

What's Up in the Night Sky for NOVEMBER



Presented by

Night Sky November 2024 Events | Comet C20203 A3 Tsuchinshan Atlas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6USO_Vu2kA

Don't Miss These Night Sky Events in
November 2024 | Last Supermoon | Meteor Showers | Saturn | Mars
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTy7jHsKgcY>

10 AMAZING FACTS ABOUT COMETS

1. Dirty Snowballs: Comets are often called "dirty snowballs" because they are made up of ice, dust, and rock.
2. Long Tails: Comets develop long tails when they get closer to the Sun. These tails are formed by the Sun's heat vaporizing the comet's icy material.
3. Two Types of Tails: Comets actually have two tails: a dust tail and an ion tail. The dust tail is made of dust particles, while the ion tail is made of ionized gas.
4. Oort Cloud and Kuiper Belt: Most comets come from two regions: the Oort Cloud and the Kuiper Belt. These are regions of icy objects located far beyond the orbit of Pluto.
5. Short-Period and Long-Period Comets: Comets are classified as short-period or long-period based on their orbital period. Short-period comets have orbits of less than 200 years, while long-period comets have orbits of more than 200 years.
6. Halley's Comet: Halley's Comet is one of the most famous comets. It is a short-period comet that returns to the inner solar system every 75-76 years.
7. Great Comets: A great comet is a comet that is bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. They are rare but spectacular events.
8. Meteor Showers: Meteor showers occur when Earth passes through the debris trail of a comet. The debris burns up in Earth's atmosphere, creating streaks of light called meteors.

9. Comets Bring Water to Earth: Some scientists believe that comets may have delivered water to Earth early in its history.
10. Exploring Comets: Spacecraft have been sent to explore comets, such as Rosetta and Philae, which landed on Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

Europa Clipper has launched!

The spacecraft took off on Oct. 14 from Cape Canaveral, Florida, beginning its six-year journey to the Jupiter system and the icy moon Europa. The mission will study Europa's subsurface oceans and look for signs of habitability, among other things. Click on the link to read more:

<https://www.planetary.org/articles/europa-clipper-launches>

Scientists may have found a volcanic exomoon.

Observations of a cloud of sodium gas near the giant gas exoplanet WASP-49 b might be evidence of a volcanic moon. Gas coming from Jupiter's volcanic moon Io creates a similar phenomenon here in our Solar System. Click on the link to read more:

<https://www.nasa.gov/universe/exoplanets/does-distant-planet-host-volcanic-moon-like-jupiters-io/>

Mars Sample Return might still work out.

Although NASA's contribution to an international collaboration to return samples from the surface of Mars has faced budget concerns, the agency says that it is on track to decide by the end of 2024 how to potentially redesign the mission architecture to make its costs and schedule feasible. Click on the links to read more:

<https://www.planetary.org/articles/the-path-forward-for-mars-sample-return>
<https://spacenews.com/nasa-on-track-to-decide-new-approach-for-msr-by-end-of-year/>



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Centi Astro-Space Activities

91 East Main Street

Brocton, New York 14716

United State of America

716 - 338 - 7596

Emails: centiastroospace@centiastroospace.com

centiastroospace@gmail.com

Website: www.centiaastroospace.com

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