

Our Night Sky for March 23 rd, 2026

The next few evenings, the weather forecast is generally overcast skies. If you would like to spot a planet there is very little difference from last week or the week before, Jupiter is still easy to find between the Gemini high above southwest. And Venus is even better illuminated just before it sets at about 9 pm. With spotty cloud cover for the next few days, it might be a good time to warm up your computer and do a couple of online searches. At a later date we can make some recommendations but for now try searching “Free astronomy programs” and try a couple out. There are varying levels of complexity, from a very simple sky map for your phone that you orient with the sky you’re looking at, and it will display a map and name constellations for you. Most higher quality programs offer a free version that allows you to try it out and then buy options and improvements. One step up from a simple program on your phone would be a P.C. program like Stellarium. A P.c. program allows you to plan an evening and print out star maps that you can make your own hints and directions penciled in, by printing maps on your home printer.

Stellarium has the added advantage that Royal Astronomical society has offered online courses.

I would suggest you download a couple of phone apps and try them out and perhaps find one that’s easy to use. Also download a couple of P.C. astronomy programs and see if you can use them easily and then perhaps consider buying the full program you find best to help you enjoy Our Night Sky