

Sydney Observatory night sky map

August 2009

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

www.sydneyobservatory.com.au

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth for August 2009 at about 7.30 pm (eastern 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 point, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.

Star brightness

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

Moon phase

- Full moon: 06th
- Last quarter: 14th
- New moon: 20th
- First quarter: 27th

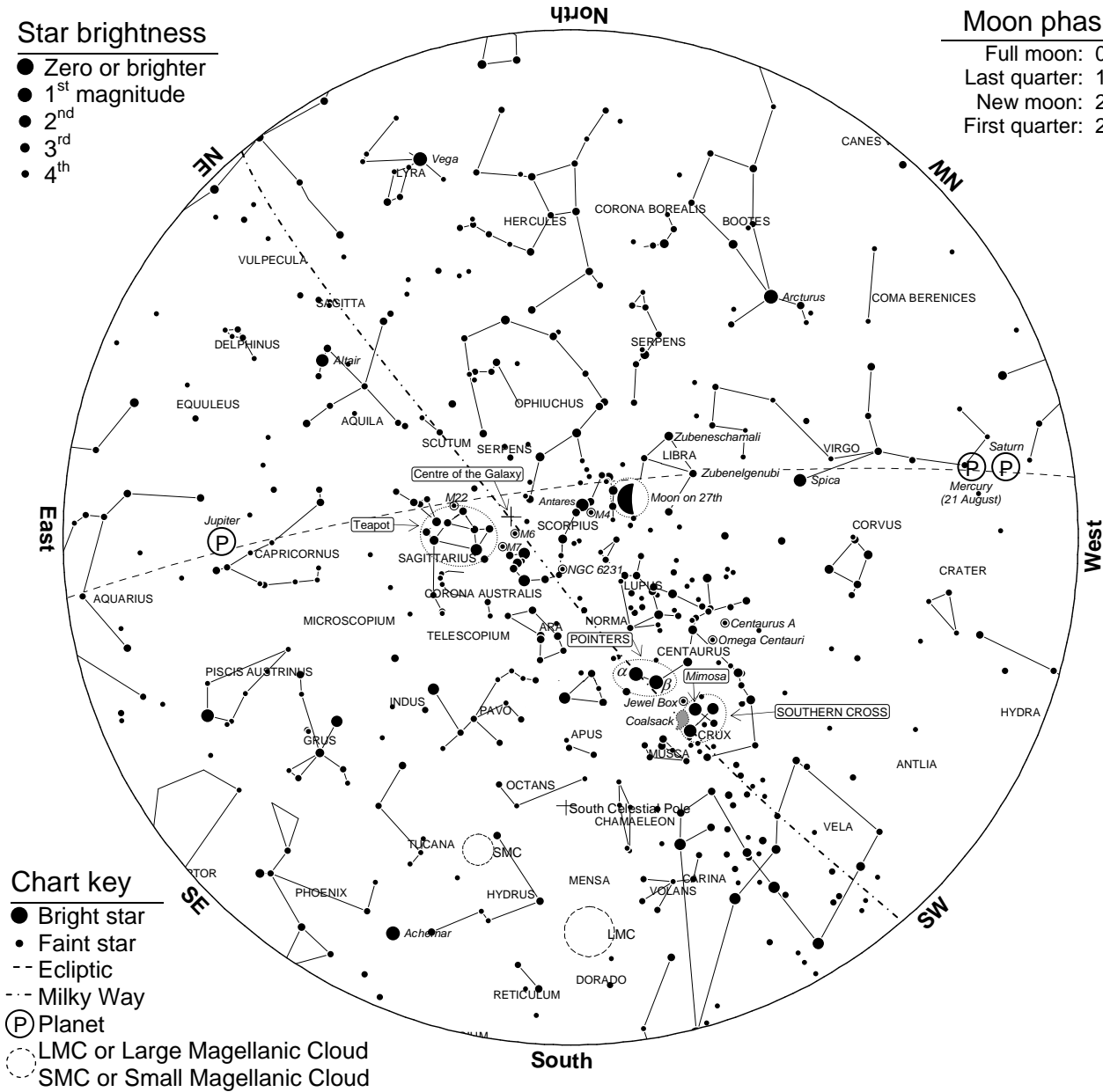


Chart key

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

High in the sky are the constellations Scorpius (the Scorpion) and Crux (the Southern Cross). The Southern Cross is easily located using the two nearby pointer stars. Near the end of the scorpion's tail is the unofficial constellation of the Teapot. Jupiter is in the constellation of Capricornus and can be seen as a bright star low in the sky to the east. Later in the month Mercury can be seen low in the western sky. Early in the month Saturn is low in the west in the constellation of Leo. The first quarter Moon can easily be seen towards the north on the 27th.



Sydney Observatory, with a magnificent view overlooking Sydney Harbour, is open every day (except Christmas Day and Good Friday) between 10am and 5pm and there are two sessions nightly in August starting at 6.15pm and 8.15pm. View the sky through one of our telescopes, and see 3D movies about the universe. Bookings are essential for night programs.

For more information, check our 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.