



THE MOON

Spring 2015 Stargazing Calendar

January 3, 4 - Quadrantids Meteor Shower. The Quadrantids is an above average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1, which was discovered in 2003. The shower runs annually from January 1-5. It peaks this year on the night of the 3rd and morning of the 4th. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Bootes, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

January 5 - Full Wolf Moon. This is the time of year when hungry wolf packs howl outside your camp. Also known as the Old Moon and the Moon After Yule. The Moon will be directly opposite the Earth from the Sun. *Plant Medicine: Mint*

January 20 - New Moon. The Moon will be directly between the Earth and the Sun and will not be visible from Earth. With no moonlight this is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters.

February - Dawn at Ceres. NASA's Dawn spacecraft will encounter the dwarf planet known as Ceres sometime in February 2015. Ceres is the largest object in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Dawn will spend several months studying Ceres and will send back the first close-up images of a dwarf planet in our Solar System.

February 3 - Full Snow Moon. Time of the heaviest snowfall making hunting difficult this Moon has also been known as the Full Hunger Moon. *Plant Medicine: Sage*

February 6 - Jupiter at Opposition. The giant planet will be at its closest approach to Earth and its face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. This is the best time to view and photograph Jupiter and its moons. A medium-sized telescope should be able to show you some of the details in Jupiter's cloud bands.

February 18 - New Moon.

February 22 - Conjunction of Venus and Mars. Conjunctions are rare and these two bright planets will be visible within only half a degree of each other in the evening sky. Look to the west just after sunset.

March 5 - Full Worm Moon. The time of year when the ground begins to soften and earthworms reappear. This Moon has also been known as the Full Sap Moon, the Full Crow Moon, and the Full Crust Moon. *Plant Medicine: Pine*

March 20 - New Moon.

March 20 - Total Solar Eclipse. The Moon will completely block the Sun, revealing the Sun's beautiful outer atmosphere known as the corona. The path will begin in the central Atlantic Ocean and move north across Greenland and into northern Siberia.

March 20 - March Equinox. This is the first day of spring (vernal equinox) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of fall (autumnal equinox) in the Southern Hemisphere. The March equinox occurs at 22:45 UTC. The Sun will shine directly on the equator and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night throughout the world.

April 4 - Growing Full Moon. New life appears, also called the Full Pink Moon because it marks the appearance of the moss pink, or wild ground phlox, which is one of the first spring flowers. This Moon has also been known as the Sprouting Grass Moon. *Plant Medicine: Sweetgrass*

April 4 - Total Lunar Eclipse. The eclipse will be visible throughout most of North America, South America, eastern Asia, and Australia. The Moon will pass completely through the Earth's dark shadow, or umbra. The Moon will slowly get darker and then take on a rusty or blood red color.

April 18 - New Moon.

A Webinar: The Power of Wildcrafting Going Wild in the 21st Century

Wednesday, February 4th 2015 - 1pm or 7pm PST

Wednesday, March 4th 2015 - 1pm or 7pm PST

Join us for this interactive webinar and discover the means by which you can strengthen your life's purpose by linking it to the natural world through the ancient art of wildcrafting.

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The painting is called "Monashee Moon #2" by D.H.Elzer. The image is part of his digital print portfolio called "The Moon" published by Wildcraft Forest Books. The portfolio also contains thoughts compiled by the artist as he makes his journey through British Columbia's Monashee Mountains.

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Going Wild in the 21st Century