

## **Our Night Sky for April 28th, 2025**

**If you are making the effort to learn more about the night sky, a good place to start is the daily weather forecast. Unfortunately for at least the next seven days I think we should study clouds. Each day at best is partly cloudy. Maybe it will clear a bit at least in patches here and there and sometimes late at night clear up completely. So probably a better place to start is a search for sky maps of tonight's sky, or books of sky maps. One of my favourites is Nightwatch by Canadian author Terence Dickinson, the spiral bound edition since it lays flat. For viewing at night, use a red flashlight to preserve your night vision. A very useful feature of any of these books is that it is laid out seasonally so you can see what is in our skies now. Some break the sky down to a lot of detail but try and pick out a book that isn't too complicated and hard to find your way around.**

**Let's find a couple of maps that show bright stars in several different areas across the sky. One good example right now is if you look just right of North well above the horizon by ten pm you will see the very bright star Vega. If there is a clear patch you can't miss it. Now swing around and look to the right of due south well above the horizon. You will see Procyon and up about a hand width the twin bright stars Pollux and Castor and a bit left of the twins is the planet Mars. Even cloudy evenings sometimes let us catch glimpses of Our Night Sky.**