

Our Night Sky for March 4th ,2024

Ah finally, spring equinox is only days away. I look forward to spring evenings, milder weather, a reasonable length of darkness and no bugs. Spring sky viewing has those advantages and more. Another early spring advantage is that there always is a week or two of calm weather, neither windy nor rainy but simply a good time to renew your familiarity with the night sky. One of the measurable parameter's astronomers use is "seeing". Spring usually offers excellent seeing, which is simply how clear the air, how many suspended particles, how much water vapour, how clear a view you can expect. In early spring the ground is just drying out, farming and industrial activities haven't kicked tons of dust into the air and for about the first month of spring the air is as clear as it will be all year. All of these variables are accounted for on the [Clear Sky Chart for Prince George](#), including instructions to help you plan to take advantage of good evenings. I have found the cloud cover predictions for the next 24 hours to be very accurate and a bit less accurate for 48 hours, so keep the link handy and check it often.

Another item that you may choose to improve your familiarity with is weather prediction. There is so much detailed weather information available online that you can soon become familiar enough to plan daytime activities as well as improving your enjoyment of our night sky.