

Moon Crescent Visibility

2016

The new crescent Moon can generally be seen only if it sets at least 46 minutes after the Sun has set**

Astronomers at SA Astronomical Observatory have however sighted the Moon earlier – setting at least 33 min after sunset – from Signal Hill in Cape Town, but only if the age of the Moon is at least 24hr old at sunset.

The table below gives “Moonset lag” values for each month.

All Times are given in South African Standard Time.

2016		Cape Town				Johannesburg			
New Moon	Date	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset
Jan 10 03:32	Jan 10	20:01	20:12	11 min	16.5 hr	19:05	19:20	15 min	15.6 hr
	Jan 11	20:01	20:59	58 min	40.5 hr	19:05	20:08	63 min	39.6 hr
Feb 8 16:40	Feb 8	19:46	19:36	--	3.1 hr	18:56	18:46	--	2.3 hr
	Feb 9	19:46	20:19	33 min	27.1 hr	18:55	19:33	38 min	26.3 hr
	Feb 10	19:45	21:01	76 min	51.1 hr	18:55	20:18	83 min	50.3 hr
Mar 9 03:56	Mar 9	19:12	19:34	22 min	15.3 hr	18:30	18:53	23 min	14.6 hr
	Mar 10	19:11	20:15	64 min	39.2 hr	18:29	19:38	69 min	38.5 hr
Apr 7 13:25	Apr 7	18:33	18:47	14 min	5.1 hr	17:59	18:12	13 min	4.6 hr
	Apr 8	18:32	19:32	60 min	29.1 hr	17:58	19:00	62 min	28.5 hr
May 6 21:31	May 6	18:01	18:06	5 min	--	17:34	17:35	1 min	--
	May 7	18:00	18:55	55 min	20.5 hr	17:33	18:27	54 min	20.0 hr
Jun 5 05:01	Jun 5	17:45	18:28	43 min	12.7 hr	17:23	18:02	39 min	12.4 hr
	Jun 6	17:44	19:26	102 min	36.7 hr	17:23	19:01	98 min	36.4 hr
Jul 4 13:02	Jul 4	17:50	18:09	19 min	4.8 hr	17:29	17:43	14 min	4.5 hr
	Jul 5	17:50	19:10	80 min	28.8 hr	17:29	18:43	74 min	28.5 hr
Aug 2 22:46	Aug 2	18:08	17:56	--	--	17:42	17:28	--	--
	Aug 3	18:09	18:57	48 min	19.4 hr	17:43	18:26	43 min	18.9 hr
Sep 1 11:04	Sep 1	18:29	18:42	13 min	7.4 hr	17:55	18:07	12 min	6.9 hr
	Sep 2	18:29	19:38	69 min	31.4 hr	17:56	19:00	64 min	30.9 hr
Oct 1 02:13	Oct 1	18:50	19:20	30 min	16.6 hr	18:08	18:37	29 min	15.9 hr
	Oct 2	18:50	20:14	84 min	40.6 hr	18:08	19:28	80 min	39.9 hr
Oct 30 19:39	Oct 30	19:13	19:01	--	--	18:23	18:14	--	--
	Oct 31	19:14	19:55	41 min	23.6 hr	18:24	19:04	40 min	22.8 hr
	Nov 1	19:15	20:47	92 min	47.6 hr	18:25	19:55	90 min	46.8 hr
Nov 29 14:19	Nov 29	19:41	19:36	--	5.4 hr	18:45	18:42	--	4.4 hr
	Nov 30	19:42	20:27	45 min	29.4 hr	18:46	19:32	46 min	28.5 hr
Dec 29 08:54	Dec 29	20:00	20:02	2 min	11.1 hr	19:03	19:07	4 min	10.1 hr
	Dec 30	20:01	20:49	48 min	35.1 hr	19:03	19:55	52 min	34.1 hr

Produced by the Wits Planetarium, using MICA

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** For S African latitudes, and according to Mohammad Ilyas, writing in Quarterly Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society v35 p425 (1994).