

Our Night Sky for the week of October 8

If you're like me and your interest in taking in our lovely night skies declines as it gets colder, then this coming week might still be a chance to see some great skies without being too cold. This week we have a waning moon decreasing to a new moon on the 14th, so we see some pretty dark skies. If you look due east all this week after 9:30, later is better, you will see two of our solar systems gems. Jupiter is due east and a little higher and south is Saturn. If you have any kind of optics, a close look at Saturn is even worth getting cold. The additional challenge with these two giants is they each have moons that are visible with a bit of optical help. A pair of binoculars hopefully mounted on a tripod and Jupiter will reward you with as many as 4 visible moons. The expected [positions of Jupiter's moons](#) can easily be found on the internet. Tomorrow at work you can brag you saw Europa enter Jupiter's shadow last night. But even easier, swing your binoculars over to Saturn and you can still catch Saturn's rings as they are slowly moving toward edge on. By this time next year, they will be all but invisible until 2026 when we will see them return to full exposure by 2032.

The Prince George Observatory will be open this Saturday for the partial solar eclipse, check our website for details.