



**Community Observatory St Martin's on Scilly**

## September 2021

What to see in Scilly's skies this month

<p><b>5 September: Jupiter</b> Jupiter's still glowing bright above the SE horizon, from If you're able to see Jupiter with magnification tonight, you'll witness Jupiter's moon Europa, transiting the planet's disc - shadows visible from midnight..</p>	<p><b>6/7 September: Thin crescent Moon</b> The Moon will appear as an ultra-thin crescent on the dawn of 6 / dusk of 7 September. Look above the NE horizon. The Daymark would make for a good viewing spot!</p>	<p><b>September constellations</b> Now's a good time to reacquaint yourself with the Plough as tool to help you navigate the night sky. Use it to find Regulus, Arcturus, Spica and of course Polaris, the noted but not so bright north star.</p>
<p><b>14 September: Mercury at greatest eastern elongation</b> The best time to view inner planet Mercury this month, in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky, at sunset.</p>	<p><b>All month: Milky Way</b> Take every chance you get on a clear Scilly night to marvel at the Milky Way, arcing above, before it becomes less visible in the late Autumn. Scilly's lack of light pollution mean stunning views into the heart of our spiral galaxy.</p>	<p><b>14 September: Neptune</b> The farthest planet in our solar system, its orbit of our Sun some 4.5bn kilometres, now reaches opposition - the best time to view all year! Find this distant blue dot located in Aquarius. Telescope required!</p>
<p><b>17 September: Moon, Saturn &amp; Jupiter</b> At about 22.30 you'll spot the Moon (waxing gibbous) near to gas giants Saturn and Jupiter in the SE sky. Jupiter is the brighter planet. Binoculars will reveal more of their distinct shapes.</p>	<p><b>20 September: Full Moon</b> This Full Moon is the closest to the Northern Hemisphere's autumn equinox (22 Sep), when day and night reach equal lengths. It is called the Harvest Moon, because of this..</p>	<p><b>Next Month:</b> The first <b>Scilly Dark Skies Week</b>, here on St Martin's, runs <b>2-8 October</b>, with workshops and nightly talks. Expert speakers include Damian Peach, Carolyn Kennett, Ian Morison, Mark Holmes, Katharine Sawyer. <a href="http://cosmosscilly.co.uk/dark-skies-week">cosmosscilly.co.uk/dark-skies-week</a></p>

### St Martin's Observatory opening times

Tuesdays: 20.00-20.50 or 21.00-21.50 *pre-booking essential*

Fridays: 14.00-16.00 *drop-ins*

Email [cosmosscilly@gmail.com](mailto:cosmosscilly@gmail.com) to book

[www.cosmosscilly.co.uk](http://www.cosmosscilly.co.uk)

