

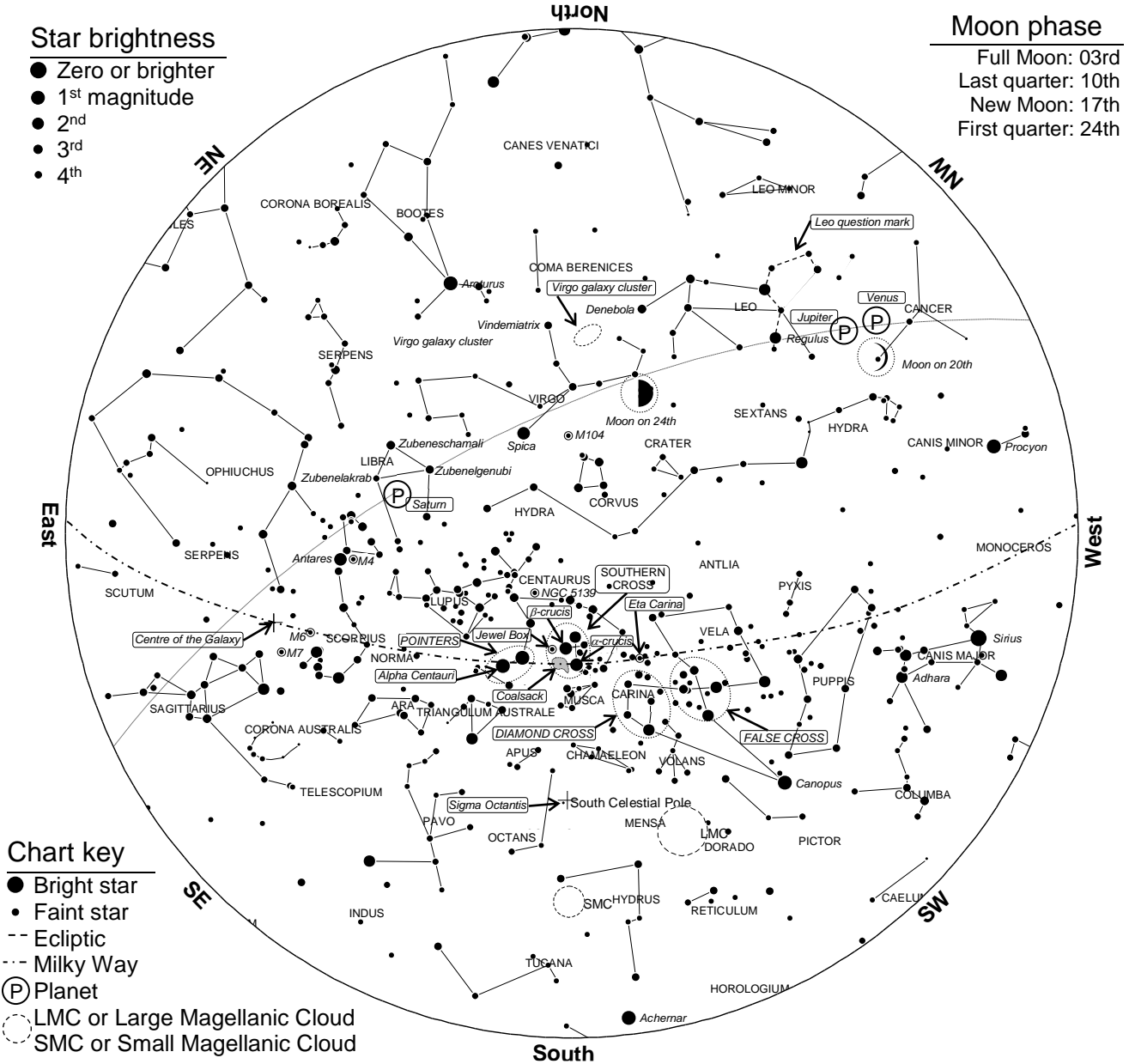
Sydney Observatory night sky map

June 2015

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

www.sydneyobservatory.com

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth for June 2015 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 on the star chart. To use this star chart, rotate the chart 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.



June 22nd is the shortest day of the year (winter solstice; 9 hours and 48 minutes of daylight) when the Sun is at its most northerly position in the sky. Saturn is located towards the east in Libra. Jupiter can be seen in the north-western sky and on the 20th one of the best conjunctions of the year will occur with Venus and the 4-day old waxing crescent Moon. 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 24th. The Southern Cross is high in the sky toward the south and is easily located using the two nearby pointer stars. The brighter of the pointers, Alpha Centauri, is the nearest star system to the Sun. Nearby is the False and Diamond Cross that are both mistaken for the Southern Cross. High in the sky are the constellations Corvus (the Crow), Scorpius (the Scorpion) and Hydra (the Water Snake).



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 (cosy 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 1003 Upper Fort Street, Observatory Hill, in the historic Rocks area of Sydney.