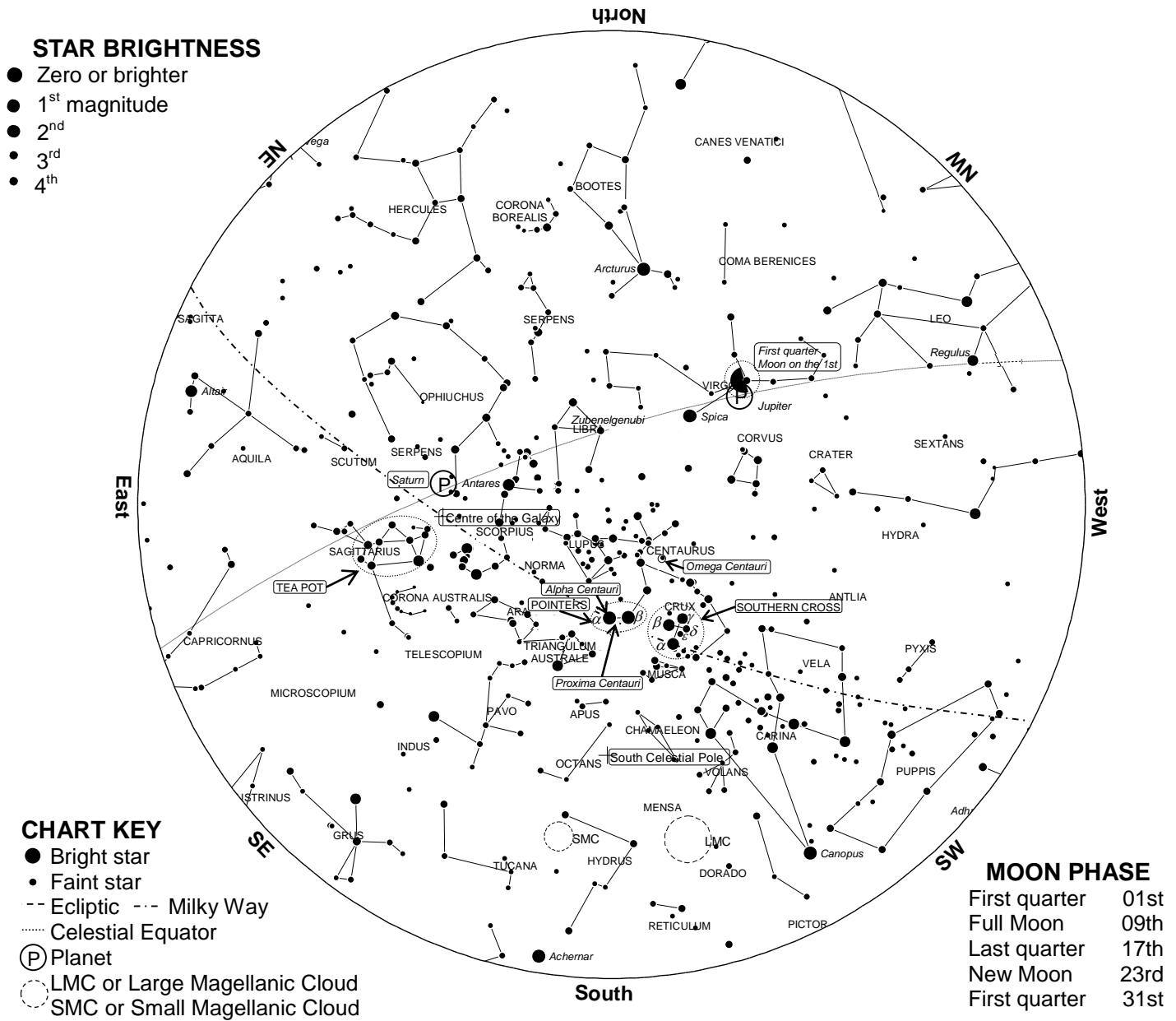


Night sky map

July 2017



THE CHART

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth for May 2017 at about 7.30pm (local standard time). For Darwin and similar northerly 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 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 point, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JULY 2017

The best time to look at the Moon with binoculars or telescopes is within a few days either side of first quarter on the 1st, and again on the 31st. This month there are two bright planets in the evening sky: Jupiter in the north in the constellation Virgo and Saturn, in the northeast in the constellation of Ophiuchus. During the months of winter, 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, which themselves are a part of Centaurus (the Centaur). The brighter of the pointers, Alpha Centauri, is the closest star system to our own, and it was recently discovered that there is a planet orbiting one of the stars in this system.