

In this newsletter:

- Shows
- Moon Phases
- Sunrise/set and Moonrise/set times for Johannesburg
- Astronomical Events
- Lyrids Meteor Shower
- Naked eye Planets

Shows

Currently, ALL SHOWS are SUSPENDED until further notice due to the Covid-19 epidemic and national state of disaster.

Moon Phases

First Quarter: 01 Apr
 Full Moon: 08 Apr
 Last Quarter: 15 Apr
 New Moon: 23 Apr
 First Quarter: 30 Apr

Sunrise/set and Moonrise/set Times for Johannesburg – April 2020

Date	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
		h m	h m	h m	h m
1	Wed	06:17	18:06	13:12	23:56
2	Thu	06:18	18:05	14:07	--:--
3	Fri	06:18	18:04	14:58	00:56
4	Sat	06:19	18:02	15:46	02:00
5	Sun	06:19	18:01	16:31	03:06
6	Mon	06:20	18:00	17:13	04:13
7	Tue	06:20	17:59	17:54	05:20
8	Wed	06:21	17:58	18:36	06:27
9	Thu	06:21	17:57	19:18	07:34
10	Fri	06:21	17:56	20:04	08:41
11	Sat	06:22	17:55	20:52	09:48
12	Sun	06:22	17:54	21:44	10:52
13	Mon	06:23	17:53	22:38	11:53
14	Tue	06:23	17:52	23:34	12:48
15	Wed	06:24	17:51	--:--	13:37
16	Thu	06:24	17:51	00:30	14:21
17	Fri	06:25	17:50	01:25	15:00

Date	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
		h m	h m	h m	h m
18	Sat	06:25	17:49	02:19	15:35
19	Sun	06:26	17:48	03:11	16:08
20	Mon	06:26	17:47	04:02	16:39
21	Tue	06:27	17:46	04:52	17:10
22	Wed	06:27	17:45	05:43	17:41
23	Thu	06:28	17:44	06:34	18:13
24	Fri	06:28	17:43	07:27	18:48
25	Sat	06:29	17:43	08:21	19:26
26	Sun	06:29	17:42	09:16	20:09
27	Mon	06:30	17:41	10:12	20:57
28	Tue	06:30	17:40	11:08	21:49
29	Wed	06:31	17:39	12:02	22:47
30	Thu	06:31	17:39	12:53	23:48

Data calculated using MICA, US Naval Observatory

Astronomical Events

Date	Day	Time	Event
1	Wed	11:12 12:21	Moon North Dec.: 23.7° N First Quarter
			Venus: 45.9° E
3	Fri	08:24 16:39	Moon Close to Beehive: 1.3° S Venus Near Pleiades: 0.3° S
7	Tue	20:08	Moon Perigee: 356,900 km
8	Wed	04:35	Full Moon
13	Mon	04:58	Moon Descending Node
		23:03	Moon South Dec.: 23.8° S
15	Wed	00:56	Last Quarter
		01:04	Moon Close to Jupiter: 2.1° N
		11:26	Moon Close to Saturn: 2.6° N
16	Thu	06:33	Moon Close to Mars: 2.2° N
20	Mon	21:01	Moon Apogee: 406,500 km
22	Wed	08:07	Lyrid Shower: ZHR = 20
23	Thu	04:26	New Moon
26	Sun	12:19	Uranus Conjunction
		17:23	Moon Close to Venus: 6.6° N
27	Mon	19:54	Moon Ascending Node
28	Tue	17:23	Moon North Dec.: 23.9° N
30	Thu	15:17	Moon Close to Beehive: 1.6° S
		22:38	First Quarter

Sky Events Calendar by Fred Espenak and Sumit Dutta (NASA's GSFC)

Lyrids Meteor Shower

Active from: 14 - 30 April

Maximum: 22 April

Constellation: Lyra - the harp



Lyra as depicted by Johann Bayer in his Uranometria (1603). Source image provided by www.RareMaps.com — Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

The Lyrid meteors are best viewed from the northern hemisphere, but are visible from many sites north and south of the equator. The Lyrids are one of the oldest known recorded showers dating back 2,500 years. The stream originates from Comet Thatcher, which takes about 415 years to orbit around the Sun. The comet is expected to be visible from Earth again in 2276. The best time to look is early in the morning between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m. in a northerly direction.



Image: Cartes du Ciel Software

Naked eye Planets

Mercury:	Is visible in the eastern sky before sunrise. This is a great time to see it before it starts moving down to the horizon. For those of you that do have a telescope could see Mercury close to Neptune on the morning of 4 April (1.4°) – it will be low on the horizon. Mercury rise at the beginning of the month at 4:20 a.m. and by months end at 6:06 a.m.
Venus:	Remains prominent in the west after sunset. Look at Venus from 2 – 4 April as it will cross the Pleiades (Seven Sisters) on the 3 ^d and 4 th April. A very thin crescent moon will be close to Venus on 26 April. Venus set in the beginning of the month at 8:20 p.m. and by months end 7:45 p.m.
Mars:	(Morning sky) In the beginning of the month Mars is close to Saturn (1°). It moves day by day closer to the horizon. Look for the moon close to Mars on 16 April. In the beginning of the month mars rise at 12:55 a.m. and by months end at 12:34 a.m.
Jupiter:	(Morning sky) Sitting above Saturn, Jupiter is the brightest of the morning planets. Look for the quarter moon on 15 April close to Jupiter. In the beginning of the month Jupiter rise at 12:27 a.m. and by months end at 10:40 p.m.
Saturn:	(Morning sky) In the beginning of the month Saturn rise at 12:56 a.m. and by months end at 11:03 p.m.

1 April @ 4 a.m.



Image: Stellarium

16 April @ 2 a.m.



Image: Stellarium

PLANETARIUM