

TOWN OF GILA BEND

CONSTELLATIONS, METEOR SHOWERS,
PLANETS & MOONS

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January

2nd - Super Moon (the Moon After Yule)

3rd-4th - Quadrantids Meteor Shower

5th - Orion Constellation, shining high in the South by late evening

7th - Casseopeia Constellation, and the Big Dipper (Ursa Major), shining low in the North by early evening

31st - Blue Moon/Super Moon and a Total Lunar Eclipse, visible in Western N. America

February

9th - Asteroid Vesta will be visible to the upper left of the Moon between 5:30 and 6:30am. The pairing will hand low in the sky.

March

7th - 8th - Planetary Parade - Just before dawn, the planets Saturn, Mars and Jupiter will form a conga line across the Southeastern sky and on the 8th, the gibbous Moon will tuck in between Mars and Jupiter.

31st - Blue Moon, a rare, second Blue Moon within a year!

April

22nd - 23rd - Lyrid Meteor Shower (active between April 16 and April 25) will be at its peak at this time. The best time to view is an hour or so before dawn. Look towards the Vega star to see where the shower appears to be emerging from.

May

6th - Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower will peak making a wonderous light display just before dawn from 2am till about 5am in the eastern sky.

July

27th - Mars and a total Lunar Eclipse. Mars will be at its closest and brightest since 2003! The small planet will be cozying up to our Moon. To the naked eye, Mars will look like a bright orange star, but through a telescope, you will be able to see its surface features!

August

11th - 12th - Perseid Meteor Shower will at its peak. This shower is known to be the most active and brightest of all the meteor showers! This year should be extra viewable since the sky will be dark and moonless.

October

2nd - Nov 7th - Orionids Meteor Shower. Peaks the night of Oct. 22nd. Meteors visible all over.



October 31st - Full, Blue Moon.

December

7th - 17th - Geminids Meteor Shower, producing up to 100 multi-colored meteors per hour! This King of showers peaks on the night of the 13th.