

Hermanus
Astronomy Centre

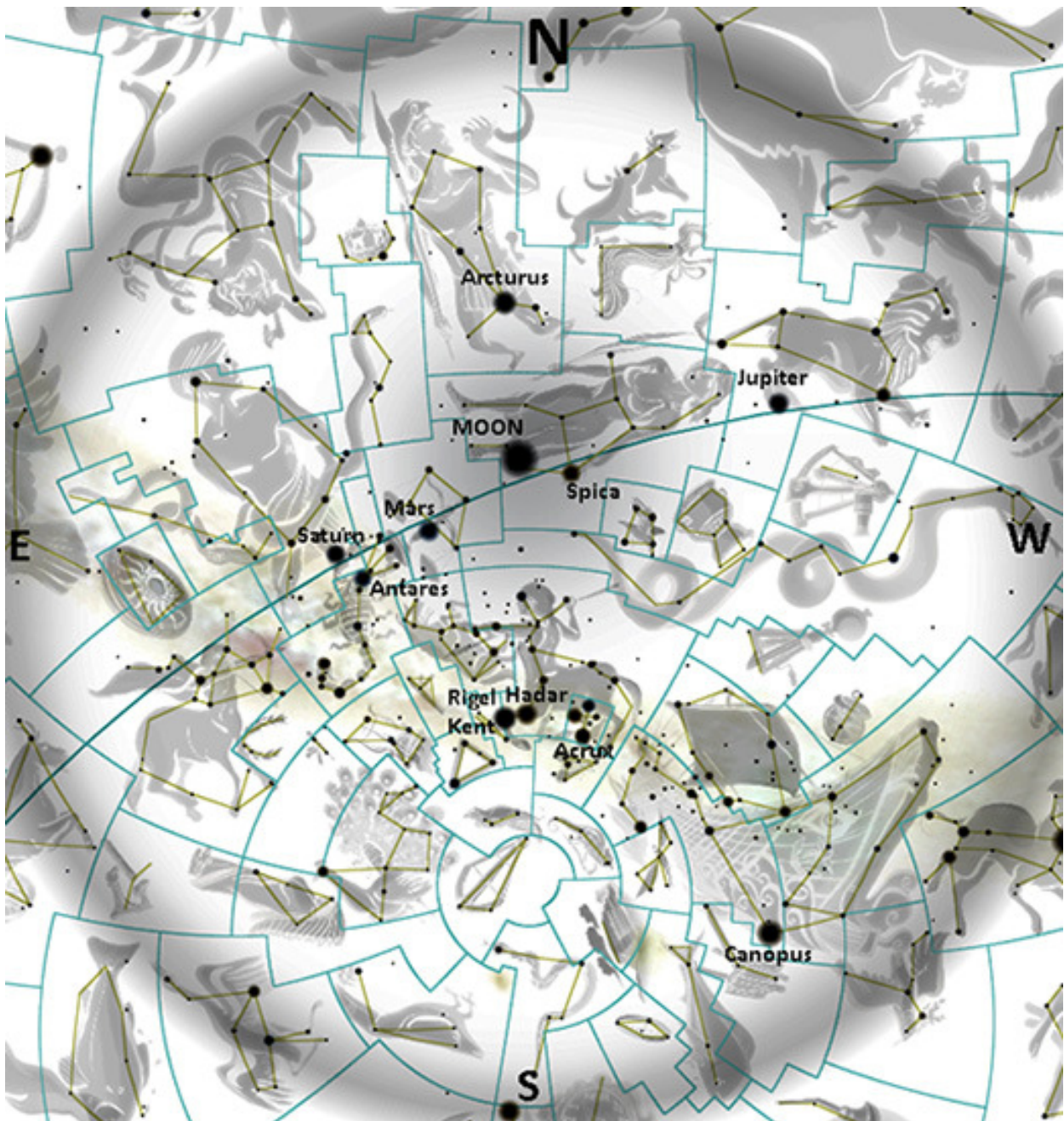
Sky Maps



JUNE 2016

1. SKY MAPS

EVENING SKY MID JUNE at 21^h00



PLEASE NOTE: All events predicted below are as observed from **Hermanus, Western Cape, South Africa**

2. THE SOLAR SYSTEM

<i>Sun & Planets</i>	<i>JUNE 2016</i>		<i>1st</i>	<i>30th</i>
Sun Constellation: Taurus to Gemini Length of day 10h00 to 09h53	Rises:		07h41	07h51
	Transits:		12h41	12h47
	Sets:		17h41	17h44
Mercury phase 30% to 95%, ϕ 9" to 5" Constellation Aries to Gemini Magnitude: +0.9 to -0.6	Rises:		05h44	07h18
	Transits:		11h06	12h12
	Sets:		16h033	17h06
Venus phase 100% to 99%, ϕ 10" Constellation: Taurus to Gemini Magnitude: -3.9	Rises:		07h36	08h21
	Transits:		12h35	13h16
	Sets:		17h35	18h10
Mars phase 99% to 93%, ϕ 19" to 16" Constellation: Libra Magnitude -2.0 to -1.4	Rises:		16h39	114h23
	Transits:		23h42	21h26
	Sets:		06h51	04h33
Jupiter ϕ 37" to 34" Constellation: Leo Magnitude: -2.0 to -1.9	Rises:		13h23	11h36
	Transits:		19h04	17h21
	Sets:		00h49	23h06
Saturn ϕ 18" Constellation: Ophiuchus Magnitude: 0.0 to +0.2	Rises:		17h47	15h45
	Transits:		00h53	22h46
	Sets:		07h54	05h51
Uranus ϕ 3" Constellation: Pisces Magnitude: +5.9" to 5.8	Rises:		03h51	02h01
	Transits:		09h29	07h39
	Sets:		15h08	13h17
Neptune ϕ 2" Constellation: Aquarius Magnitude: +7.9 to +7.8	Rises:		00h35	22h36
	Transits:		06h58	05h04
	Sets:		13h21	11h27
Pluto Constellation: Sagittarius Magnitude +14.1	Rises:		20h10	18h13
	Transits:		03h17	01h20
	Sets:		10h19	08h23

Mercury Initially visible low in the east before sunrise; later moving too close to the sun for observation
Venus Too close to the sun for observation
Mars Initially, well placed for observation throughout the night; later moving to the evening sky
Jupiter Visible in the evening sky
Saturn Well placed for observation throughout the night
Uranus Visible in the morning sky
Neptune Visible in the morning sky
Pluto Visible throughout the night

THE MOON

The Sky Guide choice for the month is **Aristoteles**, a 90km crater near the Moon's northern limb.

The inner walls display some of the most complex terracing in any crater on the Moon. Together with **Eudoxus**, they form a prominent pair visible with 10x binoculars.

ECLIPSES

No eclipses, solar or lunar, are visible from Hermanus in June 2016.

METEOR SHOWERS

Name	Date & Time of Max	Duration	Radiant	ZHR vel.		Observing Prospect
θ Ophiuchids	13 th June 20h00 to 05h30	8 th to 16 th June	Approx. 18° ENE of Antares (α Scorpii)	5	27	Poor

Key to the table above:

ZHR – zenithal hourly rate

vel. - velocity in km per second

For more details regarding meteor watching, please see the Sky Guide Africa South (SGAS), pp 86- 87

COMETS

This month, there are no comets brighter than magnitude 9.

BEST OBSERVATION DAYS

The nights for best general observation will be those avoiding the glare of the moon (unless, of course, one is specifically targeting the moon!). I offer you, therefore, *my* opinion of the most suitable evenings to plan your stargazing for the month:

1st to 7th June (moonset 20h22)

24th (moonrise 21h50) to **30th June**

IF the weather be good, of course!

3. JUNE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SKY GUIDE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>
1		Moon to Uranus 2.3° N, Venus to Aldebaran 5.2° N
3	07h43	Saturn at opposition
	11h47	Moon to Mercury 0.7° N
	12h55	Moon at perigee (361 100 km)
4		Moon to Aldebaran 0.5° S
5	05h00	New Moon
		Moon to Venus 4.9° N
	10h59	Mercury at greatest elongation (24.2° W)
6	11h13	Moon furthest N
	23h34	Venus at superior conjunction
10	16h47	Moon to Regulus 2.2° N
11	21h35	Moon to Jupiter 1.6° N
12	10h10	First quarter Moon
13	12h06	Mercury to Pleiades 6.8° S
14		Neptune stationary
15	14h00	Moon at apogee (405 000 km)
		Moon to Spica 5.1° S
18		Pallas stationary
19	02h40	Moon to Saturn 3.6° S
	05h39	Mercury to Aldebaran 3.8° N
20	13h02	Full Moon
	20h52	Moon furthest S (-18.6°)
21	00h35	WINTER SOLSTICE
		Moon to Pluto 2.9° S
25		Juno stationary
26		International SUN-day ¹
27	20h19	Last quarter Moon
29		Moon to Uranus 2.6° N
30		Mars stationary

¹ International SUN-day : it's on the calendar but I have found no useful information on Google or Wikipedia! Please let me know if you find anything and I shall pass it on to members.

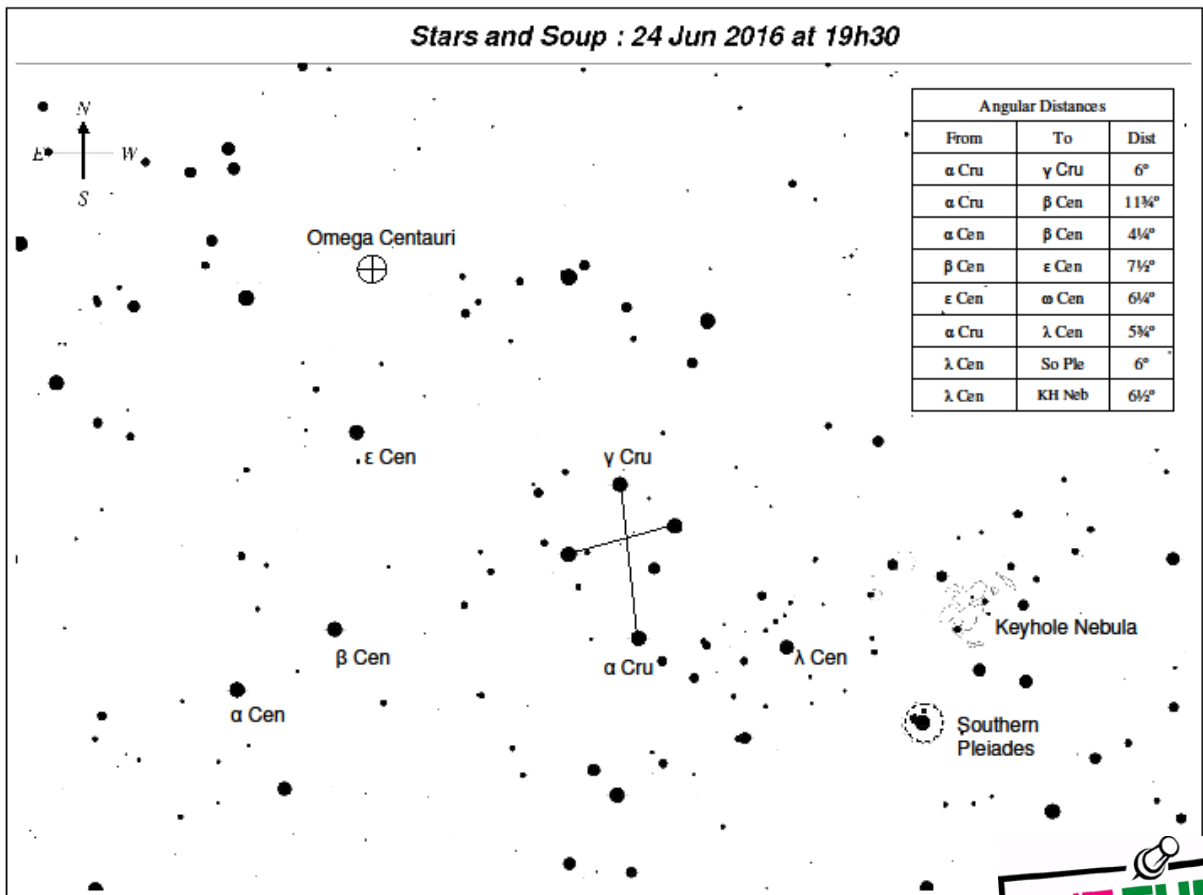
4. DEEP SKY



On the **last Friday of each month** the centre will be holding a stargazing evening.

Initiated by Karin de Bruin, the intention is not only to offer the opportunity of a group stargazing evening but to guide interested members in the use of binoculars and telescopes. In addition, there will be instruction on the preparation of observation reports which may be submitted to ASSA, thereby making a significant contribution to national amateur astronomy in South Africa.

Observation challenges will be set each month for beginners, intermediate and advanced stargazers.



This month we meet on **24th June at the NGK in Onrus.**

Join us for a fun-filled and instructive evening.



Keep in touch

Please don't forget to have a look at our excellent website, edited by Derek Duckitt.

<http://www.hermanusastronomy.co.za/>

Also...

[ASSA Deep-Sky Section](#)

Whatsapp chat group: [074 100 7237]

[Official Big 5 of the African Sky web page](#)

[Official Big 5 Facebook group](#)

[ASSA Deep-Sky Section mailing list](#)

Contact ASSA

Get in touch with officers of the Society - we're real people with a passion for astronomy, [so contact us and let's talk!](#)

You can also find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), the [ASSA_Info mailing list](#) and the [ASSA_Discussion mailing list](#).

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