

Our Night Sky for February 10th, 2025

Tonight, and most of this week you can spot Saturn above the western horizon. Saturn is a fairly bright object so you should be able to spot it in the glow of the setting sun. But your eyes will be drawn a couple of hand widths higher to sparkling Venus. If somebody says to you, what's that bright star just after sunset, it will be Venus, following the sun and setting about 9:30.

Now look east high above the horizon and you will find Mars still in Gemini and the two bright stars that you may spot first, Pollux and Castor. These three stay close through the night but may be a little harder to pick out because they are followed closely by a waxing moon that will be fully illuminated on Tuesday night.

This is a good week to take a moment to enjoy the guardian of the night sky. High in the southern sky is Orion. A bright star Betelgeuse a red giant about a thousand time larger than our sun on the left shoulder. This star dims and brightens and one day it will explode, becoming a very bright star in our sky. Look right at the extended bow and now up about a hand width you will see Jupiter, again the bright moon is advancing to your left, but Jupiter is bright enough you should be able to spot it. A little to the right is Uranus which is probably washed out by the moon, but it might look like a star about a hand width to the right of Jupiter as you enjoy our night sky.