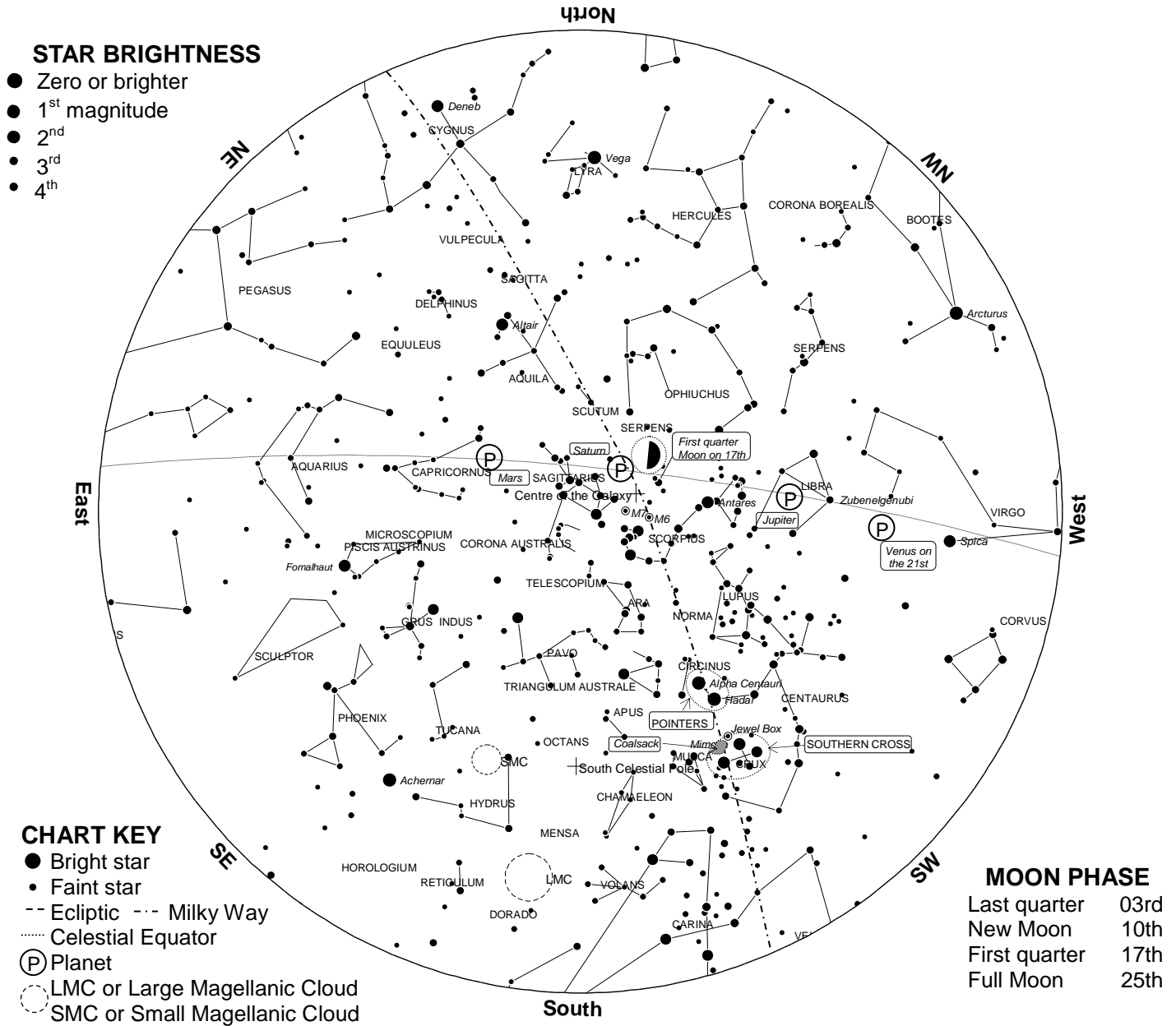


Night sky map

September 2018



THE CHART

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane, Hobart and Adelaide for September at about 7:30 pm (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 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 point, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

HIGHLIGHTS IN SEPTEMBER 2018

The spring equinox occurs on the 23rd of September, which marks the movement of the sun over the equator from the northern to the southern part of the sky. The best time to look at the Moon with a small telescope or binoculars is a few days either side of its first quarter phase, which falls on the 17th. Saturn is high in the north in Sagittarius (the Archer), Mars is in the northeast in Capricornus (the Sea Goat), Jupiter is in the northwest in Libra (the Scales) and Venus is in the west in Virgo (the Maiden). To the south-west is the constellation Crux (the Southern Cross), which can be easily located using the two nearby stars commonly referred to as the Pointer Stars.