

## Our Night Sky for April 13 th, 2026

AS it has been for several weeks now most planets have set by the time the sun goes down. Still we have the company of Jupiter which is still hanging close to the Gemini Twins in the west just following Venus which sets a little after 10 pm. Venus scoots around the sun on it's 225 day year and soon will be covered in the glare of the sun so this is about the best time of the year to catch Venus. If your very careful that the sun is completely below the horizon you could bring out your binoculars and watch how Venus changes illumination as it rounds the sun , much like our moon is sometime much brighter in our sky because we can see almost the entire side lit up by our sun.

With the planets being mostly we have added some constellations to our list of objects . The constellation Corona Borealis a small horn shape now located above due east below the kite shaped Bootes. Look down and left from Corona Borealis just above the horizon you can spot the bright star Vega in Lyra that I mentioned would be worth watching as it climbs to the zenith by mid summer. On your scan down to Vega you passed through the square of Hercules. A large square or keystone, with arms and legs at each corner. On the top horizontal bar about a third of the way from the left corner , a pair of binoculars will bring out one of the very beautiful sites in our galaxy . The great Globular cluster in Hercules. Stars in the cluster contain approximately 100 times more stars, than Our Night Sky