Moon Crescent Visibility

2011

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 33min 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 these "Moonset lag" values for each month.

2011		Cape Town				Johannesburg			
New Moon	Date	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset
Jan 4th 11:03	Jan 4th	20:01	20:08	7min	9hr	19:04	19:12	8min	8hr
	Jan 5th	20:01	20:47	46min	33hr	19:05	19:53	48min	32hr
Feb 3rd 04:31	Feb 3rd	19:50	19:52	2min	15hr	18:59	19:04	5min	14.5hr
	Feb 4th	19:50	20:20	30min	39hr	18:58	19:37	39min	39hr
Mar 4th 22:46	Mar 5th	19:18	19:18	---		18:35	18:40	5min	20hr
	Mar 6th	19:17	19:46	29min	45hr	18:34	19:11	37min	44hr
Apr 3rd 16:32	Apr 3rd	18:39	18:18	----		18:04	17:46	----	
	Apr 4th	18:38	18:48	10min	26hr	18:03	18:19	16min	25hr
	Apr 5th	18:37	19:22	45min	50hr	18:02	18:56	54min	49hr
May 3rd 08:51	May 3rd	18:04	18:00	---		17:37	17:36	----	
	May 4th	18:03	18:42	39min	33hr	17:36	18:20	44min	33hr

2011		Cape Town				Johannesburg			
New Moon	Date	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset
Jun 1st 23:03	Jun 2nd	17:45	18:17	32min	18.5hr	17:24	17:56	32min	18.5hr
	Jun 3rd	17:45	19:15	90min	43hr	17:24	18:53	89min	42hr
Jul 1st 10:54	Jul 1st	17:48	18:05	17min	7hr	17:27	17:42	15min	6.5hr
	Jul 2nd	17:49	19:10	82min	31hr	17:28	18:44	76min	31hr
Jul 30th 20:40	Jul 31st	18:06	19:08	62min	21.5hr	17:41	18:36	55min	21hr
Aug 29th 05:04	Aug 29th	18:26	19:05	39min	13hr	17:54	18:26	32min	13hr
	Aug 30th	18:27	20:15	108min	37hr	17:55	19:31	96min	37hr
Sep 27th 13:09	Sep 27th	18:46	19:02	16min	5.5hr	18:06	18:16	10min	5hr
	Sep 28th	18:47	20:15	88min	30hr	18:06	19:24	78min	29hr
Oct 26th 21:56	Oct 27th	19:10	20:13	63min	21hr	18:21	19:17	56min	20.5hr
Nov 25th 08:10	Nov 25th	19:37	20:06	29min	11.5hr	18:42	19:07	25min	10.5hr
	Nov 26th	19:38	21:08	90min	36hr	18:43	20:09	86min	35hr
Dec 24th 20:06	Dec 25th	19:59	20:37	38min	24hr	19:01	19:42	41min	23hr
	Dec 26th	19:59	21:21	82min	48hr	19:02	20:29	87min	47hr

Produced by the Jhb Planetarium, using MICA
All times are South African Standard Time.

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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)