

## Our Night Sky for January 5<sup>th</sup> 2026

My optimism last week for clear sky really paid off on Christmas eve. That evening and the next day were some of the clearest skies I have seen in a long time. There are several criteria defining the quality of the sky including moisture, smoke, dust and several more. The skies on Christmas eve were picture perfect and I hope you had a chance to spot Jupiter or Saturn and perhaps Orion in our southern sky. The next few days are not likely to be anything like Christmas eve but often overcast skies will clear off after midnight and if your outside you may be surprized after a heavily overcast day.

We all have access to good quality weather forecasts and over the years they have become remarkably accurate. So a quick check on your phone should give you a good idea of what the weather will be this evening and a little less accurate forecast for tomorrow and the next day.

There is a website that you may not have heard of that gives excellent detail on the sky conditions that matter to sky watchers and has an accuracy better than you will find anywhere else. You can locate the site by searching “ Clear sky chart , Prince George”. One of the reasons it is accurate is that it is only four days at a time.. As well as an easy to understand sky forecast you will also find an explanation of the things that improve viewing of Our Night Sky