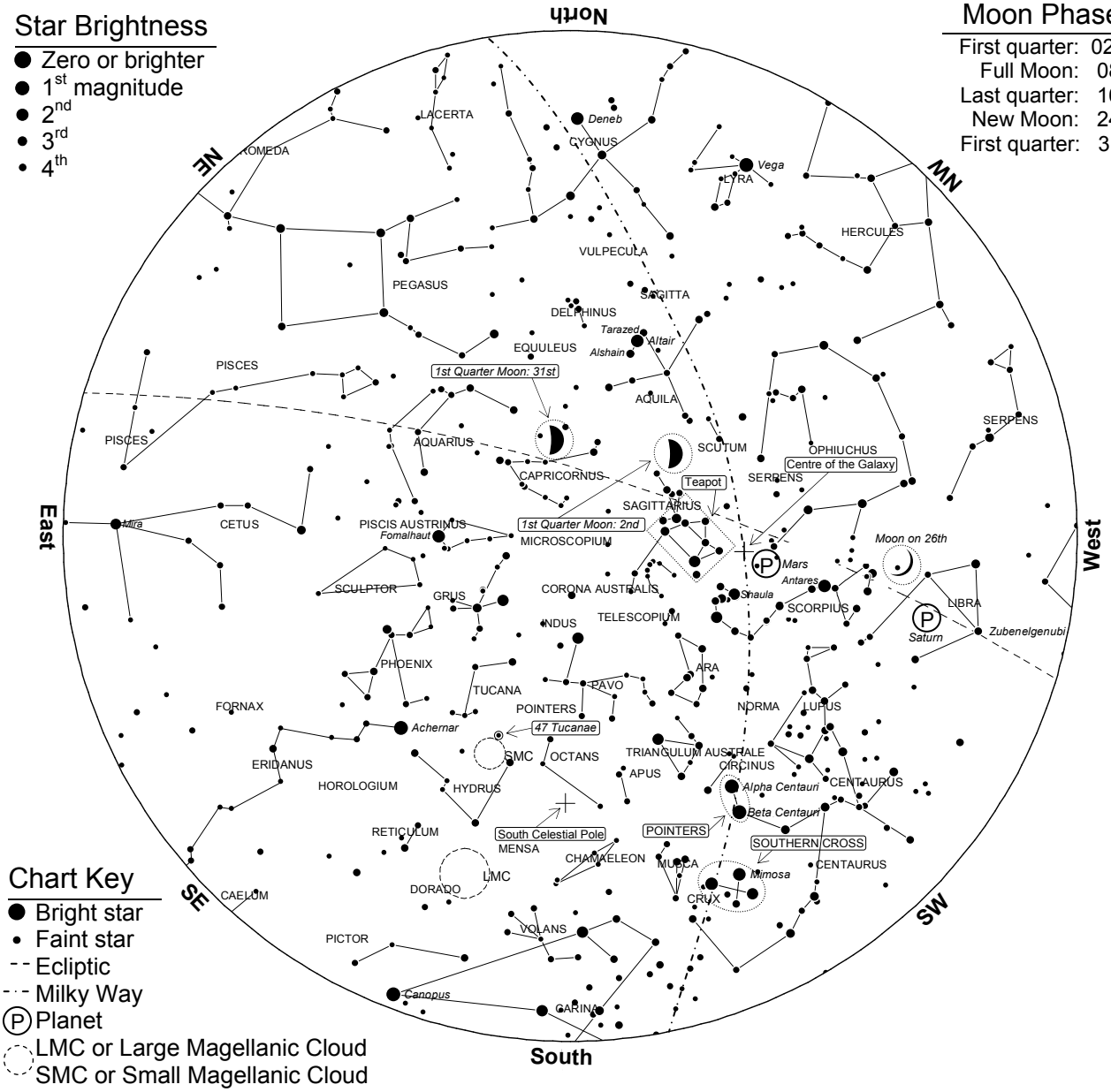
Sydney Observatory night sky map

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

October 2014

www.sydneyobservatory.com.au

This star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Hobart and Adelaide for October 2014 at about 8:30pm (summer time) and at about 7:30pm (local standard time) for Perth and Brisbane. 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.



Remember, summer (daylight saving) time begins on Sunday 5th at 2am in NSW, ACT, Victoria, Tasmania and SA. Mars can be seen high in the west while Saturn is low in the west. On 26th Mars is above and Saturn is below the crescent Moon towards the west. The best time to observe the Moon using binoculars or a small telescope is a few days either side of the first quarter Moon on the 2nd or 31st. There is a total lunar eclipse on the 8th beginning at 8:15pm when the Moon enters the Earth's shadow and is fully inside the Earth's shadow at 9:25pm. To the south-west is Crux (the Southern Cross), easily located using the two nearby Pointer stars. To the west are the constellations of Scorpius (the Scorpion) and Sagittarius (the Archer).

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 sessions (times vary depending on the season) for sky viewing through one of our telescopes (planetarium session if cloudy), and 3D movies about the Universe. Bookings are essential for night programs.

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

sydney observatory
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Sydney Observatory is part of the Powerhouse Museum. The Sydney Observatory night sky map is prepared by Dr M Anderson using the software TheSky. © 2014 Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney.