

Our Night Sky for Week of January 7th 2024

Last month I suggested two astronomy books as presents for astronomers in your family. Another suggestion but completely free this time is to download astronomy software. If you don't want to stand out in the cold an excellent sky mapping software is [Cartes du Ciel](#).

This is a very rare piece of free software, there are no surprises, no catch, its completely free and functional. There are also several additional data files also free that give you access to many additional catalogues of sky data including easy downloading of telescopic pictures of the entire sky.

One of the most useful functions is you can set the program to your exact location and adjust the time to display the sky later that night or at any future or past date. This will allow you to plan what objects you are going to look for and print a sky map to help you find your way around the sky.

Having a personalized map and a red flashlight and binoculars on a tripod can really improve your enjoyment of Our Night Sky.