

Stargazing

In the Bathurst Region & Surrounds



Bathurst
step beyond



Bathurst has some fantastic stargazing opportunities with clear rural skies, great farmstays and plenty of free camps to visit.

While you can always enjoy a bout of stargazing in the Bathurst region. Some nights will be better for it than others and some nights may have special cosmological events to observe.

For example if you would like to see stars a night or week of a new moon is best, but if you wanted to take photos of the moon the night of a full moon is best. Below you will find the upcoming dates for meteor showers visible in NSW and the annual moon phases for 2023. Of particular note the Geminid Meteor shower which is the largest visible meteor shower of the year falls on the same night as a new moon and will be a particularly good year for viewing in 2023 should the weather be clear.

Meteor Showers 2023

Shower	Best Viewing	Point of Origin	Date of Maximum	Average per hour
Quadrantid	Predawn	N	Jan. 3-4	25
Lyrid	Predawn	S	Apr. 21-22	10
Eta Aquarid	Predawn	SE	May. 4-5	10
Delta Aquarid	Predawn	NE	Jul. 29-30	10
Perseid	Predawn	Au	Aug. 11-13	50
Draconid	Late Evening	NW	Oct. 8-10	6
Orionid	Predawn	S	Oct. 20-21	15
Northern Taurid	Late Evening	S	Nov. 11-12	3
Leonid	Predawn	S	November. 16-18	10
Andromedid	Late Evening	S	Nov. 25-27	5
Geminid	All Night	NE	Dec.13-14	75
Ursid	Predawn	N	Dec. 21-22	5

Lunar Calendar 2023

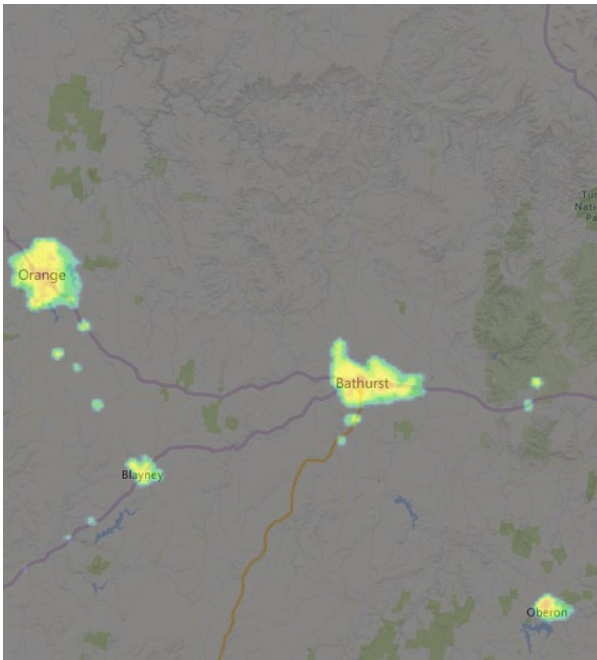
New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Third Quarter
22 Jan	29 Jan	6 Feb	14 Feb
20 Feb	27 Feb	7 Mar	15 Mar
22 Mar	29 Mar	6 Apr	13 Apr
10 Apr	28 Apr	6 May	13 May
20 May	28 May	4 Jun	11 Jun
18 Jun	26 Jun	3 Jul	10 Jul
18 Jul	26 Jul	2 Aug	8 Aug
18 Aug	24 Aug	31 Aug	7 Sep
15 Sep	23 Sep	29 Sep	7 Oct
15 Oct	22 Oct	29 Oct	5 Nov
13 Nov	20 Nov	27 Nov	5 Dec
13 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	

Special Moon Events 2023

Event	Date
Micro Full Moon	7 Jan
Super New Moon	22 Jan
Micro Full Moon	6 Feb
Super New Moon	20 Feb
Penumbral Lunar Eclipse	6 May, 3:20am
Super Full Moon	2 Aug
Micro New Moon	16 Aug
Super Full Moon 31 Aug	31 Aug
Partial Lunar Eclipse	29 Oct, 5:53 am

Light Pollution

Being a rural city Bathurst has very little light pollution outside of the city centre, with a 20 minute drive in any direction being far enough away for full dark (as seen in the map below). Some ideal areas for an over night stay or just an evening out are:



- Chifley Dam Primitive Camping area - Free Camp Located 20 minutes from Bathurst.
- Flat Rock Picnic Area - Free Camp located 25 minutes from Bathurst.
- Sunny Corner Recreation Reserve - Free Camp located 30 minutes from Bathurst.
- Macquarie Woods Recreation Reserve - Free Camp located 30 minutes from Bathurst.
- Several Free camping reserves along the Turon River in the area around Sofala roughly 40 minutes from Bathurst. See Camping guide for more information:

International Light Pollution Index, scan for more information:



Bathurst region Camping information



Bathurst farmstay and rural accommodation information

The Bathurst Observatory

The Bathurst Observatory runs open night tours on clear Friday and Saturday Nights (Except for the week of a full moon), as well as offering astrophotography services and meteorite identification services.



Scan here to visit bathurstobservatory.com.au

Road Safety Reminder

Being a rural city Bathurst has an abundance of wildlife, much of which is nocturnal and many of the roads are unlit outside of city limits.

- Be prepared to break at any time and attempt to not swerve.
- When driving at night slow down when you see animals, or warning signs.
- Scan your environment for movement as startled wildlife may be aware of native animals.
- Know how to operate your high beams, ensure you turn off your high beams when you see an approaching car.

If you come across an injured animal call WIRES on 1300 094 737

Bathurst Visitor Information Centre

1 Kendall Avenue

02 6332 1444 / 1800 68 1000

www.bathurstregion.com.au

visitors@bathurst.nsw.gov.au

Open 7 Days

9.30am-4.30pm



Visit Bathurst NSW



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Front and back cover images taken at
Crossley's Bridge Reserve, Sofala Campsite.
Photos Property of Bathurst Visitor
Information Centre.

