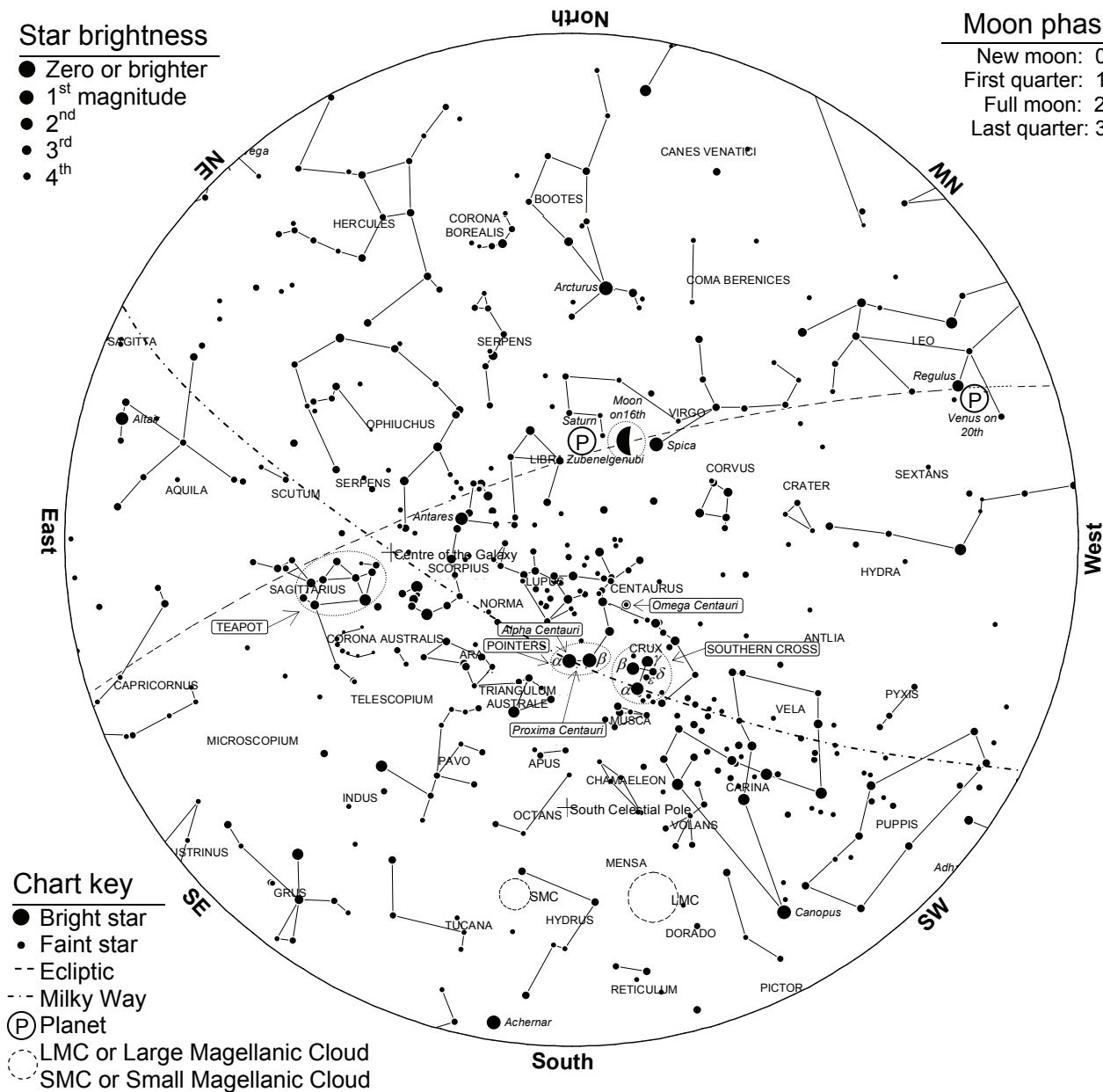


Chart key

- Bright star
- Faint star
- Ecliptic
- - - Milky Way
- (P) Planet
- LMC or Large Magellanic Cloud
- SMC or Small Magellanic Cloud

The planet Saturn can be seen in Virgo about half way between the bright star Spica and the star Zubenelgenubi. On the 16th the first quarter Moon is near Saturn. Early in the evening Venus is visible low in the sky towards the west. The best time to view the Moon with a small telescope or binoculars is a few days either side of the first quarter Moon on the 16th. This month the constellations of Scorpius (the Scorpion) and Crux (the Southern Cross) are high in the sky. The Southern Cross is easily located using the two nearby Pointer stars. The brighter of the Pointers, Alpha Centauri, is the nearest star system to the Sun. Near the end of the Scorpion's tail is the unofficial constellation of the Teapot.



Sydney Observatory, with a magnificent view overlooking Sydney Harbour, is open 10am to 5pm daily – except closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and open 10am to noon on New Year's Eve. Open Monday to Saturday for night telescope sessions (planetarium if cloudy), and 3D movies about the Universe. Bookings are essential for night programs.

Check the website at www.sydneysydneyobservatory.com.au or call (02) 9921 3485 for more information. Sydney Observatory is at Watson Road, Observatory Hill, in the historic Rocks area of Sydney.