

Our Night Sky for October 12 th, 2026

Happy Thanksgiving.

With a forecast of about a 50% chance of rain there may not be much chance to enjoy our night skies before the temperature drops and we could be surprized with, I think I will stop right there and just hope the nice weather holds a bit longer. One thing that you should become familiar with is of course the weather forecast. For example, as we move into new moon, we have a few days of potentially clear dark skies. I would suggest if we do slip through the next few days with one or two clear evenings that this is an excellent time to just enjoy the great globe of stars dominating our southern sky and the milky way overhead. As the earth plows along on its circuit around the sun the view of the milky way shifts slowly across our sky. Getting a good look at the faint stars is a bit of a challenge with the city sky glow. If you are lucky to have frequent access to very dark sky the seasonal shift of this great band of stars will probably dominate your familiarity with the night sky.

Even a short distance will reward you greatly. Preretirement I traveled frequently to Ft. St. James and on the way home I would often find a safe place to pull over and just step outside for a few minutes to enjoy the excellent sky conditions. When the sky is this dark, you can get a much better feel for depth, almost 3D view of this globe of uncountable millions upon millions of individual stars, one of the very best sights In Our Night Sky.