



Community Observatory St Martin's on Scilly

October 2021

What to see in Scilly's skies this month

<p>2-8 October: Scilly Dark Skies Week Workshops and nightly talks, celebrating Scilly's dark skies.. Explore the cosmos with astronomers including Damian Peach, Carolyn Kennett, Ian Morison, and more... cosmosscilly.co.uk/dark-skies-week</p>	<p>4 October: Jupiter Moon Event A rare opportunity to see 2 of Jupiter's Galilean Moons, Ganymede and Callisto, cast shadows on the gas giant at the same time! Best viewing through a telescope, from 20:00.</p>	<p>October constellations Look high in the sky for Cassiopeia, Andromeda and Pegasus. Use Stellarium or a stargazing app to help. See if you can spot the lovely Andromeda Galaxy, visible with the naked eye. Add binoculars for more wow.</p>
<p>9 October: Moon and Venus Bright neighbouring planet Venus and the crescent Moon appear close together above the southwest horizon just after sunset. Scilly's long, low horizons make for ideal viewing - look out towards Bishop Rock.</p>	<p>All month: Jupiter Jupiter is bright and prominent in the night sky this month. Easily spotted with the naked eye. On 15 October it will be at its highest position in the southern sky at 9pm. Great through a telescope: see its striped atmosphere.</p>	<p>8, 10 October: Meteors  Peak of the Draconid and Southern Taurid meteor showers respectively. Low hourly rate but favourable conditions, and you may see some bright, slow trails. The Orionids peak on 21 October but there's also a full Moon.</p>
<p>25 October: Mercury Mercury rises nearly 2 hours before the Sun - spot it in the western sky if you're an early riser. Mercury is a rocky planet, closest to the Sun. As the smallest in the solar system, it's barely bigger than our Moon.</p>	<p>28 October: Moon and Beehive Cluster The last quarter Moon rises from 23:30. Use binoculars to spot the Beehive Cluster of stars just to the south-southwest. One of the nearest open clusters to Earth, and studied since ancient times!</p>	<p>Next Month: Technically this month, but on 31 October, British Summer Time ends and the clocks 'fall' back. Cue earlier stargazing and sleepier mornings! We're now in peak stargazing season.</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 to book

www.cosmosscilly.co.uk

